PRINT ADVERTISING IN THE US AND HONG KONG: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

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Abstract: Given the static condition of the global economy marketers are cutting advertising budgets commensurate with dismal sales. It is a longstanding belief that utilizing a standardized advertising approach not only controls good ideas and provides for a consistent image but it also has the benefit of controlling expenses through economies of scale. With this in mind, the purpose of the study was to determine the degree of standardization or lack thereof in advertising strategies in the cosmetics and fragrances advertising industries in the United States and Hong Kong. The findings of this study suggest that there is a high level of standardization in the advertising for perfumes because Hong Kong belonged to the British for a long time and individuals' needs and desires for love and acceptance are the same irrespective of geography. On the other hand only a moderate form of standardization was noted in the advertising for cosmetics. This may be attributed to the fact that different beauty concepts are held among different regions. Implications of the findings are also noted.

Keywords: print advertising, standardization, glocalization, cosmetics and frgrance industry

JEL Codes: M 30, M 37

1. Introduction

With aging baby boomers desire to forever maintaining their youthfulness and good looks, it is no wonder that the U.S. is the largest market in the world for

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cosmetics and France is the biggest exporter (Kumar, 2005). However, in recent years, growth in this industry has shifted from the Western hemisphere to developing regions in South America, Eastern Europe, and Asia (Kumar, 2005). For example, China reported a 10.4 percent growth in this product category during the past five years (Kumar, 2005). Overall, the cosmetic and fragrance industry have performed well in recent years with average growth of almost five percent across the industry irrespective of the economic crisis experienced around the world over the past few years (Kumar, 2005).

As mentioned previously, one of the trends fueling this growth is an aging population not just in the U.S. but worldwide. Batini, Callen, and Mckibbin (2006) state that the world's population will continue to age and that there will be an increased number of living elderly people around the world. Although the pace and timing of aging varies widely between countries, the median age of the world population is expected to increase by 10 years between 2000 and 2050 to a record of 37 years (Batini, Callen, & Mckibbin, 2006). Furthermore, according to the U.S. Census Bureau (2004), the global population in 2002 for age groups 45 to 49, 50 to 54, 55 to 59 and 60 to 64 is expected to more than double for each of the age categories (Table 15).

Table 15 Population Breakdown by Age

	<u>45-49</u>	<u>50-54</u>	<u>55-59</u>	<u>60-64</u>
2002	360 Mil	280 Mil	230 Mil	200 Mil
2050	560 Mil	540 Mil	510 Mil	495 Mil

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004

Sherwood (2007) states that older individuals are in their peak-earning years, and have the money to pay for anti-aging products. Compared to the world sales of \$11.3 billion for anti-aging creams and skin care in 2007, the sales forecast for 2010 is expected to be at \$15.8 billion (Jeffries, 2007); hence, one of the highest-growth subcategories in the beauty industry (Thau, 2006). Given the tremendous demand for anti-aging products, the cosmetics industry is introducing numerous line extensions of well known brands to meet the needs of this growing market ("Growing potential in over 65 niche," 2007).

Further, marketers are introducing new strategies to capture this market (Jeffries, 2007). Celebrities in their 40's such as Sharon Stone, 50's-Christine Brinkley and 60's-Janes Fonda and Diana Keaton are being used as spokespersons for various cosmetic campaigns such as Christian Dior's Capture Totale, Cover

Girl's Advanced Radiance line and Loreal's Age Re-Perfect line (O'Loughlin, 2006; Tannen, 2006; Jeffries, 2007; "Growing potential in over 65 niche," 2007).

However, in fragrances, this over dependence on celebrities doesn't work as well. According to Busch (2003), when advertising fragrances there is a direct link between image and product that is leveraged to drive sales heavily, thus achieving a holistic multi-sensorial experience for consumers. So much so, Busch (2003) introduced a Multisensual Interaction Model that examined emotions and thoughts to improve marketing efforts in this product category.

In the Far East, specifically Hong Kong, cosmetic and toiletries sales increased four percent and reached \$1,107 million in 2006 (Euromonitor International, 2007). Further, color cosmetics sales increased five percent reaching \$112 million; and skincare sales increased four percent to \$509 million in the same year (Euromonitor International, 2007). Finally, fragrance sales increased three percent in 2006 reaching \$83 million with continued growth expected in years to come (Euromonitor International, 2007). Given the growing population and increased global travel, cosmetic sales will continue to grow as well (Australian Government, 2006).

