THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNET ADVERTISING ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR: THE CASE OF UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Advertisers are expected to shift and spend millions in internet advertising in the coming years than TV, print ads and other traditional advertising media. With the rapid growth in technology, the internet is becoming an important one stop point for consumers in finding most of their needs. Be it communication, entertainment, shopping, information search, internet serves as a panacea for all their requirements. Many consumers are online every day for their personal work, but do they notice the ads, banners displayed on that webpage, and most important their recall value. The current study investigated the effectiveness of internet advertising on consumer behavior by conducting a case study of University of Nairobi Students. The study sought to determine the effectiveness of internet advertising on reach and creation of awareness; to establish the reliability of internet advertising through recall; and to determine the relationship between internet advertising and purchase decision. The study used a case study research design. The target population was the University of Nairobi students. The study used stratified sampling technique to select 100 study respondents. The primary data was collected using questionnaires. Content analysis was used to analyze qualitative data while the quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics using SPSS. Regression and Correlation analysis was used to show the relationships among the variables. The data was presented through percentages, means, standard deviations and frequencies. The study found that internet advertising was effective on reach and creation of awareness due to diverse usage, and established that its reliability as an advertising media was low compared to TV. Internet advertising has significant relationship with purchase decision of the consumers and therefore is a key determinant in influencing consumer behaviour. The study determined that there is a positive relationship between internet advertising and consumer purchase decision and further recommends that companies should conduct a market research on the different markets in various countries to ensure that the internet advertising initiatives being implemented suits the targeted markets to improve product purchases.