



Marketing healthy food to children









Investigate to help!



Rising "Globesity"



Source: "Increasing obesity rates among adult population", OECD.org (2012)

Motivation



Research objectives

What **factors** influence people most in their **development** of food consumption behavior?



Current view

- Multiple stakeholders
- Research in laboratories
- Neglect experiential aspect Mahr et al. (2013, pp.437-438):



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"...healthy food experience as an **augmented service offering** that **includes both** the healthy food item and its accompanying **service experiences**"



ELT & S-D logic



• Experiential learning theory (Kolb, 1984)



"[...]the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience. Knowledge results from the combination of grasping and transforming experience" (Kolb, 1984, p.41)

• Service-dominant logic (Vargo & Lusch, 2004)







- Tangible products

- Intangible aspects around the products





H2: S-D logic superior

H3: Active role of consumer

H5: True value embedded in intangible service offering









Sample characteristics

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Children:

- 180 children
- Grades 1-4 (ages: 6-10)
- Boys and girls
- Diversity (culture & ethnic)
- Every social & income class
- 20-30% single parents





Teachers:

- 14 teachers, 5 students
- Ages 25-60
- All female
- Germany & Turkey







Collection methods

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Research design



Descriptive statistics

Identification	Gender	Age	Background	Length of interview
Julian P.	male	6 (1st grade)	Germany	12 min.
Yusuf A.	male	7 (1st grade)	Turkey	23 min.
Carla S.	female	9 (3rd grade)	Germany	20 min.
Li J.Y.	female	10 (4th grade)	China	18 min.

Project documents				
Sessions	Favorite dishes/ word association/ shopping lists	Photos, pictures, discussions, field notes, quotations, observations		
	Role play			
Interviews	Children	Recordings, field notes, quotations, pictures		
	Teachers			
Day observations	During lunch	Observations, field notes, quotations		
	During free time (in- and outside)			
Categorization into internal and external factors	family	Photos, pictures, discussions, field notes, recordings, quotations, observations		
	school			
	media			
	experiences			
Table 2: Overview of Project documents				

Quotations

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Carla S.:"I love to eat at home. My Dad has to work a lot. And this is the only time we are together as a family."

> Sefa S.:"Boah, this is the first peach I have ever eaten. You have to tell my Mom. I want to be buried in peaches!"

Alexandra K.:"...a **process** to teach them [...] how to eat...tastes grow from **the way** they learned."







Every child has a story to tell!



→ experiential aspect leads consumers to their belief and preference development of food; may be explained by the ELT (H1)



- → external and internal forces need to work together to lead children to food beliefs and preferences (H4)
- → Children take an active role (H3b); more than the beneficiary of the tangible food product (H3a)





Value-in-use

→ Foods true value may be embedded more in the intangible service offering (H5); S-D logic is superior (H2)

Results



Theoretical implications

- 1. **Experiential aspect** in learning process of food preferences
- 2. **Intangible** features around food may be its true utility & should be focused on in further food marketing research
- 3. **S-D logic** may provide a superior perspective on food marketing
- 4. Advances multiple **stakeholder** model



Managerial implications





References

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Kolb, D.A. (1984), "Experiential learning: experience as the source of learning and development", Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall

OECD (2012), retrieved from the World Wide Web, January 2013, from: http://www.oecd.org/

Mahr, D., Kalogeras, N., and Odekerken-Schröder, G. (2013), "A service science approach for improving healthy food experiences", *Journal* of Service Management, 24 (4), 435-471

Vargo, S.L., and Lusch, R.F. (2004), "Evolving to a New Dominant Logic for Marketing", *Journal of Marketing*, 68 (1), 1-17