But, unlike their Chinese neighbors, those living in Hong Kong are far more cosmopolitan and willing to try new products (Australian Government, 2006). Hui (2006) stated that after the transfer of power, the improvement in the economy and the job market had led to high consumer confidence and a strong reason for continuing to buy. Moreover, like many countries around the world, females in their 40's that are established in their professional careers, desire to buy branded cosmetics and fragrances that continue to drive sales in this industry ("The World Fact Book: Hong Kong," 2007).

Yet, individuals in the U.S. with sufficient discretionary incomes are the ones that are spending the most money on cosmetics (Feedback Research Services, 2004). According to Euromonitor International (2007), the sales of cosmetics and toiletries in the United States increased three percent reaching \$50,446 million in 2006; color cosmetics had total sales of \$8,601 million in 2006, a two percent increase. As well, fragrance sales reached \$6,126 million in 2006, an increase of two percent (Euromonitor International, 2007).

Notwithstanding, the area with the largest growth has been skincare, given the aging population push to stay young. This spurred skincare companies to use technology to slow down the aging process while charging more for products ("Technology, youth lift skin care sales," 2005). The skincare industry increased three percent with revenues reaching almost eight million dollars in 2006 in U.S. (Euromonitor International, 2007).

An instrumental part of driving sales in fragrances, skincare and cosmetics is advertising. In the U.S. one strategy has been to use real women or older looking models in ads (Rao, 2005). Baby boomer women have complained that they cannot relate to young 20' models shown in ads (Rao, 2005); hence, ads lacked believability. Following the glut of reality shows, as of late, real people have been deemed more credible (Champagne, 2007).

In fact, Dove's campaign used everyday women in promoting their line of skincare products and most recently, older women in introducing their Proage line (Westphal, 2005). This was a result of a study that found women tended to agree that the media and advertising were driving unrealistic beauty standards (Westphal, 2005). Further, advertisements from drug manufacturers have been using older models, but only lately has the cosmetic industry followed suit.

Brand manufacturers like Dove and CoverGirl have employed real women to introduce their Queen Collection designed for women of color (Bittar, 2007). Similarly, Markwins Corporation, makers of Wet n Wild launched a search through Seventeen and MySpace.com for a young woman to be their spokesperson for their Fresh Face skincare line ("Wet n Wild asks are you the next fresh face," 2006). Bottom line, advertising plays a significant role in educating consumers regarding products and serves to communicate benefits of a brand, an integral part of why consumers buy (Norton, 1994).

How was the advertising industry in Hong Kong affected after the return of Hong Kong to China? The facts show that after the takeover, the Hong Kong advertising industry was affected but not as expected (Ha, 1998). Unlike other industries, the cosmetics industry did not change their practices after the takeover (Ha, 1998). In fact, since the takeover, advertising practices became more westernized supporting ideals and manners that are incongruent with the Chinese way of life (Ha, 1998).

Hence, given the above, the purpose of the study was to extend the research in cross-cultural advertising by investigating the similarities and differences in cosmetic and fragrance advertising in Hong Kong and the United States. Specifically, the objectives were to:

- (1) identify the brands of cosmetics and fragrances most prevalently advertised in Hong Kong and the United States, and,
- (2) Determine the extent of standardization or adaptation in cosmetic and fragrance advertising in Hong Kong and U.S. magazines.

2. RELEVANT LITERATURE

Advertising helps a company to communicate its products' features and benefits to markets through mass media (Belch, 2004). Different advertising appeals build a solid brand image of a company, so that audiences can differentiate a company's product from other competitors and generate sales (Belch, 2004). When multinational companies expand their products to foreign countries, they have to consider which kind of advertising methods they should use to best reach their chosen target markets (Madhu, 1995). There are three different possible approaches: 1) standardization, 2) adaptation, and 3) glocalization to communicate messages in foreign markets (Madhu, 1995).

Standardization

Wei & Jiang (2005) state that standardized advertising messages have the same themes, positioning and illustrations for different countries regardless of local beliefs, social, legal, and religious factors except for translations of the copy. There are several advantages to standardization including economies of scale, a uniformed brand image (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004), control over positioning (Shoham, 1995), budget conservation (Tai, 1997), consistent message, and minimal effort by subsidiaries (Kirpalani, Laroche, & Darmon, 1988).

Factors that affect whether a company would standardize their advertising messages or not can be the type of product (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004), customer similarity (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006), market similarity (Duncan & Ramaprasad, 1995), global orientation (Zou & Cavusgil, 2002), the ability to implement a global advertising campaign across markets (Kitchen & Schultz, 1999; Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006), level of control (Laroche, Kirpalani, Pons, & Zhou, 2001; Okazaki, Taylor & Zou, 2006) and size of the firm (Samiee, Jeong, Pae, & Tai, 2003).

