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AI and ethical consumerism building resilient brands that balance profit with purpose

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Abstract

In order to avoid harming the environment, animals, or people, consumers are increasingly looking for products that are produced responsibly. Ethical consumerism is growing in popularity. Businesses that mix the chance to make money with the pursuit of exciting activities are becoming more and more popular. Many people in the modern world are finding that ethical shopping is becoming more and more important. In contrast, the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in brand building is radically altering the way the industry operates. We are compelled to think about the best way to reconcile pursuing financial gain with engaging in activities that hold personal significance since this presents ethical questions. The relationship between ethical consumption and artificial intelligence (AI) is investigated in this study. According to the findings, prosperous companies can prosper by striking a compromise between their objectives and their bottom line. We must have a thorough understanding of how artificial intelligence works if you want to market your business successfully. The potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to support fair trade, ease the adoption of sustainable practices, and enable people to use technology to make better social decisions is examined in this study. In this approach, we ensure that technical innovations are applied smoothly and with true regard for everyone's demands. First of all, those who want to make more ethical and ecologically friendly decisions will find great help from artificial intelligence tools such as recommendation algorithms, supply chain transparency platforms, and environmental impact calculators. On the other hand, there is growing concern among the general public that artificial intelligence might lead to the adoption of consumption patterns that are not long-term sustainable. The way those customized ads work is quite fascinating, but what's even more amazing is how heavily they may affect our choices. Some people are concerned about their data privacy and the possible problems that algorithmic bias may cause. At the moment, we are exploring the latest developments, pointing out several important ethical issues, and developing ideas for the creation of AI systems that align with the ethical consumption standards. We are now working to overcome these obstacles in order to build a digital marketplace that encourages accountability and a laid-back atmosphere that allows innovation and consumer ethics to coexist harmoniously.

Keywords: Analyzing the relationship between profit and purpose

Introduction

In today's business world, it is quite rare for large companies to consider how they could provide value for both their shareholders (profit) and stakeholders (purpose). Businesses in the modern day must figure out how to make money and be socially conscious at the same time. Today, it is essential for brands to establish themselves and achieve business success. Choosing goods that respect the environment, encourage sustainability, treat employees fairly, and are consistent with one's personal values is known as ethical purchasing. According to Brynjolfsson and McAfee (2014) ^[24], this has advanced from a little trend to a significant element of customers' purchase behavior. In conclusion, finding products that align with one's personal values is the main objective of ethical consumption.

Artificial intelligence has been driving a technological revolution in recent years, especially in the areas of strategy and brand creation. The impact of artificial intelligence on the process by which corporations create their identities is examined in this study. This fact is especially compatible with the recent rise in people's awareness of capitalist ideals and ethical norms. Businesses are realizing more and more that artificial intelligence is a powerful tool for determining consumer preferences, optimizing processes, and improving the customer experience in general.

The development of artificial intelligence, especially in the domains of decision-making and

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future prediction, depends heavily on the algorithms used in machine learning and neural networks. Companies are better equipped to handle enormous amounts of data and gain insightful knowledge when they are able to manage these abilities. According to a 2020 study by Wamba-Taguimdje and his team, businesses are investing more in artificial intelligence technology because it can improve operational efficiency, save costs, and offer them a competitive edge over their rivals. In view of the present ethical debate, we should investigate how artificial intelligence is changing the shopping experience. There are undoubtedly some questions about how much people actually trust each other, how challenging it may be to try to decipher the algorithms' true meaning, and the likelihood that any prejudices we already have will eventually become even more pronounced. In 2020, Raji ^[21] and his group realized how important it is to be truthful about things.

In addition to advancing our comprehension of AI systems, it guarantees that actions that impact the larger community are kept under control. This article explores a wide range of brand creation tactics that aren't just centered on making money. In the realm of artificial intelligence, we are committed to attaining a favorable result while staying true to our beliefs.

Part 2: How Artificial Intelligence (AI) Helps Achieve This Balance of Profit and Purpose

Analyzing various case studies and tools that show how brands are adjusting to changes in the environment is the aim of this discussion. Examining how ethical consumption and artificial intelligence combine to impact brands is the aim of this investigation.

One of the main goals of this program is to casually integrate technical improvements with social goals. Some people think that achieving one's goals and making money are mutually exclusive. By utilizing outstanding technological systems, data, and breakthroughs, artificial intelligence appears to have the ability to assist in achieving both of these objectives. The ability of artificial intelligence to support brands in growing and reaching their financial goals while keeping an eye on what matters most is really amazing. According to Wamba Taguimdje *et al.* (2020) ^[27], artificial intelligence has the potential to streamline administration and assist companies in upholding core values like sustainability, equality, and transparency. This seems like a unique opportunity right now, particularly given the recent debates about ethical buying and stakeholder capitalism.

