



Connecting With Hostile Audiences

John Deveney, ABC, APR 2008 PRSA International Conference October 25-28, 2008

How do industries overcome negative public images?

- Research
- Strategy
- Messaging
- Segmentation
- Network

- Evaluation
- Alliances
- Recognition
- Internet







Identify, Analyze Existing Bias

- Executive interviews
- GAP analysis
- SWOT analysis
- Competitive analysis
- Models of success
- Focus groups
- Surveys
- Qualitative, quantitative data
- Internet
- Media audits, content analysis

Identification

Know the

Client: PhRMA

Industry: Pharmaceutical

Issues: Cost, Profit

Mission: Access

Allies

Adversaries

What keeps the CEO (or your boss) up at night



Responding: Build credibility

- What is your overall goal?
- One goal, more audiences and many media outlets
- Diversify and segment audience
- Identify a story for each audience
- Identify discrete media



Key messages

- Currencies: beliefs and values
- Motivate around what they already know
- Identify your vulnerabilities
- Messages: simple, relevant, repetitive



Segmentation

- Audience
- Message
- Issues
- Demographics
- Psychographic
- Geographies
- Geo-Demographic
- Traditional and online

One goal, more audiences and many media outlets

- Access to healthcare
- Network of 31 states
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Heart disease
 - Cancer
 - Alzheimer's Disease
 - helpingpatients.org
- Gay/African-American/Senior/Media/ Socioeconomic



Strategic alliances

- Who are your allies, adversaries, neutral parties
- Partnerships, piggybacking and alliances
- Third party = Credibility
- Find the 10, 100 or 1,000
- Communicate for you
- Tailor specific messages, create situations



How to use segmentation

- Identify new segments
- Analyze changes/trends
- Tap new geographic areas
- Develop specific messages
- Beta test product feasibility, messages, strategies

PhRMA Results

- 2,000 positive media placements that harped on PhRMA's key messages
- Media placements conservatively valued at \$35 million
- Circulation 1.45 billion, reaching every U.S. citizen five times
- Impressions of 1.56 billion, roughly the population of China
- Industry recognition: awards, PR News



Ruth's Chris Steak House: New Orleans Grand Opening

- New Orleans Born Brand
- Founded in 1965 by single mother
- Evolved into international dining chain
- Initial public offering one week before Katrina
- Post Katrina Flagship location not reopened
- Corporate offices moved to Orlando
- Many felt brand abandoned city in darkest hour



Ruth's Chris Steak House: New Orleans Grand Opening

- Decided to open a New Orleans location 3-years post-Katrina
- Undetermined fate of original location/building
- "New" location to be aligned with Harrah's Casino
- Rumor and speculation associated with reopening



Ruth's Chris Steak House: Key Messages



- Ruth's Chris will always be a New Orleans brand.
 We started here, Ruth's was from here, and we'll always have a presence here.
- Ruth's Chris is dedicated to becoming an active member in the New Orleans community through philanthropic efforts and economic impact (this includes a donation of the Broad St. facility).
- We are very excited about our first foray in Downtown New Orleans and to join the exciting developments happening on Fulton St.

Ruth's Chris Steak House: Community Relations



- Louisiana Restaurant Association (LRA)
- New Orleans Tourism & Marketing Corporation (NOTMC)
- New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau (NOMCVB)
- Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO, Inc.)
- Greater New Orleans Chamber of Commerce
- Jefferson Parish Chamber of Commerce
- City of New Orleans Department of Economic Development
- Louisiana Hotel & Lodging Association
- Concierge Association
- French Quarter Business Association

Ruth's Chris Steak House: Media Relations



- Local Television
- Local Print
- Web/Bloggers
- Business Writers/Reporters
- Food Writers/Reporters

Ruth's Chris Steak House: Target Audiences



- New Orleans Business/Community Leaders
- New Orleans Consumers Foodies
- New Orleans Media Broadcast, Print & Web
 - Friendly Media
 - Unfriendly Media
- Orlando Media Broadcast, Print

Ruth's Chris Steak House: Project Implementation - Phased

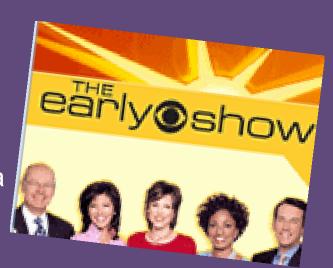


Announcement Strategy

- Key message development
- Process for handling media inquiries
- Alignment with community leaders
- Division of media into "friend" and "foe"
- Gave advance coverage to "friendly" media

Opening Strategy

- High—profile events
- Alignment with "Small business, Big rescue" CBS Early Show
- "Fulton Street Welcomes Ruth's Chris" block party



Ruth's Chris Steak House: Results & Evaluation



- Alleviated/Reduced Negative Coverage
 - 35 separate instances of coverage in print/broadcast
 - Only one story had a slightly negative tone
- Quieted Bloggers
- Garnered 8.6 million impressions
- Secured \$3 million in publicity value
- 96:1 ROI
- Restaurant volume two months after opening rivaled the chain's Manhattan/Time Square location – twice the size of NOLA location



How often do you use the following media sources to promote your organization?

