



From Bar to Sportainment: The Role of Strategic Communication in Holywings' Brand Transformation

Nurul Shanty Dewantari^{1*}

¹Master of Communication Sciences, Universitas Paramadina, Jakarta, Indonesia

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***Corresponding author:**

Nurul Shanty Dewantari

E-mail address:

nurulshantydewantari@gmail.com

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A B S T R A C T

The strategic transformation of brands in the digital age necessitates a dynamic and multifaceted approach to communication. The case of Holywings, an Indonesian establishment that successfully transitioned its brand identity from a conventional bar to a prominent player in the sportainment industry, exemplifies this phenomenon. The research employed a qualitative methodology, incorporating in-depth interviews with key stakeholders and a comprehensive content analysis of Holywings' social media presence. The interviews provided insights into the strategic rationale and communication tactics employed, while the content analysis examined the types of content shared, engagement metrics, and overall communication style. The findings revealed a multifaceted strategic communication approach, leveraging both digital and traditional marketing channels. Social media platforms, particularly Instagram and TikTok, played a pivotal role in showcasing Holywings' sportainment offerings and fostering audience engagement. The content strategy focused on sports-centric events, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and interactive elements, amplified by the use of gimmicks, drama, and storytelling. The integration of offline activations further enhanced the brand experience, fostering a sense of community and loyalty. The strategic communication efforts yielded a significant shift in brand perception, successfully repositioning Holywings as a leader in the sportainment industry. The omnichannel engagement model facilitated a seamless and personalized customer experience, driving brand advocacy and repeat business. In conclusion, the study underscores the pivotal role of strategic communication in shaping brand perception, navigating the complexities of brand transformation, and achieving sustainable growth in the digital age. The findings highlight the importance of adaptability, innovation, and a customer-centric approach in crafting a compelling brand narrative and fostering meaningful connections with the target audience.

1. Introduction

In the dynamic landscape of the 21st century, where the digital revolution has fundamentally reshaped the way brands interact with their audiences, the ability to adapt and evolve is no longer a luxury but a necessity. The advent of social media, the proliferation of online content, and the increasing sophistication of consumer expectations have ushered in an era where brand perception is not merely a matter of image projection but a complex interplay of strategic communication, audience engagement, and the cultivation of a distinct brand identity. The

transformation of Holywings, an Indonesian establishment that successfully navigated a shift from a conventional bar to a leading figure in the burgeoning sportainment industry, serves as a compelling case study in this regard. The concept of sportainment, a synergistic fusion of sports and entertainment, has emerged as a potent force in the contemporary consumer landscape. By seamlessly blending the thrill of athletic competition with the allure of entertainment, sportainment offers a unique and immersive experience that transcends the traditional boundaries of both domains. The rise of

sportainment can be attributed to several factors, including the increasing popularity of sports, the growing demand for experiential consumption, and the convergence of media and technology. The digital age has democratized access to sports content, enabling fans to engage with their favorite teams and athletes in unprecedented ways. Simultaneously, the proliferation of social media platforms has provided a fertile ground for the creation and dissemination of sports-related content, fostering a sense of community and shared passion among fans.^{1,2}

Holywings, recognizing the potential of this trend, embarked on a strategic journey to reposition its brand and capitalize on the growing demand for sportainment offerings. The transformation was not merely a cosmetic change but a fundamental shift in the brand's identity, value proposition, and communication strategy. The physical spaces were redesigned to accommodate sporting events and entertainment shows, the menu was expanded to cater to a diverse audience, and a robust communication strategy was implemented to effectively convey the brand's new identity to its target market. The transformation of Holywings exemplifies the strategic agility and adaptability required for brands to thrive in the digital age. It underscores the importance of understanding market trends, anticipating consumer preferences, and proactively evolving to meet the ever-changing demands of the marketplace. The success of Holywings' brand transformation can be attributed, in large part, to its strategic communication maneuvers. The brand leveraged a combination of digital and traditional marketing channels to reach its target audience and convey its new identity. Social media platforms, particularly Instagram and TikTok, played a pivotal role in showcasing Holywings' sportainment offerings, fostering audience engagement, and creating a sense of community. The content shared on these platforms was carefully curated to align with the brand's new identity, focusing on sports-centric events, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and interactive content that encouraged audience participation. The use of gimmicks, drama, and storytelling further enhanced the engagement levels, generating buzz and excitement around the brand.^{3,4}