The technology that enables machine learning, computer vision, and natural language processing has genuinely amazing powers. In addition to assisting companies in achieving their moral objectives, it also presents novel approaches to value creation. Artificial intelligence has the ability to completely personalize our lives, increase our output, lessen our influence on the environment, and help us make wise, moral judgments.

One of the most intriguing aspects of artificial intelligence nowadays is its capacity to promote the best possible balance between enjoyment and financial benefit. Artificial intelligence suggestion algorithms examine a large quantity of user data, such as your identification, online behaviors, and purchases, to make sure you get a tailored experience. In addition to preserving consumer satisfaction and boosting sales, which is good for profitability, this is a rare chance to

encourage the adoption of solutions that are more ethical or ecologically friendly. Websites that sell products online can use artificial intelligence to show sustainable or ethically sourced solutions. They are capable of changing these selections to suit each customer's tastes (Huang & Rust, 2021) ^[30]. This ethical prompting technique guarantees that people make choices that are beneficial to everyone as it streamlines the supply chain. Artificial intelligence is essential for protecting the brand's identity.

According to the findings of a 2018 study by Choi ^[28] and his colleagues, companies may now use artificial intelligence to track the origins of goods, spot unethical labor practices, and track carbon emissions across the supply chain. Being sincere and truthful in the workplace is crucial to building trust and loyalty with customers, which is a prerequisite for success. While following environmental, social, and governance (ESG) guidelines is important, being truthful and genuine is just as important. As a result, they have these artificial intelligence systems that use blockchain technology to monitor their suppliers' reactions and validate the method by which they acquire their products (Saber *et al.*, 2019) ^[32]. These activities greatly improve the ethical atmosphere of supply chains, which further emphasizes the significance of the brand's symbolism.

Artificial intelligence completely maximizes the effectiveness of environmental initiatives. As a result, inefficient activities are decreased, and available resources are used more effectively and efficiently. Given that artificial intelligence technology is significantly enhancing irrigation, this is a revolutionary advance for the farming sector. Crop health, soil conditions, and weather are all assessed. This preserves or even increases productivity in addition to helping with water conservation (Liakos *et al.*, 2018) ^[31]. According to Deloitte's 2020 ^[29] study, the logistics and transportation sector can significantly speed up package delivery and lower gasoline usage by putting algorithms into place. Without a doubt, a few small changes to the delivery schedule will accomplish this. These examples show how artificial intelligence is being used to protect the environment and increase economic efficiency. The inclusion of all people and their ease of access to the resources they require should be given top priority by a business that is dedicated to its mission. It is a perfect example of the remarkable possibilities presented by artificial intelligence and technology.

A study by Raji and colleagues in 2020 ^[21] sought to determine whether algorithmic bias detection and removal is possible in models trained on a variety of datasets. As a result, businesses may reach a wider audience and improve the quality of customer experience. When used in conjunction with inclusive credit assessment processes, voice assistants designed with accessibility in mind greatly improve service accessibility for everyone.

Part 3: Framework for Ethical AI to Build Resilient Brands

In addition to opening up a plethora of new opportunities, these remarkable technology advancements are also promoting equity, which is remarkable for maintaining our commitment to our core values. We must be cautious and carefully consider our options if we want to maximize the use of artificial intelligence. If we don't set the necessary standards, it's possible that AI will worsen already-existing injustices, violate our privacy rights, and produce incredibly

confusing conclusions (O'Neil, 2016) ^[26].

Before launching their digital transformation plans, businesses must confirm that their artificial intelligence (AI) operations are ethical. These tactics are put into practice by using procedures that uphold order while avoiding prejudice, checks that identify any instances of bias, and technologies that speed the process. In addition to reducing the likelihood of mistakes, this strategy fosters trust, which is essential for maintaining our progress toward our objectives and generating income.

AI provides a wide range of outstanding tools that can assist us in reaching our financial goals and creating identities that conform to social norms. This allows businesses to remain loyal to their values while also exploring exciting new prospects for value. When used properly, artificial intelligence can help a business boost profits by enhancing earnings, upholding moral principles, and guaranteeing that everything runs more smoothly. Indeed, they can provide support in the organization's efforts to promote ideas like sustainability, openness, and inclusivity.

