THE INFLUENCE OF CELEBRITY CONGRUENCE ON PURCHASING DECISIONS WITH BRAND QUALITY AS A MODERATING VARIABLE

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Abstract

This research is quantitative research with an exploratory approach, namely using a number of studies related to Celebrity Congruence, Pruchase Decision, and Brand Quality as the main reference and basic material to create novelty in the research carried out. This research uses primary data obtained from sellers of kebuli rice as many as 150 MSMEs and 150 consumers who have purchased kebuli rice. This data can be categorized as primary data because it was obtained directly. The instrument for obtaining this data uses an online questionnaire which contains 5 statements, namely strongly agree, agree, normal/so-so statement, disagree and strongly disagree which are used as validity test material. The data in this study was analyzed using the smart PLS 4.0 analysis tool. The result in this research show that the researcher's first hypothesis regarding the Celebrity Conguruence variable can have a positive relationship direction and a significant influence on Purchasing Decisions can be proven and accepted because the P-Values value is below the 0.05 significance level, namely 0.011. This is due to the promotional influence of Sleebriti which has the main tasks of knowledge, skills, markets and so on which are in line with the products being marketed which can significantly influence purchasing decisions However, this research shows more significant results than previous research. Apart from that, in the second row of the third table the path coefficients show similar results if the Brand Quality variable can strengthen the influence of the Celebrity Congurence variable on Purchasing Decisions because the P-Values value is below the 0.05 significance level, namely 0.000, which is more significant than the direct test of 0.001. This is because Brand Quality is the most important thing to maintain and become the attention of buyers after seeing promotions from Celebrity Congruence. Based on this, the first and second hypotheses in this study are correct and can be proven.

Keywords: Celebrity Congruence, Purchasing Decisions, Brand Quality

1. INTRODUCTION

Celebrity Endorser According to (Keller 2016)celebrity endorser is the use of sources as attractive or popular figures in advertising, so that it can strengthen the image of a brand in the minds of customers. A celebrity endorser is a figure who is known to the public and acts as a consumer in advertisements (Hanif 2021). Meanwhile, according to (Shimp 2011) celebrity endorsement is the use of artists as advertising stars in the media, starting from print media, social media and television media.

In addition, celebrities are used because of their famous attributes including good looks, courage, talent, elegance, strength and attractiveness which represent the desired attractiveness of an advertised brand. According to (F. T. R. Sari 2022) there are two types of endorsers that companies can use to support advertising for the product or brand that will be advertised, namely a. Celebrity endorsers are television stars, film actors, famous athletes and others who are widely used in advertisements in magazines, radio, television advertisements that support a product b.

Non-celebrity endorsers (typical person endorsers) are ordinary people or non-celebrities who are used to endorse a product. The reason why celebrities are very popular with manufacturers to advertise their products is because the message conveyed by interesting sources such as celebrities who are currently popular will be able to greater attention and will be easier to remember (Cholifah 2016). According to (Rahmani and Bursan 2022), celebrities can have a strong influence on consumers when purchasing products and services and choosing brands. Celebrities can be an important marketing tool for a product because of their extraordinary appeal and having many fans which differentiate them from other people.

According to (Nawangsari 2020) there are three factors that celebrities have in attracting consumers to make purchases, namely a. Attractiveness Attractiveness or attractiveness refers to the friendliness, physical and pleasant nature of the celebrity. There are two important things in the use of celebrities if it is related to attractiveness or attractiveness, first is the level of audience liking (likeability) and second is the level of similarity with the personality desired by the product user (similarity), where the two cannot be separated and must coexist. b. Trustworthiness Trustworthiness or trustworthiness refers to the honesty, integrity and trustworthiness of a celebrity supporting the product. Often a particular supporter is considered very trustworthy even though he is not an expert in his field. Trust in a supporter depends on the audience's perception of the motivation for their support. c. Expertise Expertise or expertise refers to a supporter's knowledge, experience or skills with the advertising topic. An endorser can be more accepted if he or she is knowledgeable about the product he or she is endorsing so that the endorser will be more persuasive in conveying the message.

