Shopping Styles

Your task in this activity is to match the various shopping motivations to the three types of buyers listed below.

Consumers tend to adopt a similar shopping style across various markets/products. For example, some consumers tend to be shoppers/switchers, whereas other consumers are quite loyal (or habitual buyers) – so let's see if we can describe and understand them.

| Shopper One | Often loyal beyond reason |
|--------------------|---|
| Loyal/non-switcher | Less price sensitive |
| | Sometimes strong connection to brand |
| | Sometimes loyal simply through habit |
| Shopper Two | Frequently shops around |
| Shopper/switcher | Very price sensitive |
| | Little brand connection |
| | Sometimes switch for variety |
| Shopper Three | A mix of loyal and switching behavior |
| Balanced/flexible | Price is considered just one attribute |
| | Also considers whether value in loyalty |
| | Often flexible in their shopping style |

Match the following list of behavior and motivation to the above shopping styles:

- 1. They get the assurance of feeling they have made the 'right decision'
- 2. They see differing value at times, depending upon the purchase situation
- 3. They enjoy negotiating
- 4. It's an easy/convenient shopping style
- 5. They are demanding and are easily dissatisfied
- 6. They see themselves as 'smart buyers'
- 7. They like variety
- 8. They enjoy the challenge of making the right decision
- 9. They view brands as "much the same"
- 10. They don't like wasting time on shopping
- 11. They see themselves as 'professional shoppers'
- 12. Peace of mind, as they know that they have made a safe decision

Student Discussion Questions

- 1. Firstly, match the motivations/behaviors to one or more of the initial shopping styles.
- 2. Does each consumer perceive him/herself as a rational shopper? Are any of the shopping styles that you would consider to be 'emotional' shoppers?
- 3. How could a retailer use this type of information to their advantage? Please provide some examples.