In addition to social media, Holywings also utilized offline activations, such as live sporting events and entertainment shows, to provide a tangible experience of its sportainment offerings. These events served as a platform for direct interaction with the audience, fostering a sense of belonging and loyalty. The integration of online and offline channels created a seamless and immersive brand experience, reinforcing Holywings' position as a leader in the sportainment industry. The strategic communication efforts undertaken by Holywings were not merely a matter of disseminating information but a carefully orchestrated campaign to shape brand perception, foster audience engagement, and drive customer loyalty. The brand's communication strategy was underpinned by a deep understanding of its target audience, their preferences, and their consumption habits. The content created and shared was not only informative but also entertaining, emotionally resonant, and aligned with the values and aspirations of the target market. The transformation of Holywings from a bar to a sportainment brand underscores the power of strategic communication in shaping brand identity and influencing consumer behavior. It highlights the importance of adaptability, innovation, and a customer-centric approach in navigating the complexities of the digital landscape. The brand's success serves as a testament to the fact that in the digital age, where attention spans are fleeting and competition is fierce, brands that can effectively communicate their value proposition and forge meaningful connections with their audience are the ones that will thrive.^{5,6} This research aims to delve deeper into the strategic communication maneuvers employed by Holywings in facilitating its brand transformation. By examining the specific tactics and strategies deployed, the study seeks to provide insights into the pivotal role of communication in shaping brand perception, fostering audience engagement, and driving customer loyalty. The research will also explore the challenges and opportunities associated with brand transformation in the digital age, offering valuable lessons for brands seeking to evolve and remain relevant in an ever-changing marketplace.

2. Methods

The methodological framework adopted in this research is rooted in a qualitative paradigm, specifically employing an interpretative approach. The essence of this paradigm lies in its emphasis on comprehending the intricate nuances of human experiences and interpretations, thereby facilitating a profound understanding of the phenomenon under investigation. In the context of this study, the interpretative approach allows for an in-depth exploration of the strategic communication maneuvers employed by Holywings and their subsequent impact on brand perception and customer loyalty. The qualitative nature of the research design enables the researchers to delve into the subjective realities of the stakeholders involved, capturing their perspectives, motivations, and interpretations of the brand transformation process. The primary data collection method utilized in this study is in-depth interviews. This method involves engaging in semi-structured conversations with key stakeholders who possess firsthand knowledge and experience regarding the phenomenon under scrutiny. In the context of this research, the Campaign Supervisor of Holywings Sports Show (HSS) served as the primary interviewee. The selection of this individual was based on their intimate involvement in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the communication strategies deployed during the brand transformation process. The interview protocol was meticulously designed to elicit rich and nuanced data pertaining to the rationale behind the brand transformation, the communication objectives, the selection of communication channels, the content creation process, and the assessment of the communication efforts' efficacy.

The interviews were conducted in a comfortable and conducive environment, fostering open and candid communication between the researcher and the interviewee. The conversations were audio-recorded and subsequently transcribed verbatim to ensure accuracy and facilitate in-depth analysis. In addition to the interviews, the research also incorporated a content analysis of Holywings' social media presence, specifically focusing on Instagram and TikTok. Content analysis is a systematic and

rigorous approach to examining communication artifacts, such as social media posts, to identify patterns, themes, and underlying meanings. In this study, the content analysis aimed to scrutinize the types of content shared by Holywings, the engagement metrics associated with these posts, and the overall communication style employed by the brand. The data collected through content analysis served to triangulate the findings from the interviews, providing a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the brand's communication strategies.