Establishing moral artificial intelligence and creating strong brands are the main topics of the third segment. We need to build artificial intelligence on a solid and moral basis if we want it to actually help us make money and do amazing things. This will allow us to build businesses that will last for a long time. According to Jobin, Ienca, and Vayena (2019) ^[19], the first step in this approach is to create precise artificial intelligence (AI) goals that are meant to accomplish particular goals. After that, we will examine the topics of responsible governance and data ethics, assessing the viewpoints of all debate participants. Regardless of the situation, a brand must make sure that its ethical use of AI aligns with its dedication to sustainability or social responsibility. The application of artificial intelligence (AI) by farmers to lower water pollution would be a significant environmental accomplishment. Dignum (2019) ^[17] highlights that technology plays a crucial role in ensuring that artificial intelligence projects align with moral goals, making it advantageous for all stakeholders.

It is essential that businesses set up strong governance procedures to guarantee that artificial intelligence is used fairly and openly. Internal ethical committees for AI should be established in order to study its application of the highest importance. These committees are comparable to those at Google and Salesforce. Florida *et al.* (2018) ^[8] stress the significance of rules that give top priority to the fundamental ethical AI tenets of responsibility, explainability, and fairness. Incorporating these ideas into the policymaking process is quite important. It is crucial to have high-quality data that is representative as well.

Assuming that AI systems are using the same data, it is very likely that they will just reinforce the prejudices that currently exist. In addition to upholding the proper ethical standards, it is imperative to preserve transparency and make sure that all parties are aware and in agreement. According to Tene and Polonetsky (2013) ^[22], Apple's approach to developing artificial intelligence for on-device apps demonstrates the company's dedication to privacy from the start while simultaneously ensuring that the product is easy to use. The financial and ethical ramifications of artificial intelligence projects must be carefully considered. It is essential to assess the return on investment, the way the company is boosting efficiency, and the increase in income while examining its financial status.

We should look at a few key indicators to determine how well we are doing at reducing carbon dioxide emissions, how well we are doing at diversity, equity, and inclusion, and how our actions affect the environment, society, and governance. As a result, in 2020, WambaTaguimdje and his colleagues found that displaying these in executive dashboards is a useful way to enlighten executives about how AI is affecting various parts of the world.

Part 4: Risks to Manage

As AI grows more adept at creating trustworthy identities, it is critical to keep an eye on and handle a wide range of risks, which are briefly examined. Operational optimization and the creation of more situation-specific strategies are made possible by artificial intelligence. On the other hand, if done incorrectly, it can seriously harm a company that prides itself on moral behavior. Important issues that need to be addressed include the effects of algorithmic bias, greenwashing, privacy issues, and the ways that automation is influencing employment opportunities. Taking a moment to relax is strongly suggested. A thorough plan that takes into account each of these various eventualities is necessary if artificial intelligence is to meet its financial goals and produce real outcomes.

Compared to the other issues being discussed, algorithmic bias is without a doubt one of the most important issues that is the focus of a lot of discussion and controversy. Despite their best efforts, artificial intelligence systems designed to detect biased or out-of-date data may unintentionally reinforce unfair behaviors or disparities inside the system. Sometimes the techniques we use to forecast employment outcomes might work for certain groups, but the way we evaluate creditworthiness might inadvertently hurt marginalized communities (Mehrabani *et al.*, 2021) ^[11]. To lessen the impact of bias, it is essential to use fairness technologies, like Microsoft's Fairlearn or IBM's AI Fairness 360, to oversee artificial intelligence algorithms. This will therefore lead to the creation of a number of creative companies that are sincere in their commitment to justice.

Working on this, it's crucial to keep an eye on the stakeholders during the deployment process and collect data from multiple sources so that the models may be trained once the deployment is finished. There is no denying that the various environmental claims being made in relation to artificial intelligence are causing increasing alarm. At the same time, the way businesses market their AI technology as "sustainable" or "ethical" is really humorous, even though there isn't much hard data to support these assertions. According to Chatterjee *et al.* (2022) ^[3], this questionable behavior can significantly affect trust, which can make it difficult for companies to build their brands or become established in the market.

Artificial intelligence initiatives require well-defined performance metrics that give priority to measurable benefits to the environment or society. We have the power to lower our carbon footprints, improve accessibility, and achieve real progress in the diversity and inclusion space. We can also lessen our influence on the environment. Here are some of the incredible benefits that could be gained. The purpose of this review is to let you know that we must relate these measurements to our artificial intelligence efforts, which are connected to our environmental obligations.