Based on this description, a celebrity endorser is the ability of a famous person to influence consumers by advertising a product or service from a company so that it can contribute to increasing sales of the company doing the endorsement. The use of celebrities as endorsers is believed to have its own appeal because it has the advantage of publicity and getting attention from consumers so that there are advantages in being used as a tool to provide suggestions to consumers by taking advantage of their popularity. This makes celebrities get attention from more people so it is hoped that they can attract consumer sympathy to make purchasing decisions about a product (Nathaniel et al. 2020).

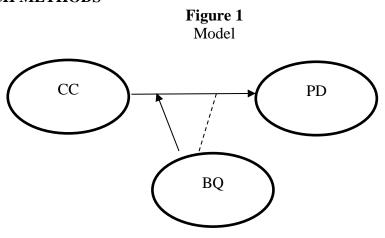
The celebrities referred to in this research are celebrities who are compatible with the products that will be promoted. Researchers believe that celebrity suitability can be an advantage, including that celebrities can provide in-depth information during promotions without in-depth research and can create suitability for the market to be promoted. On this basis, researchers believe that the potential for purchasing decisions made by consumers is also getting bigger. Purchasing decisions are a process of making decisions about purchasing which includes determining what to buy or not to buy and this decision is obtained from previous activities (Assauri 2009). According to (Budijanto 2003)purchasing decisions are a real purchasing process, whether or not to buy an item with a problem solving approach to human activities in fulfilling desires and needs which consists of recognizing needs and desires, searching for information, evaluating purchase alternatives, purchase and post-purchase behavior. Meanwhile, according (Febriandhika and Kurniawan 2020) a purchasing decision is an action taken by consumers to determine whether to buy or not buy a product which is influenced by several factors in the decision making process.

The stages of the purchasing decision process as well as the indicators in purchasing decisions according to (Yulianti.D.R 2020)are as follows: 1. Problem recognition. The purchasing process begins with recognition of a problem or need. These needs can be driven by stimuli from within or from outside the buyer. 2. Information search. Consumers can obtain information from various sources, including: a. Personal sources: family, friends, neighbors, acquaintances. b. Commercial sources: advertising, salespeople, dealers, packaging, exhibitions.

c. Public sources: mass media, consumer organizations. d. Experiential sources: have handled, tested and used the product. 3. Evaluate alternatives. At this stage there is no easy and single evaluation process that can be used for all consumers or even by one consumer in all purchasing situations. 4. Purchase decision. This stage begins with the assessment stage of various alternatives which can be seen from the attributes attached to the product.

There are a number of studies (Farida 2019); (Anugerah 2022); (F. T. R. Sari 2022); (Maulidya 2020) & (Nathaniel et al. 2020) show a positive relationship and a significant influence on purchasing decisions. Different from the five studies above, this study adds the Brand Quality variable as a moderating variable and the Celebrity referred to in this research is Congruence Celebrity which researchers believe has a better impact on Purchasing Decisions than ordinary Celebrities.

2. RESEARCH METHODS



Noted:

CC: Celebrity Congruence PD: Purchase Decision BQ: Brand Quality

Based on research results (Farida 2019); (Anugerah 2022); (F. T. R. Sari 2022); (Maulidya 2020) & (Nathaniel et al. 2020)show that the Celebrity variable has a positive relationship and has a significant influence on purchasing decisions. In contrast to a number of studies above, this research adds the Brand Quality variable as a moderating variable which researchers believe can strengthen the influence of the Celebrity variable on Purchasing Decisions (Farida 2019). Different from the Celebrity variable referred to in this research is Celebrity Congruence, namely celebrities who have market specifications, skills and knowledge in accordance with the brand to be promoted (F. T. R. Sari 2022). This research is quantitative research with an exploratory approach, namely using a number of studies related to Celebrity Congruence, Pruchase Decision, and Brand Quality as the main reference and basic material to create novelty in the research carried out (Nugraha, Suharyono, and Kusumawati 2015). This research uses primary data obtained from sellers of kebuli rice as many as 150 MSMEs and 150 consumers who have purchased kebuli rice. This data can be categorized as primary data because it was obtained directly (Sulistiono, Wahyu Fitriadi, and Muhamad Pauzy 2022). The instrument for obtaining this data uses an online questionnaire which contains 5 statements, namely strongly agree, agree, normal/so-so statement, disagree and strongly disagree which are used as validity test material. The data in this study was analyzed using the smart PLS 4.0 analysis tool. The following is the formulation of hyptheisis in this research.