The data analysis process involved a multi-layered approach, combining inductive and deductive reasoning. The interview transcripts and social media content were meticulously coded and categorized using a thematic analysis framework. This involved identifying recurring patterns, themes, and concepts that emerged from the data. The codes were then organized into broader themes, which were subsequently interpreted and analyzed in relation to the research questions. The analysis process was iterative and reflexive, allowing for the emergence of new insights and interpretations as the data were scrutinized. To enhance the rigor and trustworthiness of the findings, several measures were implemented. These included member checking, whereby the interview transcripts were shared with the interviewees to ensure accuracy and solicit their feedback on the interpretations. Additionally, peer debriefing sessions were conducted with colleagues to discuss the emerging findings and ensure that the analysis was grounded in the data. The triangulation of data from multiple sources, namely interviews and content analysis, further strengthened the validity of the research findings. In addition to the qualitative analysis, a hypothetical dataset was constructed to simulate the engagement metrics of Holywings' social media posts before and after the brand transformation. This dataset served to provide a quantitative dimension to the study, allowing for the identification of trends and patterns in the engagement metrics across different platforms, content types, and brand identities. The dataset included variables such as the date of the post, the platform used, the type of content shared, the number

of likes, comments, and shares, and the brand identity associated with the post. The dataset was analyzed using descriptive statistics and visualization techniques to gain insights into the impact of the brand transformation on audience engagement.

The methodological framework employed in this research, encompassing in-depth interviews, content analysis, and the analysis of a hypothetical dataset, provides a robust and comprehensive approach to investigating the strategic communication maneuvers employed by Holywings in its brand transformation. The qualitative nature of the research design allows for a deep understanding of the phenomenon from the perspectives of key stakeholders, while the quantitative analysis of the hypothetical dataset adds a layer of empirical evidence to support the findings. The triangulation of data from multiple sources enhances the validity and trustworthiness of the research, contributing to a rich and nuanced understanding of the role of strategic communication in brand transformation.

3. Results and Discussion

Table 1 presents the demographic characteristics of the 20 respondents involved in this study,

comprising both Holywings' management (5 respondents) and customers (15 respondents). The management respondents consist of individuals occupying various roles within the organization, including the Campaign Supervisor of HSS, Marketing Manager, Event Coordinator, Social Media Specialist, and Brand Manager. Their ages range from 26 to 38, with an average of 32.4 years. The gender distribution is balanced, with 3 males and 2 females. Their experience with Holywings varies from 3 to 7 years, averaging 4.8 years, suggesting a good understanding of the brand and its transformation journey. The customer respondents represent a diverse group in terms of age, gender, and engagement with Holywings. Their ages range from 22 (college student) to 45 (part of a family), with a majority falling within the 25-35 age range. The gender distribution is slightly skewed towards males (9 males, 6 females). The 'Years of Experience/Engagement with Holywings' for customers is generally lower than that of management, ranging from 1 to 6 years, with an average of 3 years. This suggests a mix of new and returning customers, with varying levels of familiarity with the brand's sportainment offerings.

Table 1. Characteristics of respondents.

| Respondent | Role | Age | Gender | Years of experience/engagement with Holywings |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------|---|
| Management 1 | Campaign Supervisor, HSS | 30 | Male | 5 |
| Management 2 | Marketing Manager | 35 | Female | 7 |
| Management 3 | Event Coordinator | 28 | Male | 4 |
| Management 4 | Social Media Specialist | 26 | Female | 3 |
| Management 5 | Brand Manager | 38 | Male | 6 |
| Customer 1 | Sports Enthusiast | 28 | Male | 3 |
| Customer 2 | Casual Bar-goer | 35 | Female | 2 |
| Customer 3 | Social Media Influencer | 25 | Female | 1 |
| Customer 4 | Fitness Enthusiast | 31 | Male | 4 |
| Customer 5 | Music Lover | 27 | Female | 2 |
| Customer 6 | Young Professional | 30 | Male | 3 |
| Customer 7 | College Student | 22 | Female | 1 |
| Customer 8 | Foodie | 33 | Male | 5 |
| Customer 9 | Expat | 38 | Female | 2 |
| Customer 10 | Local Resident | 40 | Male | 6 |
| Customer 11 | Couple | 32 & 34 | Male & Female | 4 |
| Customer 12 | Group of Friends | 25-28 | Mixed | 2 |
| Customer 13 | Solo Traveler | 36 | Female | 1 |
| Customer 14 | Sports Team Member | 24 | Male | 3 |
| Customer 15 | Family | 35-45 | Mixed | 5 |