Nowadays, there is a great deal of concern about privacy,

especially since artificial intelligence depends on a large amount of user data. The appearance of these AI insights and tailored suggestions gives the sense that something is about to go completely wrong. A person's reputation could be damaged and legal problems could occur if personal information is managed improperly or disclosed excessively. Without a question, companies' AI strategies must give the privacy of their customers top priority. Dwork (2008) ^[6] talks about a number of tactics that can be used to lower the amount of data gathered, including making sure users agree with the idea, putting encryption in place, and testing out tactics like differential privacy. Establishing a strong identity is essential for businesses. This not only complies with laws like the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), but it also builds trust with customers who are sincere about moral business conduct.

As artificial intelligence (AI) grows increasingly common in the workplace, some jobs may be abolished, especially those that require manual labor or are repetitive in nature. Even if artificial intelligence (AI) is a great tool for speeding up operations, big businesses must consider how automation will affect society. When considering changing jobs and enrolling in retraining programs, it is crucial that you do not overlook the need to maintain ethical standards. To ensure that everyone has an equal chance to stay up to date on the latest technology developments, this is crucial (Bessen, 2019) ^[2]. To develop resilience and effectively handle life's obstacles, it is essential to let innovative thoughts flow and to be open to different viewpoints. By using artificial intelligence (AI) responsibly, businesses can surely improve their ethics and put long-term sustainability first. They may also recognize and address the complex risks related to AI at the same time.

Part 5: Using Technology and Tools to Balance Profit and Purpose

It is imperative that they use technology and tools that encourage accountability, transparency, and clear repercussions. These tools come with a number of unique and remarkable characteristics. By integrating these technologies into their operations and making sure that their AI initiatives adhere to the ethical norms that matter to their customers, businesses might potentially accomplish their goals.

One unique product that uses artificial intelligence to make it easier to track carbon emissions and the effects they have on the environment is Microsoft Sustainability Manager. If you are interested in using this program, you can do so. Microsoft is passionate about how crucial it is to follow the law and preserve everyone's confidence. It assists big businesses in coordinating their AI projects with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) goals, which is a crucial step in guaranteeing legal compliance and averting future legal issues.

Google is sincere about using AI to raise everyone's standard of living. In order to help with catastrophe management, climate change forecasting, and biodiversity conservation, they are creating amazing technologies. Google (2023) ^[8] has demonstrated that, when used properly, technology can handle both business and social responsibilities.

Examining open-source tools like Fairlearn and AI Fairness 360 is essential when dealing with moral conundrums like bias and prejudice. These libraries are full of fascinating

statistical and algorithmic methods that will help with the analysis and resolution of bias if machine learning models pique your interest.

According to Bellamy *et al.* (2019) ^[1], companies that want to increase their resilience should carefully weigh the possibilities of using these technologies when deciding on artificial intelligence (AI), especially during the development and auditing stages. With the assurance that the decision-making process is equitable for all participants, everyone will be able to unwind and feel comfortable. Hugging Face Transformers and other natural language processing platforms have been used to achieve this truly amazing work. These platforms will provide you an inside look at the conversation around businesses by allowing you to see the feelings, sentiments, and ethical vibrations that are connected to brand tales. Thus, in 2020, Wolf ^[14] and the rest of the crew investigated a number of items that show how businesses might use these models to track their marketing and communication initiatives.

In order to eliminate any bad energy or to make sure they are using words that are consistent with sustainability, they can alter them. The integration of ESG modules with business intelligence tools like Tableau or Power BI makes it much easier to distinguish between two key performance indicators: profit and purpose. These dashboards are extremely helpful for tracking return on investment (ROI) and analyzing social impact measurements, such as diversity ratings, accessibility performance, and carbon offsets. This dual monitoring ability ensures that executives are informed and plays a crucial role in building stakeholder trust in a brand's ethical claims. According to Kiron and Unruh (2018) ^[10], this ability helps leaders keep their sharpness.

To accomplish their goals with ethical artificial intelligence, businesses need to use these technologies intelligently. These technologies aim to ensure artificial intelligence's survival, its authentic value delivery, the growth of trust, the maintenance of simplicity, and its contribution to societal advancement.

Part 6: Industries and Use Cases

There are a number of ways that ethical AI is used, and these methods depend on the particular industries. Both reliable and affordable technology are the only things the public wants. AI integration into the endeavors of people who want to change the world can result in the creation of original and important concepts for solving social problems and achieving financial goals.

