### Creative Intelligence by Bryan Carter





#### **Apples and Oranges.**

The strategy of different and the same.





#### PEOPLE OFTEN THINK THEY CAN COMPARE ITEMS THAT **ARE** RADICALLY DIFFERENT

But it is not so easy.



#### YOU CAN'T **PROPERLY COMPARE AN APPLE AND** AN ORANGE

You can never determine which is better.

Because an apple and an orange are too different and the argument over which is better will never end.



#### When you eliminate variables, comparisons are much easier.

### THE STORY OF THE HONDA DEALER WITH NEW COMPETITION.

There's a new Honda dealership (NEW COMPETITION) in town and they are "eating our lunch!"

## THE NEW COMPETITION WAS GIVING LIFETIME WARRANTIES.

This established
Honda dealership
had always provided
a <u>limited warranty</u>.

They were losing sales to the new competition who was providing a lifetime warranty.

Lots of sales.



## WHAT'S BETTER FOR THE CUSTOMER?

The dealer frustratingly explained that their limited warranty covered much, much more than the empty lifetime warranty given by the new competition.

### WHAT DOES THE CUSTOMER CHOOSE?

After customers heard the long list of different mechanical issues covered by both warranties, in the end, most finished with, "I think I'll just go with the *lifetime* warranty."

#### When items are too different in too many ways, forced comparison can cause cognitive dissonance.

In the face of confusion, people tend to resort to a default familiar.

#### CUSTOMERS COULD NOT PROPERLY COMPARE "APPLES" AND "ORANGES." SO, THEY DEFAULTED TO LIFETIME WARRANTIES.

### "WHAT CAN WE DO?", ASKED THE DEALER.

#### "WE CAN'T KEEP LOSING SALES."

Easy solution. You need to compare apples to apples.

Give your customers the same, empty, lifetime warranty your competition offers plus the existing limited warranty that you already give that actually covers something and provides value.

It costs you about the same.

And, now you are comparing apples to apples, and your apples are BIGGER.



#### YOU CAN **EASILY** COMPARE **APPLES TO APPLES**

Everyone can agree on which apple is bigger.

## BE ABLE TO APPLY THE APPLES AND ORANGES CREATIVE STRATEGY BOTH DIRECTIONS.

# Know when to change the equation to 'Apples to Apples'

To show your apples are bigger.

# Know when to change the equation to "Apples to Oranges"

When your competition has bigger apples and you need to break away and fight on a different front.

### Psychology always works.

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#### Apples and Oranges.

Ready to talk creative intelligence? 601-856-2000 thinkCIA.com projects@thinkcia.com