Hypothesis:

H1: The Influence of Celebrity Congruence on Pruchase Decision

H2: Brand Quality Can Moderates The Influence of Celebrity Congruence on Pruchase Decision

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Validity Test

The researcher's explanation in the research methodology section above is that data collection using digital questionnaire instruments aims to collect data which is ultimately used in the validity testing stage as an initial requirement in testing reliability and path coefficients. The following are the results of the validity test in this research (Ghozali 2016):

Table 1Validity Test

Variable	Question Item	Loading Factor	
	Celebrities have expertise	0.831	
	in several fields		
	Celebrities have a good	0.829	
	impact on promotions so		
	that consumers make		
	purchasing decisions		
	Celebrities have their own	0.844	
Celebrity Congruence	clusters		
(X1)	Celebrities are rarely	0.849	
	categorized as multi-market		
	Celebrities are the right	0.862	
	people to market products		
	Celebrities who have	0.856	
	knowledge, skills, and		
	markets that are suitable for		
	the product being marketed		
	have a more positive		
	impact on purchasing		
	decisions compared to		
	those who do not have the		
	same suitability.		
	Purchasing decisions can be	0.921	
	influenced by a celebrity's		
	promotions		
	Purchasing decisions can be	0.939	
	influenced by Brand		
Purchase Decision (Y)	Quality		
	Purchasing decisions can be	0.911	
	greatly influenced by		
	celebrities who have duties		
	that are appropriate to the		
	product being promoted		
	Purchasing decisions can be	0.925	
	influenced by a celebrity's		
	credibility		
	Brand quality can influence	0.978	

	purchasing decisions	
Brand Quality	Brand quality is an	0.966
(Z)	important thing for a	
	company to maintain	
	Brand Quality can	0.969
	strengthen the influence of	
	Celebrity Congruence on	
	Purchasing Decisions	
	Brand quality is the most	0.959
	important thing for	
	consumers to take into	
	account when making	
	purchasing decisions	

Validty Test > 0.70

Reliability Test

The 14 question items presented in the digital questionnaire which include 6 question items for the Celebrity Congruence variable, 4 question items for the Purchase Decision variable, and 4 question items for the Brand Quality variable have been declared valid. The next stage is the reliability test. The following are the results of the reliability test in this research (Sarstedt et al. 2014)

Table 2Reliability Test

Tenashiy Test					
Variable	Composite	Cronbach Alfa	Noted		
	Reliability				
Celebrity	0.895	0.855	Reliable		
Congruence					
Purchase Decision	0.939	0.895	Reliable		
Brand Quality	0.989	0.949	Reliable		

Reliability Test > 0.70

Path Coefisien

The hypothesis that researchers propose in this article is that the Celebrity Congruence variable on Purchasing Decisions and the Brand Quality variable can strengthen the influence of Celebrity Congruence on Purchasing Decisions. However, to prove this, you must first pass the validity test stage, reliability test. These stages have been passed and the following are the results of Path Efficiency in this research (Hair 2010):

Table 3 Path Coefisien

	Variable	P-Values	Noted
Direct Influence	CC->PD	0.001	Accepted
Indirect Influence	BQ* CC->PD	0.000	Accepted

Significant Level < 0.05

Based on the results of the first three rows of the table above, it can be concluded that the researcher's first hypothesis regarding the Celebrity Conguruence variable can have a positive relationship direction and a significant influence on Purchasing Decisions can be proven and accepted because the P-Values value is below the 0.05 significance level, namely 0.011. This is due to the promotional influence of Sleebriti which has the main tasks of knowledge, skills, markets and so on which are in line with the products being marketed which can significantly influence purchasing decisions. These results are also in line with a number of previous studies,

namely (Farida 2019); (Anugerah 2022); (F. T. R. Sari 2022); (Maulidya 2020) & (Nathaniel et al. 2020). However, this research shows more significant results than previous research. Apart from that, in the second row of the third table the path coefficients show similar results if the Brand Quality variable can strengthen the influence of the Celebrity Congurence variable on Purchasing Decisions because the P-Values value is below the 0.05 significance level, namely 0.000, which is more significant than the direct test of 0.001. This is because Brand Quality is the most important thing to maintain and become the attention of buyers after seeing promotions from Celebrity Congruence. Based on this, the first and second hypotheses in this study are correct and can be proven.

4. CONCLUSION

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