Regarding product related factors (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004) industrial and commercial goods have the highest level of standardization possibilities because the buying process is similar in organizations (Boddewyn, Soehl, &

Picard, 1986; Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004). However, consumer goods have the lowest level of standardization where buying is affected more by culture and emotional factors, and where adaptation seems a better strategy (Cavusgil, Zou, & Naidu, 1993; Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004).

Customer similarity means consumers in different markets have similar perspectives, values, buying habits, socializing styles and hobbies (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006). When customers have similar lifestyles in different countries, it is natural to expect that they may accept similar advertising messages and therefore, standardized advertising would be favored in these situations (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006).

Market similarity means countries served by the multinational corporation have similar economic development, per capita income, market infrastructure as well as media infrastructure (Duncan & Ramaprasad, 1995). Standardized advertising is best under this condition of market similarity (Duncan & Ramaprasad, 1995).

A global orientation suggests that a company's operations be applied globally instead of different countries having different systems (Zou & Cavusgil, 2002). When firms choose a global orientation, they require their subsidiaries to use a single advertising message around the globe, and hence, standardized or prototype advertising is preferred (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006).

A firm's ability to implement a global advertising campaign across markets means the ability to convey its company and product information through different channels (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006). Internet, video conferencing, international distribution of television shows and movies are the most commonly used channels to send a message in large markets (Kitchen & Schultz, 1999). When companies such as Proctor and Gamble sell their products around the world, it is likely that the company will engage in a form of standardized messages, which is patterned advertising (Gould, Lerman, & Grein, 1999).

Level of control refers pertains to the parent firms desire to dictate the advertising strategy to its subsidiaries, and promote prototype advertising strategy as opposed to other methods of delivering an advertising campaign (Laroche, Kirpalani, Pons, & Zhou, 2001). When advertising is standardized, parent firms can be assured that advertising goals are attained and that there is control over good ideas (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006). However, if subsidiaries can create their

own advertising, subsidiaries may not accept corporate suggestions, which may lead to friction and hinder collaboration (Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006).

Samiee, Jeong, Pae, and Tai (2003) note that size of the firm can affect the use of standardized advertisements by a company. Multinational firms with sales exceeding \$500 million often prefer to have wholly owned subsidiaries and centralized decision making when developing a global advertising campaign (Kwon & Konopa, 1993; Okazaki, Taylor, & Zou, 2006).

Adaptation

Adaptation occurs when a company alters an advertisement to suit various markets and allows for adjustments to the creative strategy, positioning, and execution (Wei & Jiang, 2005). As opposed to standardization, adaptation is an individualized strategy for each country (Mueller, 1996).

Adaptation is preferred because different countries have different beliefs, lifestyles, economic situations, language, consumption patterns and preferences from food to clothing (Wang, 1996; Cutler & Javalgi, 1992; Tai, 1997; Kanso & Nelson, 2002; Samiee, Jeong, Pae, & Tai, 2003; Wei & Jiang, 2005). Other factors affecting company's use of adaptative advertising include whether the product can be used globally, competition in that country, company control over subsidiaries, media channels to promote the brand, and the legal constraints over advertising (Harvey, 1993). Adaptation works when education level and perceptions of the company differ (Hill & James, 1990; Samiee, Jeong, Pae, & Tai, 2003).

Adaptation advocates stress that different cultures exist in different countries, so standardized advertising will not work (Ricks, Arpan, & Fu, 1974). Many American and non-American companies have produced major marketing blunders the result of their not understanding the marketplace. A classic example for instance is the attempt of GM to sell their NOVA in Spanish speaking countries when NOVA means No go (Onkvisit & Shaw, 1999).

Since advertising is a form of communication, it is difficult to standardize (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004). Adaptation may take the form of creative execution, media mix and scheduling (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004). For example, when marketing in Asia the choice of a dialect to use, the benefits of a product to tout, and the best medium to use, are all culturally defined (Boddewyn, Soehl, & Picard, 1986; Hite & Fraser, 1990). While multinational brands such as Georgio Armani and Chanel need little adaptation, new brands in foreign markets

need far more adaptation (Pae, Samiee, & Tai, 2002) to achieve brand loyalty (Pae, Samiee, & Tai, 2002).

Although the message is different, the positioning of the brand is appropriate for the market and reflective of corporate desires for the brand (Shoham, 1995). However, if the product or service is adaptive, pricing variations can spur the growth of the grey markets (Shoham, 1995). Understanding the local culture, the language and the use of slang allows marketers to communicate messages that reflect the target market's lives and desires (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004), thus, increasing brand loyalty (Hite & Fraser, 1990).

