

Consumerism

Quotations "By continually pushing the message that we have the right to gratification now, consumerism at its most expansive encouraged a demand for fulfilment that could not so easily be contained by products."

- Ellen Willis

"My hope is that people will be repulsed by the character's complete lack of ethics and obsession with consumerism - that's what I was saying about the difference between the character's message and the film's message."

- Christian Bale

Questions

- How often do you compare products online? Are you looking for the best price, the best quality?
- Do brands and advertising campaigns influence your shopping habits?
- With the onset of environmental degradation, is consumerism to blame? Is there an alternative to consumerism?
- Can one's infinite wants and needs ever be met, what are the philosophical and social implications of unlimited desire? What are the consequences?
- Has the desire to 'shop-till-you-drop' attitude come at a cost to our natural creativity? Why or why not? Are you able to defend your opposing view?
- Can consumerism encompass lifestyle, education, medicine and religion?
- Is 'ethical consumerism' and 'eco consumerism' a paradox?
- What are the moral implications of purchasing manufactured goods?
- How does 'doing' differ from 'consuming'?
- Is buying products the ultimate expression of freedom?
- Trade has improved the lives of billions, consumerism has facilitated wealth and new technological advancement. How can this statement be false?
- Are 'consumers' also self-absorbed?

Presentation Create a presentation on how consumer behaviour changed in your country from 75 years ago.