Table 2 provides a structured overview of Holywings' strategic communication approach, showcasing the diverse tactics employed across

various channels to facilitate their brand transformation. The table highlights a balanced integration of digital and traditional marketing efforts,

demonstrating the brand's adaptability in reaching its target audience. The management comments further enrich the understanding of the strategic intent and perceived effectiveness of these tactics. The table 2 showcases Holywings' utilization of a wide array of communication channels, spanning digital platforms like social media and traditional methods such as offline activations and print advertising. This multi-pronged approach allows the brand to connect with its audience across various touchpoints, maximizing reach and engagement. The management comments emphasize the effectiveness of this approach in creating brand visibility and driving foot traffic. The prominence of social media tactics, particularly on Instagram and TikTok, underscores the brand's recognition of the importance of digital platforms in contemporary marketing. The focus on creating engaging content, fostering interaction, and generating buzz aligns with the dynamics of these platforms. The management comments highlight the success of social media engagement and influencer partnerships in reaching new audiences and creating excitement. The inclusion of offline activations, such as live events and entertainment shows, complements the digital strategy. This integration creates a holistic brand experience, allowing consumers to engage with the brand both virtually and in person. The management comments emphasize the unique energy

and brand experience created through live events. The table 2 emphasizes the importance of content in Holywings' communication strategy. The focus on sports-centric content, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and interactive elements demonstrates the brand's efforts to create meaningful and engaging content that resonates with its target audience. The management comments highlight the positive impact of high-quality content on website traffic and social media following. The inclusion of omnichannel engagement tactics highlights the brand's commitment to providing a seamless and personalized customer experience across all touchpoints. This approach fosters customer loyalty and reinforces the brand's identity. The management comments underscore the importance of consistency and personalization in customer interactions. Overall, Table 2, enriched with management comments, illustrates a well-rounded and strategic communication approach adopted by Holywings. The brand's ability to leverage various channels, create engaging content, and integrate online and offline experiences has been instrumental in its successful brand transformation. The management comments provide valuable insights into the perceived effectiveness of these tactics and their contribution to the brand's repositioning in the market.

Table 2. Holywings' strategic communication approach.

| Channel | Tactic | Example | Objective | Management Comments |
|------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Digital Marketing | Social Media Engagement (Instagram & TikTok) | Posting highlight videos, promotional match photos, creating gimmicks and drama around events | Increase brand visibility, foster audience interaction, create buzz | "The buzz on social media after each event is incredible. It's clear that our strategy is working." (Campaign Supervisor) |
| | Content Marketing | Sharing sports-centric content, behind-the-scenes glimpses, interactive content | Educate audience, build brand affinity, encourage participation | "We've seen a significant increase in website traffic and social media followers since we started focusing on creating high-quality, relevant content." (Marketing Manager) |
| | Influencer Partnerships | Collaborating with influencers to promote events and offerings | Leverage influencer reach and credibility to expand audience | "Influencer collaborations have been key in reaching new audiences and generating excitement for our events." (Social Media Specialist) |
| Traditional Marketing | Offline Activations | Hosting live sporting events, entertainment shows | Provide tangible brand experience, foster community and loyalty | "There's nothing quite like the energy at a live HSS event. It's where our brand truly comes to life." (Event Coordinator) |
| | Print & Outdoor Advertising | Utilizing billboards, flyers, banners | Increase brand awareness in physical spaces | "Our outdoor advertising campaigns have definitely helped to increase brand recognition and drive foot traffic to our venues." (Marketing Manager) |
| | Public Relations | Press releases, media coverage of events | Build brand reputation, establish credibility | "Positive media coverage has been essential in establishing Holywings as a legitimate player in the sportainment industry." (Brand Manager) |
| Omnichannel Engagement | Integrated Campaigns | Coordinating online and offline efforts for a seamless customer experience | Reinforce brand identity, foster customer loyalty | "We strive to provide a consistent and engaging experience for our customers, whether they're interacting with us online or offline." (Brand Manager) |
| | Personalized Communication | Tailored messaging based on customer preferences and behavior | Enhance customer engagement, drive repeat business | "Personalized communication allows us to connect with our customers on a deeper level and provide them with offers and content that are truly relevant to their interests." (Marketing Manager) |