Society of America	Less than	Three to four	Bimonthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
	twice a year	times a year	y		1100111	- 2,
Newspaper Editorial	51.0%	14.3%	8.2%	10.2%	2.0%	14.3%
Television News/Editorial Coverage	39.6%	6.3%	6.3%	18.8%	14.6%	14.6%
Business Trade or Magazine	6.4%	14.9%	14.9%	27.7%	23.4%	12.8%
Corporate Communications - Annual Reports, Newsletters	18.8%	33.3%	6.3%	31.3%	6.3%	4.2%
Corporate Advertising	17.4%	21.7%	15.2%	21.7%	13.0%	10.9%
Radio/News/Editorial Coverage	34.8%	17.4%	4.3%	15.2%	10.9%	17.4%
Company Web site (maintained by the company)	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	21.7%	15.2%	54.3%
Video Sharing Sites (e.g. YouTube, Google Video)	55.3%	14.9%	8.5%	8.5%	8.5%	4.3%
Social Networking Sites (e.g. MySpace, Facebook)	63.8%	6.4%	0.0%	2.1%	19.1%	8.5%
Business or Industry Blog	57.4%	6.4%	6.4%	12.8%	14.9%	2.1%
Consumer or Public Blog	57.4%	6.4%	8.5%	12.8%	10.6%	4.3%
Company's Blog (maintained by the company)	61.4%	9.1%	4.5%	9.1%	6.8%	9.1%
Wikipedia	66.7%	13.3%	6.7%	4.4%	2.2%	6.7%



Which of the industry sectors do you feel is perceived to be the most/least trustworthy?

	Both a credible and trustworthy source	Somewhat credible/trustworthy	Not very credible/trustworthy
Newspaper Editorial	30.6%	59.2%	8.2%
Television News/Editorial Coverage	16.3%	61.2%	22.4%
Business Trade or Magazine	59.2%	38.8%	2.0%
Corporate Communications - Annual Reports, Newsletters	40.8%	55.1%	4.1%
Corporate Advertising	12.2%	57.1%	30.6%
Radio/News/Editorial Coverage	31.3%	64.6%	4.2%
Company Web site (maintained by the company)	49.0%	42.9%	8.2%
Video Sharing Sites (e.g. YouTube, Google Video)	2.1%	27.1%	66.7%
Social Networking Sites (e.g. MySpace, Facebook)	0.0%	18.4%	77.6%
Business or Industry Blog	4.1%	65.3%	28.6%
Consumer or Public Blog	0.0%	41.7%	52.1%
Company's Blog (maintained by the company)	16.7%	54.2%	22.9%
Wikipedia	2.1%	53.2%	38.3%



Please rate the transparency/trustworthiness of the following industry sectors:

	Both a credible and trustworthy source	Somewhat credible/trustworthy	Not very credible/trustworthy
Technology	22.9%	68.8%	4.2%
Banking and Finance	8.3%	35.4%	52.1%
Biotech	14.6%	68.8%	8.3%
Pharmaceutical	4.2%	56.3%	33.3%
Health Care	10.4%	54.2%	29.2%
Restaurant/Food Service	8.3%	66.7%	18.8%
Automotive	6.3%	72.9%	14.6%
Airline	4.2%	62.5%	27.1%
Entertainment	4.3%	48.9%	38.3%
Media	8.3%	54.2%	33.3%
Government	2.1%	39.6%	52.1%
Advertising/Public Relations	10.4%	66.7%	18.8%



Please rate your perception of the following spokespeople as a source of information about a company:

	Both a credible and trustworthy source	Somewhat credible/trustworthy	Not very credible/trustworthy
A Peer (Person like me)	42.9%	49.0%	6.1%
Industry Analyst	51.0%	49.0%	0.0%
Academic	46.9%	46.9%	6.1%
Doctor/Specialist	44.9%	51.0%	0.0%
Nonprofit or NGO Rep	33.3%	50.0%	14.6%
Company Employee	18.4%	67.3%	12.2%
C-Level Employee	25.0%	62.5%	12.5%
CEO	42.9%	44.9%	12.2%
Blogger	2.0%	30.6%	65.3%
Journalist/Blogger	6.1%	55.1%	34.7%



How strongly do you agree/disagree with the following statements: Information found in articles and news stories is perceived to be more credible than information found in advertising

	Response Percent
Strongly Agree	56.0%
Somewhat Agree	38.0%
Neutral	4.0%
Somewhat Disagree	2.0%
Strongly Disagree	0.0%



Do you agree with the following statement: Information found on the Web is perceived to be more credible than information coming from within an organization

	Response Percent
Somewhat Agree	32.0%
Neutral	26.0%
Somewhat Disagree	28.0%
Strongly Agree	6.0%
Strongly Disagree	8.0%



Online information from bloggers is perceived to be more credible than information coming from within the organization

	Response Percent
Strongly Agree	4.1%
Somewhat Agree	30.6%
Neutral	18.4%
Somewhat Disagree	34.7%
Strongly Disagree	12.2%

Resources

Case Studies – Internet Marketing

- Louisiana Physical Therapy Association
- Mardi Gras.com

Presentations

Internet Marketing Made Simple

Publications

- Credibility Is King
- PR Plays a Big Role in PhRMA's Commitment to the Poor
- How to Make Internet Marketing Simple
- How to Develop a Successful E-mail Campaign
- Surgical (PR) Skills Required to Take on Medical Lobby





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