Although adaptation recognizes cultural differences, some of the problems relate to a higher propensity to send the wrong message, higher costs, and a lack of control of the brand image (Melewar & Vemmervik, 2004). Adaptation requires a study of the market place and may involve more than just the advertising strategy and creative execution but product packaging, price and other components of the marketing mix as well.

Glocalization

While standardization and adaptation sit at each end of the advertising continuum, Glocalization sits at the middle (Onkvisit & Shaw, 1990). It is a matter of degree rather than being literally in the middle (Onkvisit & Shaw, 1990).

According to Link (1988) at one end of the glocalization continuum are companies that allow their subsidiaries autonomy for the daily operations (Link, 1988) while on the other are corporations that control the subsidiaries' every move (Link, 1988). Companies situated between the two extremes can market their advertisement globally with adjustments made to meet regional differences (Link, 1988).

Coined by Featherstone, Lash, and Robertson (1995), Glocalization is a version of standardization and localization working together to communicate advertising messages to their target markets. Glocalization involves a creative theme given by the parent firm with execution and scheduling held by the subsidiary firm to suit different target markets (Featherstone, Lash, & Robertson, 1995). Multinational corporations usually apply a glocal strategy in several nations at once (Wei & Jiang, 2005).

The creative strategy is a guide to give subsidiaries direction regarding the advertising message (Frazer, 1983; Wei & Jiang, 2005). The major components of a creative strategy are the theme, positioning, and target market (Mueller, 1996).

On the other hand, execution is a method used to express the theme and position such as slice of life (Mueller, 1996). Further, execution includes the picture selection, size, color, layout, headline, and use of copy (Whitelock & Chung, 1989; Wei & Jiang, 2005). In general, advertising strategy focuses on "what is said" while execution concentrates on "how it is said" in an advertisement (Mueller, 1996, p.150).

Tai and Wong (1998) note that glocalization allows the branch offices to have authority to decide tactics, such as size, color, and general layout, rather than receiving home office commands, hence, giving subsidiaries a sense of empowerment (Tai & Wong, 1998). However, because local offices can decide the execution for their countries' advertisements, they may become detached from home office' policies and corporate objectives (Tai & Wong, 1998).

Glocalization can involve two types of standardization: One is prototype standardization and the other is pattern standardization (Peebles, Ryans, & Vernon, 1977; Kanso & Nelson, 2002). Prototype standardization has the potential for failure since the home office creates the theme and the branch office executes the advertisement (Peebles, Ryans, & Vernon, 1977; Kanso & Nelson, 2002). Only minor changes are made such as language (Peebles, Ryans, & Vernon, 1977; Kanso & Nelson, 2002). Pattern standardization, on the other hand is more flexible and is being used more extensively. It gives the home office the ability to decide the target market, positioning of the brand, and the primary theme (Peebles, Ryans, & Vernon, 1977; Kanso & Nelson, 2002). However, the branch office can decide the creative execution, media mix and scheduling (Peebles, Ryans, & Vernon, 1977; Kanso & Nelson, 2002).

Wei and Jiang (2005) show how multinational company like Nokia uses glocalization in an international campaign. The ads had the same creative components but were executed differently depending on the market (Wei & Jiang, 2005). Both U.S. and China used the same theme "Connecting people" but the Chinese execution contained more graphics while the United States contained more copy to communicate the benefits of the product (Wei & Jiang, 2005, p.849). Due to the Chinese being culturally different from the U.S., these changes were made to communicate effectively with the target markets (Wei & Jiang, 2005).

In conclusion, standardization proponents believe that even when people are different, they have the same underlying physiological and psychological needs especially nowadays given the influence of technology leading to a convergence of media activity, living circumstances, social mores and advertising. Adaptation proponents assert that consumers vary in different regions, such as differences in culture, taste, media infrastructure, and economic situation, therefore, advertising differs. Glocalization refers to marketing products for a global market but customizing products to suit local cultures and involving a given creative strategy but with each branch office executing the strategy according to its environment.

3. METHODOLOGY

Sample and data collection

Cosmopolitan was selected for content analysis since it is published in the United States and Hong Kong. Further, Cosmopolitan is the largest-selling young women's magazine in the world ("Cosmopolitan," 2007). Circulation figures for Cosmopolitan U.S. edition are 2,900,000 ("Cosmopolitan," 2006). Circulation figures for Cosmopolitan's Hong Kong edition is 60,000, that is higher than other magazines including Marie Clarie and COSMO girl with circulation figures of 22,044 and 46,000 respectively ("Media Coverage," 2006).

Instrument

The instrument used in this study followed Seitz and Johar (1993) guidelines, the modified model developed originally by Whitelock and Chung (1989) for sorting out differences when comparing advertisements. Mueller (1991) stated content analysis allowed a comparison of two advertisements to determine the degree of similarity/difference between them.