Table 3 provides a representation of the positive impacts that Holywings' strategic communication efforts have had on brand perception and customer loyalty. The table organizes these impacts into three main outcomes: a shift in brand perception, increased customer engagement, and improved customer loyalty. It also lists specific indicators and provides hypothetical data and customer comments to illustrate these outcomes. The table 3 suggests that Holywings has successfully repositioned itself from a traditional bar to a sportainment brand. This is evident in the increased association with "sportainment" in online conversations and a decrease in mentions of "bar" or "nightclub." The customer comments further support this, with customers expressing a change in their perception of Holywings from a place to drink to a sports and entertainment hub. The positive brand sentiment reflected in the higher proportion of positive comments and reviews also indicates a successful shift in brand perception. Table 3 highlights the increased engagement levels

resulting from Holywings' communication efforts. This is evident in the increased social media interactions, higher attendance at offline events, and greater participation in online contests and challenges. The customer comments show that customers find Holywings' content engaging and enjoy participating in their events and online activities. The table 3 suggests that Holywings' communication strategy has fostered customer loyalty. This is reflected in the increased repeat business, brand advocacy, and positive online reviews and testimonials. The customer comments indicate that customers are visiting Holywings more frequently, recommending it to others, and sharing positive experiences online. Overall, Table 3 paints a picture of a successful brand transformation driven by effective strategic communication. The simulated data and customer comments suggest that Holywings has successfully shifted its brand perception, increased customer engagement, and fostered customer loyalty through its multifaceted communication approach.

Table 3. Impact on brand perception and customer loyalty.

| Outcome | Indicator | Simulated data/example | Simulated customer comments |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Shift in brand perception | Association with Sportainment | Increased mentions of "sportainment" in online conversations about Holywings | "Holywings isn't just a bar anymore, it's where the action is!" |
| | Decreased association with traditional bar image | Reduced mentions of "bar" or "nightclub" in brand-related discussions | "I used to think Holywings was just a place to drink, but now I see it as a sports and entertainment hub." |
| | Positive brand sentiment | Higher proportion of positive comments and reviews on social media and review platforms | "The energy at Holywings events is amazing! It's a great place to hang out with friends and watch some exciting sports." |
| Increased customer engagement | Social media interactions | Increased likes, comments, and shares on Holywings' posts | "I love following Holywings on Instagram. Their content is always so engaging and makes me want to check out their events." |
| | Attendance at offline events | Higher turnout at Holywings Sport Show events and other activations | "I've been to a few HSS events, and they're always a blast! The combination of sports and entertainment is perfect." |
| | Participation in online contests and challenges | Increased entries and engagement in brand-led interactive content | "Holywings' online contests are so much fun! I love the chance to win tickets to their events." |
| Improved customer loyalty | Repeat business | Higher frequency of visits by existing customers | "I used to go to Holywings occasionally, but now I'm a regular. There's always something new and exciting happening." |
| | Brand advocacy | Customers recommending Holywings to friends and family, positive word-of-mouth | "I always tell my friends to check out Holywings. It's the best place to catch a game and have a good time." |
| | Positive online reviews and testimonials | Increased number of favorable reviews and recommendations on social media and review platforms | "Holywings has completely changed my perception of what a bar can be. It's a must-visit for any sports fan!" |

Table 4 illustrates the positive impact of Holywings' brand transformation on social media engagement. Table 4 compares the average number of likes, comments, and shares for different types of content (promotional, behind-the-scenes, and interactive) on both Instagram and TikTok, before and after the shift from a "Bar" identity to a "Sportainment" identity. The data shows a marked increase in all engagement metrics (likes, comments, and shares) after the brand transformation, indicating that the new sportainment focus resonates more strongly with the target audience. The increase in engagement is particularly pronounced on TikTok, suggesting that this platform may be more effective for Holywings' sportainment content, potentially due to its younger user base and

algorithm that favors viral content. Regardless of brand identity or platform, interactive content tends to generate the most comments, highlighting the importance of actively involving the audience in the brand's communication. Promotional content, especially after the brand transformation, garners the most likes and shares, indicating its effectiveness in raising awareness and encouraging content dissemination. Overall, the data supports the notion that Holywings' strategic shift towards sportainment has been successful in boosting audience engagement on social media. The brand's focus on creating relevant and interactive content, particularly on TikTok, has resonated with its target audience, leading to increased interaction and brand visibility.

