THE RELATIONSHIP OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES INITIATIVES AND CONSUMER LOYALTY



A Research Paper Submitted to College of Law, Government, and International Studies, University Utara Malaysia in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (International Business) July 2015

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DEDICATION

SPECIALLY DEDICATED FOR:

My Beloved Husband, *Amir Ariffin bin Aminuddin* & My Dearly Love Parents, *Misman bin Miskal Nor'in binti Man*

For all the infinity love, faith, support, prayers, patience, sacrifices and kindness, for the wishes, being very supportive, understanding, bring joy and happiness to me and helpful also for the moments of up and down together...



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful. Praise to Allah S. W. T. The Creator and Guardian of the universe. Praise and peace be upon Prophet Muhammad S.A.W; the last messenger of Allah, his family and his companions, from whom we gain the enlightenment.

My greatest gratitude to Allah SWT, the Grandest and Almighty, Most Gracious and the Most Merciful for the wisdom He bestowed upon me, the strength, peaceful mind and good health in completing this research.

I would like to express special 'Jazakallahhu Khairan Kathira' to my supervisor, Dr. Mohd Najib bin Mansor for his ideas, guidance, advice, tolerance and immense knowledge. His guidance helped me in all time of writing and completing this research. I wish to express my utmost appreciation and gratitude to my husband, parents and family members for the ongoing support, encouragement, motivation and prayers. Thanks for helping me survive all the stress and keep inspiring me to pursue this undertaking.

My thanks and appreciation goes to all my friends and those who are keep supporting and assisting me both on and off the water. May Allah blessed all your good deeds.

Thank you,

Nor Maizatul Asma Misman, July 2015

ABSTRACT

The trend towards social responsibility in recent years has amplified the interest of consumers in their consumption as well as purchase behaviour. Given the growing importance of social responsibility in the retail industry, in Malaysia, it remains imperative for the retail industry to understand the social responsibility as the determinants of customers' loyalty. Therefore, this study aims to underline the relationship of customer centric, green environment, and philanthropic towards customer loyalty. This study are quantitative in nature by using the sample of 172 respondents. Data analysis was performed using SPSS system. From the analysis, it found that all of CSR initiatives have positive significant effect on customer loyalty. As a result, philanthropic has the greatest effect on retail industry while customer centric the least influencing factor on loyalty.

Keywords: Malaysia, Corporate Social Responsibility, Customer Loyalty, CSR Initiatives, Retail Industry.

CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
PERMISION TO USE	iii
DEDICATION	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
ABSTRACT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	Х

STARA BA
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION
1.1. Background of the Study
1.2. Problem Statement
1.3. Scope of the Study Universiti Utara Malaysia
1.4. Research Questions
1.5. Research Objectives
1.6. Significance of the Study
1.7.Structure of the Research

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0. Introduct	ion	9
2.1 The Defin	ition of CSR	10
2.2. Corporate	e Social Responsibility (CSR) and the History	10
2.2.1	1950: The Beginning Stage	10
2.2.2	1960: CSR is beyond economic and legal requirements	11
2.2.3	1970: More clear definition and a rapid progress of CSR	12

2.2	.4 1980: Profitability and CSR	15
2.2	.5 1990: The rise of CSR Pyramid	16
2.2	.6 2000 – today: A boost of study analysis new CSR relations and an environmental focus	18
2.3. Corp	orate Social Responsibilities in Malaysia	23
2.4. CSR	and Retail Industry	25
2.5 Custo	mer Loyalty	27
2.5	1 A Definition	27
2.5	2 Loyalty Measures	29
2.6 CSR :	and Consumer Loyalty	31
2.7 Resea	rch Hypothesis and Research Model	32
2.7	.1 Customer Centric	32
2.7	2 Green Environment	33
2.7	.3 Philanthropic	34

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
3.0.Introduction	35
3.1.Research Design	35
3.2. Population and Sampling Design	35
3.2.1. Population Universiti Utara Malaysia	35
3.2.2. Sample and Procedure	35
3.3. Research Approach	36
3.4. Data Collection	36
3.5. Data Analysis	37
3.6. Research Instruments	37-38
3.7. Reliability and Validity	38-40
3.8. Summary	40

CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS

4.0. Results	41
4.1. Descriptive Data	41
4.2. Hypothesis Tests	45
4.3. Summary of the chapter	46

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0. Introduction	47
5.1. Discussion	47
5.2. Theoretical Implication	49
5.3.Managerial Implication	49
5.4. Limitation of the Study	50
5.5. Recommendation for Future Research	50
5.6. Conclusion	51

REFERENCES	52
APPENDIX	59



LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Reliability Statistics	39
Table 2: Profile of Respondent	41
Table 3: Summary of Respondents	42
Table 4: Customer centric	42-43
Table 5: Green Environment	44
Table 6: Philanthropic	44

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: The Pyramid of Corporate Social Responsibility	17
Figure 2: Summary of CSR	23
Figure 3: A Dynamic Model of Customer Loyalty	29
Figure 4: The Proposed Research Model	32

Universiti Utara Malaysia

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Corporate Social Responsibilities is a voluntary assumption idea where the companies took the obligation beyond its legal responsibility and also absolutely economic (Sen and Bhattacharya, 2001; Boatright, 1997). McWilliam and Siegel (2001) describe CSR as "action that appear to further some social good, beyond the interest of the firm and that which is required by law". Meanwhile, European Commission, 2011 has release CSR new definition as;

....Society impact by enterprises responsibilities...an integrated social process, consumer concern, human right, environmental and ethical concerns in core strategy and business operations and close collaboration with stakeholdersto increase the shared value creation for both stakeholder and shareholder and also large number of society: identifying, mitigating and preventing their possible adverse impacts.

The CSR aim is to be responsible on behalf of company action and providing its communities, consumers, environment, employees and other stakeholders a positive impact (De la Cuesta and Valor, 2003). According to Maignan and Ferrel, 2004; Lafuente, Vinuales, Pueyo and Llaria, 2003; Nieto and Fernandez, 2004 cited in Bigne, Andreau, Chumpitaz and Swaen (2006), they underlining that the significance of CSR concept has been an ongoing process for practical and academic writing to considered the interest and popularity from both perspective. Continually, new hypothetical ideas are situated up, endeavours to characterize CSR are embraced and more common sense contemplations are being talked about. Organizations spurred by interest organization, stakeholders, regulators, purchasers and governments, are spreading their activities with a growing concern

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