Six factors were examined including picture, color, size, general layout, slogan, and copy (Whitelock & Chung, 1989). A point was given for differences of each factor (Whitelock & Chung, 1989). For example, when an advertisement was totally adapted whereby the picture was entirely different from the other ad, the maximum points could be 10 (Whitelock & Chung, 1989). For differences in the general layout, color, and size, one point would be given; however, the differences of slogan and copy could score up to three points (Whitelock & Chung, 1989). For example, if the slogan or copy in advertisements had different meanings and were written in the language of the country, three points would be assigned (Whitelock & Chung, 1989). A higher score meant that the slogan or copy was less standardized (Seitz & Handojo, 1997).

The number 10 would be used to subtract the total points for each comparison to determine the degree of standardization (Seitz & Handojo, 1997). A high score like 10 meant the advertisements were completely standardized while a low score like zero suggested total adaptation (Seitz & Handojo, 1997).

4. RESULTS

A total of 480 advertisements were collected from Cosmopolitan magazines for content analysis. Out of the 480 advertisements, 312 were collected from the Hong Kong editions while 168 were collected from their American counterparts. The samples were collected from the magazines published between May 2006 and October 2006. Analyzing the frequency that the advertisements appeared in the magazines, the top ten brands and products were chosen for comparison. For perfumes, Lancome "Hypnose", DKNY "Be delicious", and Calvin Klein "CK One Summer" were evaluated and for cosmetics, Revlon's foundation, Chanel's lipstick and Clinique's mascara were analyzed.

Brand Analysis

A total of 168 cosmetics advertisements from the American editions initially yielded a total of 45 brand names. These 45 brands were then narrowed down to the ten most advertised brands based on the frequency at which the advertisements appeared (Table 16). This same procedure was used for the Hong Kong advertisements that resulted in a final list of the 10 most advertised brands (Table 17).

Table 16 Top Ten Cosmetics Brands Advertised in Cosmopolitan in American Editions

Ranking	Brand	Brand	Frequency	Percent	
	Headquarters	Name	Troquonoy	. 5.56110	
1	USA	NEUTROGENA	18	21%	
2	USA	OLAY	14	17%	
3	USA	NOXZEMA	10	12%	
4	FRANCE	LOREAL	7	8%	
5	USA	MAYBELLINE	7	8%	
6	USA	COVERGIRL	6	7%	
7	USA	MAXFACTOR	6	7%	
8	USA	RIMMEL	6	7%	
9	USA	REVLON	6	7%	
10	USA	AVVENO	5	6%	
		TOTAL	85	100%	

Table 16 and Table 17 show that cosmetic brands advertised in the U.S. and Hong Kong were quite different regarding their origin. The brands advertised in the U.S., such as Neutrogena, Olay, and Noxzema, were all western brands, primarily American (90%) and French (10%) (Table 16)

Meanwhile, brands advertised in Hong Kong editions were dominated by three countries including Japan, USA and France (Table 17). Japanese brands included Shiseido, Fancl and IPSA; American brands included Dior, Clinique and Estee Lauder; and, French brands included Lancome, Chanel and Guerlain. Laneige, a South Korean brand appeared seven times, far less than Japanese or American brands.

Ranking	Brand Headquarters	Brand Name	Frequency	Percent	
1	JAPAN	SHISEIDO	12	13%	
2	USA	DIOR	11	13%	
3	USA	CLINIQUE	10	11%	
4	JAPAN	FANCL	10	11%	
5	FRANCE	LANCOME	9	10%	
6	JAPAN	IPSA	8	9%	
7	USA	ESTEE LAUDER	8	9%	
8	FRANCE	CHANEL	8	9%	
9	SOUTH KOREA	LANEIGE	7	8%	
10	FRANCE	GUERLAIN	6	7%	
		TOTAL	89	100%	

Table 17 Top Ten Cosmetics Brand Advertised in Cosmopolitan in Hong Kong Editions

Product Type Analysis

Fragrances were advertised most often in Hong Kong editions, occupying 16% of ad space (Table 18). The second most frequently advertised product type in Hong Kong editions was skin whitening products with 13% of ad space. On the other hand, cleansers were the most frequently advertised product type in U.S. editions with 25% of the advertising space. The second most frequently advertised product type in U.S. editions was fragrances with 17% of the advertising space.