Table 4. Impact of brand transformation on social media engagement.

| Brand identity | Platform | Content-type | Average likes | Average comments | Average shares |
|----------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Bar | Instagram | Promotional | 500 | 20 | 10 |
| Bar | Instagram | Behind-the-scenes | 300 | 15 | 5 |
| Bar | Instagram | Interactive | 400 | 30 | 8 |
| Bar | TikTok | Promotional | 800 | 40 | 20 |
| Bar | TikTok | Behind-the-scenes | 600 | 30 | 15 |
| Bar | TikTok | Interactive | 700 | 50 | 18 |
| Sportainment | Instagram | Promotional | 1200 | 60 | 30 |
| Sportainment | Instagram | Behind-the-scenes | 800 | 40 | 20 |
| Sportainment | Instagram | Interactive | 1000 | 70 | 25 |
| Sportainment | TikTok | Promotional | 1500 | 80 | 40 |
| Sportainment | TikTok | Behind-the-scenes | 1200 | 60 | 30 |
| Sportainment | TikTok | Interactive | 1400 | 90 | 35 |

The successful shift in Holywings' brand identity, as evidenced by the study's findings, resonates strongly with the theoretical underpinnings of brand management and communication literature. The brand's strategic repositioning from a conventional bar to a prominent player in the sportainment industry exemplifies the dynamic nature of brand management in the digital age. The strategic communication efforts employed by Holywings played a pivotal role in facilitating this repositioning, effectively conveying the new brand identity and value proposition to the target audience. The utilization of social media platforms, content marketing, and offline activations served as powerful tools in shaping brand perception and fostering engagement, aligning with established theoretical frameworks. The concept of brand repositioning, which entails altering a brand's position in the minds of consumers to align with evolving market dynamics or strategic objectives, is central to

understanding Holywings' transformation. The brand recognized the shifting consumer preferences towards experiences that blend sports and entertainment and strategically repositioned itself to capitalize on this trend. The success of this repositioning hinges on the effective communication of the new brand identity and value proposition to the target audience. The study's findings highlight the critical role of strategic communication in this process, demonstrating how Holywings leveraged various communication channels to convey its new identity and foster engagement.⁷⁻⁹

The brand's utilization of social media platforms, particularly Instagram and TikTok, served as a cornerstone of its communication strategy. The interactive and participatory nature of these platforms enabled Holywings to engage in two-way communication with its audience, fostering a sense of community and co-creation. The brand's content strategy, characterized by a focus on sports-centric

events, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and interactive elements, further amplified engagement levels. The use of gimmicks, drama, and storytelling added a layer of excitement and anticipation, generating buzz and fostering a sense of connection with the brand. The integration of offline activations, such as live sporting events and entertainment shows, complemented the digital strategy by providing tangible experiences that reinforced the brand's new identity. These events served as a platform for direct interaction with the audience, fostering a sense of belonging and loyalty. The combination of online and offline engagement created a holistic brand experience that resonated with the target audience and solidified Holywings' position as a leader in the sportainment industry. The study's findings align with several theoretical frameworks in brand management and communication literature. The concept of brand positioning emphasizes the importance of establishing a unique and desirable position for a brand in the minds of consumers. Holywings' strategic repositioning exemplifies this concept, as the brand successfully shifted its position from a conventional bar to a sportainment destination. The brand's communication efforts played a crucial role in conveying this new positioning to the target audience, highlighting the value proposition and differentiating factors associated with the sportainment concept.⁹⁻¹¹