Artificial intelligence is transforming the retail sector by offering eco-friendly solutions that make it easier for customers to choose more sustainable products. Based on your tastes and previous purchases, platforms might provide recommendations for sustainable or ethically sourced products. This leads to better purchase options and more individualized experiences, according to a study done in 2020 by Davenport ^[5] and his colleagues. The retail industry can significantly improve supply chain efficiency by implementing ethical AI, which will help to cut down on waste and pollution. Without a doubt, we will be able to do this if we can improve our ability to determine people's preferences and keep an attentive inventory control system.

In agriculture, artificial intelligence techniques are extremely beneficial since they boost crop yields, save water, and lessen the need for pesticides. According to Kamilaris and the team (2018) ^[9], artificial intelligence-

driven irrigation systems use real-time data to evaluate crop health, weather, and soil moisture. This implies that we are about to witness a greater crop and some remarkable farming methods. To ensure environmental safety and help businesses increase their profitability, it is crucial to establish and operationalize these systems.

In addition to improving the healthcare industry's efficiency, artificial intelligence has a significant positive impact on society, which is crucial. These cutting-edge AI-integrated prognostic care models make it possible to identify patients who might be in danger and offer preventative guidance, especially to those who are not receiving enough care. According to Topol (2019) ^[13], artificial intelligence speeds up and improves the accuracy of assessments, which leads to better health outcomes and lower costs in the medical imaging and diagnostics sector. These solutions successfully bridge the usual gaps by integrating a wide range of data to guarantee that everyone feels included and receives the necessary medical treatment.

Thanks to some amazing developments in artificial intelligence, the financial industry is currently going through a major shift in the way credit is evaluated. These new changes are being made because it is very important to make sure that everyone feels welcome and to help people understand each other more thoroughly. People who don't have a complete credit history could find it difficult to get help from credit systems. AI can perform a thorough study of a range of data, such as mobile payments and utility bills, to enable quicker access to your financial resources. According to Fuster *et al.* (2022) ^[7], reputable financial institutions can guarantee that these models are accessible and egalitarian by incorporating bias detection techniques into their operations.

AI has the ability to significantly improve transportation route optimization, which would boost fuel efficiency and lower emissions. One of the most exciting features of AI in this sector is this. In the logistics industry, artificial intelligence is being used to improve truck maintenance scheduling, reduce traffic, and adjust routes as needed. According to Cremer and the team (2022) ^[4], these ideas show that it is possible to make a modest living while still supporting social responsibility, saving money, and advancing climate goals.

The examples demonstrate that artificial intelligence is more like a cool tool that has the potential to change our ethical perspective than a miraculous fix.

Conclusion

When we work together and use our imaginations, we can discover some truly amazing identities that are blossoming all around the world. Artificial intelligence gives you a significant competitive edge, and there are undoubtedly many ways to make money while pursuing your objectives. Businesses are finally starting to get their act together, which is a clear sign that things are starting to look better.

It is crucial that people create brands that are genuinely in line with their goals and that appropriately reflect the values of their local communities. The fact that a sizable portion of people are becoming interested in sustainability, transparency, and moral behavior is very positive. Artificial intelligence unquestionably helps companies navigate this complex environment with the help of a professional.

A more effective operation, significant impact, and everyone's engagement are the outcomes of putting these

resources into practice. Additionally, they support the development of more ethically sound and fact-based decisions. In order to get insight into how artificial intelligence may mix doing well and making money, these systems must be built with careful thought and a clear goal in mind. Concerning artificial intelligence (AI), companies must integrate ethical principles into their systems to maintain accountability, fairness, and ease of use. We must set up efficient governance procedures that will guarantee the supervision of all operations and give us trustworthy moral direction. It is possible that these frameworks will be very helpful in avoiding any shocks or biases that can harm the brand's reputation and stakeholders' trust. When assessing key performance indicators, a wider range of data than merely cash flow must be taken into account.

We must take into account not only the organization's impact on society but also its impact on the environment. As a result, organizations are better able to evaluate their progress toward their sustainability and inclusivity goals. Implementing some technology developments would be extremely beneficial to the company in order to promote diversity, improve data protection, and make access easier for everyone. This is the more likely way that people and communities will show their support for you. We will be able to ensure that the use of artificial intelligence does not put anyone in danger or make matters worse for those who are already having difficulties. Instead, it promotes economic activity that is both outstanding and environmentally conscientious.

When brands start to capitalize on these emotions, they start to see themselves as leaders in their industry and advocates for societal change. The companies that will probably have an impact in the future are the ones who fully grasp the idea of purpose-driven marketing, especially in view of the many changes that artificial intelligence is causing in a variety of industries. In order to achieve a number of long-term benefits for the community, participants, and investors, these organizations are getting ready to set new benchmarks for resilience, accountability, and renewal.

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