Table 18 A Classification of Product Types Advertised in Hong Kong and
the United States Editions of Cosmopolitan

Ranking	Hong Kong	Freq.	Percent	American	Freq.	Percent
1	FRAGRANCE	49	16%	CLEANSER	42	25%
2	WHITENING	41	13%	FRAGRANCE	28	17%
3	WRINKLE	38	12%	LIPSTICK	21	13%
4	LIPSTICK	30	10%	FOUNDATION	21	13%

Ranking	Hong Kong	Freq.	Percent	American	Freq.	Percent
5	FOUNDATION	26	8%	MASCURA	14	8%
6	CLEANSER	26	8%	MOISTURIZER	13	8%
7	EYE GEL	18	6%	EYE MAKEUP	12	7%
8	MOISTURIZER	17	5%	SUN BLOCK	11	7%
9	MASK	15	5%	FACE POWDER	3	2%
10	MASCURA	11	4%	LOTION	1	0%
11	SUN BLOCK	11	4%	WRINKLE	1	0%
12	EYE MAKEUP	11	4%	CONCEALER	1	0%
13	LOTION	10	3%			
14	CREAM	9	2%		•	•
	TOTAL	312	100%	TOTAL	168	

Standardization versus Adaptation Analysis

From the ten most prevalently advertised brands in Hong Kong and the U.S., the selection was narrowed further to six of the same brands in both U.S. and Hong Kong editions. This allowed the researchers to analyze the extent of advertising standardization and adaptation between the two countries. The six brands examined were Lancome, DKNY, Calvin Klein, Revlon, Chanel and Clinique, and the products examined were perfumes and cosmetics. For perfumes, Lancome "Hypnose", DKNY "Be delicious", and Calvin Klein "CK One Summer" were evaluated and for makeup, Revlon foundation, Chanel lipstick and Clinique mascara were analyzed. Six advertisements from each country were analyzed.

Perfumes

Lancome. Lancome Hypnose had a score of 8. Differences were found in the advertisement picture and layout between the two countries ads. The Hong Kong edition revealed the model's body more than the U.S. one. Specifically, the model's right arm could be seen in the Hong Kong's edition while not shown in the U.S. edition. In addition, the layout of the slogan was slightly different. In the Hong Kong edition, the slogan "the new hypnotizing fragrance" was displayed on the right side of the page while in the U.S. edition, the slogan was displayed at the bottom. Also, both countries' editions were 2 pages. In the Hong Kong edition, the advertisement was a 2 page spread while it was front and back with a scent strip in the U.S. edition.

DKNY. DKNY's Be Delicious had a score of 10, which is indicative of high standardization with no noticeable differences in the advertisements.

Calvin Klein. Calvin Klein's "CK One Summer" had a score of 6. The Hong Kong advertisement was one page while the U.S. advertisement was 2 pages

front and back. The content in the first page of the U.S. advertisement was the same as the one page Hong Kong one. However, the Hong Kong advertisement did not have the content of the second page prevalent in the U.S. edition that showed a skin moisturizer and body wash. Another minor difference was that the U.S. ad had a scent strip while the Hong Kong edition did not.

Cosmetics

Revlon. The Revlon foundation advertisements received a score of 5 because there were differences in the pictures and copy. In the U.S. edition, a list of foundation colors were shown on the right side of the advertisement, however, the Hong Kong did not. Moreover, the headline was written in English in the U.S. edition and in Chinese in the Hong Kong edition. Also, the descriptions varied slightly. In the U.S. edition, the headline was "Now so comfortable, you'll forget you're wearing it", while in the Hong Kong edition was "Foundation that can last for a long time, it is so soft that you'll forgot you're wearing it". Finally, the copy was slightly different in both advertisements. In the U.S. edition, there were descriptions that did not appear in the Hong Kong advertisement that included "formulated for your skin type" and "20 luxurious, love-to-wear shades". However, in the Hong Kong edition, there were also descriptions that did not appear in the U.S. ads such as "The product includes herbal essence which moisturizes the skin to get a prefect result".

Chanel.

Advertisements for Chanel lipstick scored 4. Differences in the advertisements were apparent in the layout, color, size and copy. When comparing the U.S. and Hong Kong editions, the layout of the advertisements varied slightly. In the U.S. edition the product image was placed in the middle of the page while in the Hong Kong edition it was on the right side of the page. Also, the headline "Seduction in just one click" in the U.S. edition was expressed at the top of the advertisement while it was on the left side in the Hong Kong advertisement. Moreover, the color of the lipstick in the U.S. edition was red while the color of the lipstick in Hong Kong advertisement was pink. In addition, the U.S. advertisement was one page as opposed to a two page spread in the Hong Kong edition. Finally, aside from the English headline "Seduction in just one click" that appeared in both ads, the Hong Kong edition contained a sub-headline in Chinese "Shiny and

sparkling lipstick". Also, in the Hong Kong edition, the copy written in Chinese mentioned that there were 22 colors available at HK\$185.