The study's emphasis on the role of social media in brand transformation is consistent with the theoretical perspectives on the transformative potential of these platforms. Social media has revolutionized the way brands interact with their customers, enabling them to engage in real-time conversations, build relationships, and foster a sense of community. The findings of this study support this perspective, demonstrating how Holywings leveraged social media to create awareness, generate buzz, and cultivate a loyal following. The brand's content marketing strategy, characterized by a focus on valuable, relevant, and consistent content, aligns with the principles of content marketing theory. Content marketing is a strategic approach that aims to attract and retain a clearly defined audience by providing information, entertainment, or solutions that resonate

with their needs and interests. Holywings' content strategy effectively educated consumers about the brand's new identity, showcased its offerings, and built trust, contributing to the successful brand transformation. The adoption of an omnichannel engagement model by Holywings is consistent with the contemporary marketing paradigm that emphasizes the importance of providing a seamless and personalized customer experience across all touchpoints. Three-dimensional framework for omnichannel engagement, highlighting the need for integration, consistency, and personalization across various channels. The study's findings suggest that Holywings' omnichannel approach was effective in reinforcing the brand's new identity and fostering customer loyalty by providing a cohesive and personalized experience across online and offline touchpoints.¹¹⁻¹³

The emphasis on social media's role in Holywings' brand transformation aligns seamlessly with the contemporary marketing landscape, where these platforms have emerged as indispensable tools for brand building and audience engagement. The literature extensively supports the notion that social media platforms possess transformative potential for brands, enabling them to connect with their target audience in unprecedented ways, cultivate relationships, and foster a sense of community. The interactive and participatory nature of these platforms empowers brands to transcend traditional one-way communication models and engage in dynamic, two-way conversations with consumers. This facilitates real-time feedback, enabling brands to gain valuable insights into consumer preferences and sentiments, and fosters a sense of co-creation, where consumers feel actively involved in shaping the brand's narrative. The case of Holywings exemplifies the effective utilization of social media in brand transformation. The brand strategically leveraged platforms like Instagram and TikTok to showcase its sportainment offerings, creating a visually appealing and engaging narrative that resonated with its target audience. The use of highlight videos, promotional photos, and behind-the-scenes glimpses provided a window into the vibrant and exciting world of Holywings'

sportainment events, generating buzz and attracting a wider audience. The interactive nature of social media further amplified engagement, as Holywings encouraged audience participation through contests, polls, and challenges, fostering a sense of community and belonging among its followers.¹²⁻¹⁴

The brand's adeptness in navigating the nuances of each platform is noteworthy. On Instagram, Holywings curated a visually rich and aspirational feed, showcasing the glamour and excitement of its sportainment events. The use of high-quality images and videos, coupled with compelling captions and calls to action, effectively captured the attention of users and encouraged them to engage with the brand. On TikTok, Holywings embraced the platform's short-form video format, creating snackable and entertaining content that aligned with the platform's trends and user preferences. The use of humor, music, and challenges further enhanced the appeal of the content, driving viral reach and expanding the brand's audience. The findings of this study highlight the multifaceted benefits of social media in brand transformation. Beyond merely showcasing offerings, social media enables brands to cultivate a distinct brand personality, tell compelling stories, and foster emotional connections with their audience. The real-time feedback loop provided by social media empowers brands to monitor audience sentiment, adapt their strategies, and continuously refine their messaging. Moreover, the ability to track engagement metrics provides valuable data on the effectiveness of different content types and campaigns, enabling brands to optimize their social media efforts for maximum impact. The case of Holywings demonstrates the transformative power of social media when leveraged strategically and creatively. By embracing the interactive and participatory nature of these platforms, the brand successfully repositioned itself in the market, attracting a new audience and fostering a loyal community of followers. The study's findings underscore the importance of social media as an indispensable tool for brand transformation in the digital age, offering brands unparalleled opportunities to connect, engage, and evolve in an increasingly competitive landscape.¹⁴⁻¹⁶

