



# Getting to know you; A novel approach in segmenting the ageing consumer market

BIAS 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference 15<sup>th</sup> February2012

Mona Shekarriz Gabriella Spinelli





#### Why research on ageing consumers?

- Under-represented and promising groups of consumers
  - 21 million people above the age of 50
  - More people above 60 than under 18
  - By 2083 one in three people will be over 60.

(Office For National Statistics, 2009)

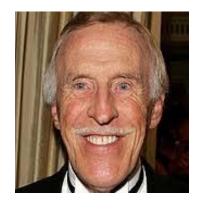
The over-50s represent 80% of the country's wealth – equivalent to almost £280bn. (Wealth and Asset Survey, 2009)

71 percent of 50+ mentioned that they **never** or **rarely** have too little money to spend on their needs. (ELSA, 2006)



### Does age mean anything?











80 plus 70 plus

60 plus

50 plus





#### Changes brought with ageing

- Physical and mental changes
- Development of more individual lifestyles
- Occurrence of life changing events
- Social and professional role changes

**Our aim:** To find large distinct and actionable groups within the population to design and deliver products and services for.

Segmentations is the start of a journey from mass generalisation to mass customisation.







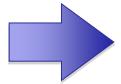
Different types of segmentations		
Need based	Greengrove, 2002	Prod development & branding
Benefit based	McDonald and Greenberg, 1989; Ahmad 2003	Prod development & branding
Characteristic based	Yankelovic and Meer, 2006; Boote 1981	Development and execution of customer strategy and targeting
Industry based	Kalafatis and Cheston, 1997	Business Sector strategy
Product based	Green et al, 1989	Specific product or service strategies







- Insufficient information about the market
- Looking for intentions and not actions
- Being too specific or too generic
- Unrepresentative samples
- Demographic oriented
- Out dated



Not providing actionable and distinct segments to address







Current segmentations

Gerontology Literature Lifestyle and Spending Statistics

Representative sample

1000 over 50 individuals

**Sample** 

**Industries** 

Methodology

**Concepts and Variables** 

Focus groups (by Industry sector)

Questionnaire design

Questionnaire Pilot

Face to face home interviews

segments

Follow up Interviews

Technology and Communications

Grocery and General retail

Travel and Leisure

Subjective Age







Social Wellbeing

Lifestyle

**Physical Wellbeing** 

Consumer Behaviour

Cognitive Wellbeing

**Psychological** 

**Emotional Wellbeing** 

Demographic

Consumer experience and expectations in three industry sector

Perception of age

Segmentation in General

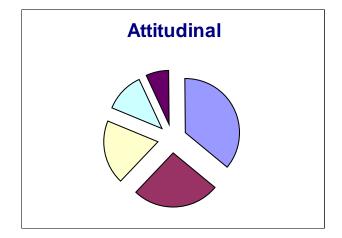
Sector based Segmentation





# Sector specific Retail and **Supermarket** Leisure and **Travel** Communication and Technology

#### **General**





#### An example of a user group





#### An optimistic learner

- Female
- Average age: 70
- Minor physical problems
- Feel younger than their peers
- Sociable and active
- Positive about becoming older
- Price conscious
- Use lots of vouchers
- An emotional decision maker
- Mostly do their shopping with someone
- Light user of technology but keen to learn and own more technological products
- Do not like extra features on products
- Normally need help in setting up new products but prefer to be independent



#### References



Ahmad R. 2003 Benefit segmentation: a potentially useful technique of segmenting and targeting older consumers *International Journal of Market Research* 45(3):373-388

Boote 1981 Market segmentation by personal values and salient product attributes *Journal of advertising research* 21(1):29-35

English Longitudinal Study of Ageing Wave 3 2006 available at <a href="http://www.ifs.org.uk/elsa/report\_wave3.php">http://www.ifs.org.uk/elsa/report\_wave3.php</a> Last accessed 14 Feb 2012

Green, P. E.; Krieger A. M. and R. N. Zelnio 1989 Componential Segmentation Model With Optimal Product Design Decision Sciences 20 (2): 221-238

Greengrove K. 2002 Needs-based segmentation: principles and practice The Market Research Society 405-421

Kalafatis S.P and V. Cheston, 1997 Normative models and practical applications of segmentations in business markets Industrial Marketing Management 26: 519-530

McDonald S. S and M Greenberg 1989 Successful needs/benefits segmentation: A user's guide *The Journal of Consumer Marketing* 6 (3)29-36

Age structure of United Kingdom 2009 Office for National Statistics Available at: <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.uk/populationestimates/flash\_pyramid/UK-pyramid/pyramid6\_30.html">http://www.statistics.gov.uk/populationestimates/flash\_pyramid/UK-pyramid/pyramid6\_30.html</a> Last accessed 18 April 2011

Yankelovic D. and D. Meer, 2006 Rediscovering Market Segmentation Harvard Business Review 122-131

Wealth and Asset Survey 2009 Economic and Social Data services available at: <a href="http://www.esds.ac.uk/findingData/snDescription.asp?sn=6415#doc">http://www.esds.ac.uk/findingData/snDescription.asp?sn=6415#doc</a> last accessed

All the photos are taken from the internet.





## Thank you for listening!