Clinique.

For Clinique mascara, advertisements that appeared in both countries' editions had a score of 3. Differences in the advertisements were apparent in the picture, slogan and copy. For example, the mascara wand that was used for each country's product differed. In the Hong Kong edition the shape of the comb was S shaped while the comb in the U.S. advertisement was V shaped. Moreover, the slogan "New defining lengths" in both editions was the same; however, it was translated into Chinese in the Hong Kong edition. In addition, there were words that appeared in the Hong Kong advertisement that were not present in the U.S. edition. For example, "This mascara is specifically designed for Asians" and "warm water can remove the makeup". Also, different wording was used in both editions. For example, in the Hong Kong edition, "defining power mascara" was written on the mascara wand while "high definition lashes" was printed in the U.S. edition.

Discussion and Implications

In determining the cosmetic and fragrance brands most prevalently advertised in editions of Cosmopolitan, the results indicated that the top five advertised brands in the United States editions were Neutrogena, Olay, Noxema, Loreal and Maybelline. Their origin of these brands was the United States except for Loreal, which is a French brand. Meanwhile, the top five brands advertised in the Hong Kong editions were Shiseido, Dior, Clinique, Fancl and Lancome. The brands' origins were Japan, the United States and France, which were different from the origins of the top five brands in the U.S. According to Sims (1999) and Koh et al. (1999), people have a tendency to want products from countries they perceive as better and that country is Japan for Hong Kong people. Since Japan and Hong Kong share cultural similarities, they share similar appreciation for cosmetics such as skin whitening products (Koh et al., 1999; Bray, 2002). The idea of light skin comes from "one white covers up three uglinesses" a long held belief in China and Japan (Bray, 2002, p.1). Further, due to cultural similarities, Hong Kong consumers prefer Japanese packaging and consider them appropriate for their needs (Cheong, 2007). Given that consumers have an array of brands and products available at competitive prices, both, Hong Kong and American consumers value U.S. products (Cheong, 2004). However, when it comes to cosmetics, fragrances, and most importantly, skincare, France has a lot of influence with Americans (Cheong, 2007). French cosmetics are well-known for their quality; hence, Hong Kong consumers as well as Americans share a liking for French cosmetics (Cheong, 2007).

The findings also indicated that fragrances and whitening products were the most frequently advertised product types in Hong Kong, while cleansers and fragrances were the most advertised in U.S. editions. The next most advertised product types in Hong Kong were wrinkle products and lipsticks; on the other hand, the next most advertised product types in U.S. editions were lipstick and foundation.

Wrinkle product advertisements showed a big difference in advertising frequency in Hong Kong magazines versus U.S ones. The reason why wrinkle product advertising are prevalent is due to Hong Kong's aging population. Like the U.S., 42-46 years old baby boomers who were born between 1958 and 1962, compose a large percentage of the country's population ("Business thinking on golden pond," 2005). Research by Euromonitor International's (2006) showed that the buoyant economy allows Hong Kong upscale working women to purchase premium products that reduce wrinkles; resulting in product category growth of 9.5% in 2005 (Euromonitor International, 2006).

The results from the present analysis suggest that Hong Kong advertisements tended to focus more on skincare while U.S. advertisements tended to focus more on makeup products. These products included whiteners, eye gels, masks and creams that were advertised only in the Hong Kong editions while face powders and concealers were advertised in U.S. ones during this period of the study.

The results from the analyses suggested that U.S. advertisements tended to focus more on image while Hong Kong ones tended to focus more on providing information. The findings were congruent with Sin, So, Yau, and Kwong (2001) who noted that Hong Kong females rated instrumental value rather than aesthetics as the most important product attribute in purchase decisions. This suggests that performance, product quality and value for money should be included in advertising messages rather more so than image and brand name when selling cosmetic products in Hong Kong(Sin, So, Yau, & Kwong, 2001). In the U.S., the magazine is a national medium that covers all 50 states and Puerto Rico (Ha, 1998). There are too many locations and different prices for different states to be

listed in the ad (Ha, 1998). Therefore, U.S. advertisers might place more emphasis on product attributes that can be applicable to different locations across the country (Ha, 1998).

Scent strips were included in U.S. editions of fragrance advertisements but not in the Hong Kong ones. This may be because American firms believe advertising creates awareness and distinguishes themselves from competitors. However, by incorporating promotions such as samples, this strategy may increase sales.