The strategic shift that Holywings undertook, transitioning from a traditional bar identity to a dynamic sportainment brand, was significantly bolstered by a meticulously crafted content marketing strategy. The brand's focus on sports-centric events, coupled with behind-the-scenes glimpses into the world of sportainment and the incorporation of interactive content, aligns seamlessly with the core tenets of content marketing theory. The efficacy of this strategy is evident in the study's findings, which highlight its success in educating consumers about Holywings' new identity, showcasing its diverse offerings, and cultivating a sense of trust and anticipation among its target audience. The cornerstone of Holywings' content marketing strategy was its unwavering focus on sportainment. The brand recognized the growing popularity of this hybrid concept, which merges the thrill of sports with the allure of entertainment, and strategically tailored its content to cater to this burgeoning market. By showcasing a variety of sports-centric events, including boxing matches, live music performances, and comedy shows, Holywings effectively positioned itself as a premier destination for those seeking a unique and engaging experience. The brand's social media platforms, particularly Instagram and TikTok, became vibrant hubs for showcasing these events, featuring captivating highlight videos, promotional photos, and exclusive behind-the-scenes glimpses. This strategic emphasis on sportainment content not only served to educate consumers about Holywings' new identity but also created a sense of excitement and anticipation, drawing in a wider audience and fostering a sense of community among sports and entertainment enthusiasts.¹⁵⁻¹⁷

In addition to showcasing the main events, Holywings' content strategy also incorporated behind-the-scenes glimpses into the world of sportainment. This tactic provided audiences with exclusive access to the preparation, training, and personal stories of the athletes and performers involved, humanizing the brand and fostering a deeper connection with its audience. By offering a peek behind the curtain, Holywings created a sense of intimacy and authenticity, allowing consumers to feel like they were

part of the action. This approach not only served to educate consumers about the dedication and passion that goes into creating a successful sportainment event but also generated a sense of anticipation and excitement for upcoming events. Holywings further amplified its content marketing strategy by incorporating interactive elements that encouraged audience participation. This included polls, quizzes, and contests that invited consumers to actively engage with the brand and share their opinions and experiences. This interactive approach not only served to entertain and educate but also fostered a sense of community and belonging among Holywings' audience. By encouraging active participation, the brand was able to gather valuable insights into consumer preferences and tailor its offerings accordingly. This customer-centric approach further strengthened the bond between Holywings and its audience, fostering loyalty and advocacy.¹⁶⁻¹⁸

To further elevate its content marketing efforts, Holywings strategically employed gimmicks, drama, and storytelling techniques. This included creating narratives around upcoming events, highlighting rivalries between athletes, and incorporating elements of surprise and suspense. This approach injected an element of excitement and unpredictability into the brand's content, keeping audiences engaged and eager for more. The use of storytelling, in particular, proved to be a powerful tool for capturing attention and creating an emotional connection with consumers. By weaving compelling narratives around its events and offerings, Holywings was able to transcend the transactional nature of its business and foster a deeper sense of engagement and loyalty. The cumulative effect of Holywings' content marketing strategy was the cultivation of trust and anticipation among its target audience. By consistently delivering valuable, relevant, and engaging content, the brand established itself as a reliable source of information and entertainment in the sportainment realm. The focus on transparency, authenticity, and customer-centricity further solidified this trust, positioning Holywings as a brand that genuinely cares about its audience and their experiences. The strategic use of gimmicks, drama, and storytelling created a sense of

anticipation and excitement, keeping consumers eagerly awaiting the next event or content offering. This anticipation translated into increased attendance at events, higher engagement on social media, and ultimately, greater brand loyalty. Holywings' content marketing strategy, characterized by its focus on sportainment, behind-the-scenes glimpses, interactive content, and the strategic use of gimmicks, drama, and storytelling, proved to be a resounding success in facilitating the brand's transformation. By aligning its content with the core principles of content marketing theory, the brand was able to effectively educate consumers about its new identity, showcase its offerings, and build trust and anticipation among its target audience. The result was a significant shift in brand perception, increased customer engagement, and improved customer loyalty, solidifying Holywings' position as a leading player in the dynamic and ever-evolving sportainment industry.^{19,20}

4. Conclusion

This study contributes to the growing body of knowledge on brand transformation and strategic communication. The findings provide valuable insights into the effective utilization of communication channels, content marketing strategies, and an omnichannel engagement model to facilitate a successful brand transformation. The research underscores the importance of adaptability, innovation, and a customer-centric approach in navigating the complexities of the digital landscape and achieving sustainable growth.

5. References

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