In determining the extent of standardization of cosmetic advertising in Hong Kong and American magazines, findings showed that perfume advertisements were highly standardized with a mean score of 8 while cosmetics were in the middle of standardization and adaptation continuum with a mean score of 4. These findings were consistent with those found by Seitz and Johar (1993) regarding advertising standardization practices for perfumes and cosmetics. Their findings resulted in a score of 7 for perfumes implying a high degree of standardization while cosmetics had a score of 6.25 implying a moderate degree of standardization.

The moderate- to- high standardization of Hong Kong advertisements can also be explained by its Westernized culture (Neelankavil, Mummalaneni, & Sessions, 1995). Hong Kong for many years was under the influence of the British and thus industries grew from a pro-capitalistic environment (Neelankavil, Mummalaneni & Sessions, 1995). Hence, ads would mostly reflect Western ideals (Neelankavil, Mummalaneni, & Sessions, 1995). Further, given its history as a British colony for years, Hong Kong residents are likely to accept Western ideals and products readily (Pae, Samiee, & Tai, 2002).

As pointed out by Domzal and Unger (1987), and shown by Seitz and Johar (1993), standardization is most likely where little copy is necessary as in fragrances that are primarily image ads. Essentially, types of products and services that touch all individuals' needs and desires such as love and acceptance lend themselves to standardized advertising (Seitz & Johar, 1993).

Some say that as a result of the Internet, peoples' needs and desires are homogenized; yet that seems furthest from the truth (Kanso & Kitchen, 2004). Localization is necessary for products such as cosmetics as studied here. Although costs would be higher, a glocalized approach would be better suited to communicate messages since people are not the same around the world (Kanso & Kitchen, 2004). The findings of this study showed cosmetics fell somewhat in the

middle of the advertising continuum where advertisements were localized to meet regional customers' taste. According to So (2004), peoples' needs and desires are different around the world. For example, flawless white skin is admired in many Asian countries where having tanned skin makes American women look especially beautiful in the summer ("Amway makes moves in China," 2004). Skin color is a reflection of social status in Asia whereby light skin implies rich people who don't need to work while darker skin means hard labor often work under the sun (Iy, 2005). Therefore, light skin is favored in Asian countries (Iy, 2005). As a result, Chinese women use whitening creams to avoid dark skin and prevent sun freckles (Foster & Yeh, 2006). Therefore, more advertisements for whitening products are presented in the Hong Kong magazines as opposed to other products. On the whole, differences in culture and beauty concepts do have an effect on the nature of brands and products advertised in printed media in both Hong Kong and the U.S.

Findings from the study suggested several implications. First, findings suggested that cosmetic needs of women in the U.S. and Hong Kong are not homogeneous. Whitening products are frequently advertised in Hong Kong editions while cleaners dominate the U.S. market. Marketers need to understand the needs and desires of their markets and promote the appropriate products. Although Hong Kong residents are aging as in the U.S., few adaptations would be needed to advertise anti-wrinkle products in the market.

Findings showed that standardization of advertisements is mostly found in perfume ads. In the case of perfumes, advertisers might best create and maintain a unified image through a standardized advertising campaign using either Caucasian or Asian models since both are accepted in Hong Kong and in the U.S. Besides maintaining a single image for the brand, standardized advertisements can take advantage of economies of scale. Given such advantages, standardized advertising for perfume is the recommended strategy for this product category.

Findings also showed that glocalization is the prevalent strategy in cosmetic advertising. In the case of cosmetics, advertisers would do best to take pattern standardization approach since the brand may be the same but consumers' needs and preferences are different. Factors that should be considered include different concepts of beauty in different countries that affect consumers' choice of cosmetic purchases. Therefore, when the home and host cultures are different, a more adaptive strategy is feasible. Findings in the present study indicated that the nature of the brands and products in these two countries had differences attributed to

culture. Understanding the nature of brands and products in these two countries can assist marketers and advertisers in developing strategies and programs to attract these markets.

When advertisers have to decide whether to adapt or standardize advertising, they should be concerned about consumers' preferences and culture. Marketers might consider a glocalized strategy that takes all these factors into consideration.

As China's economy is growing stronger, more multinational companies are interested to sell and advertise their products to that market; this study could act as guidelines for advertisers. According to Seitz, Razzouk, Lee, Yang, and Koh (2004), "Hong Kong, China and Taiwan advertising industries were at different levels of the advertising life cycle that Hong Kong was in the maturity stage, Taiwan was in the growth stage, and China was in the introductory stage" (p.240-247). "As China, Hong Kong and Taiwan cultures were similar, U.S. advertisers could use Hong Kong and Taiwanese advertising trends analysis to forecast future China's advertising trend to develop appropriate marketing strategies to reach target customers" (Seitz, Razzouk, Lee, Yang, & Koh, 2004, p.240-247).

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