

# Process of Change

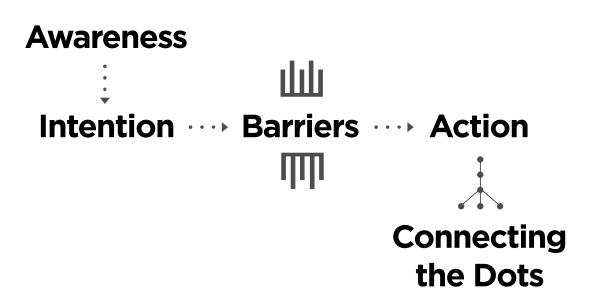
A Cultural Behavior Model

### **Overview**

Walden Hyde's approach to changing consumer behavior is built around a behavioral model that we've documented over countless hours in the field talking with consumers.

People begin a journey of behavior change by becoming aware of an issue and setting an intention to take action. After getting past barriers and actually taking action, they then connect the dots to other areas of their lives.

This common progression in how consumers change behavior—and how brands can support them—is also informed by Walden Hyde's *SmartLiving* report, an ethnography investigating perceptions of sustainability in mainstream America. These insights are useful for brands of all shapes and sizes, from small challenger brands to global corporations, especially when value-based decisions are a consideration.



### **Awareness**

A consumer hears about an issue:

"I just read that our kids' sunscreen could be harmful!"

### **Brand Guidance**

Know what's coming down the sustainability pipeline by studying early adopter trends. Be sure your brand is positioned to address emerging environmental, social, and wellness concerns. That may mean evaluating sourcing for existing products, updating packaging with relevant sustainability messaging, or bringing a new product to market.



### Intention

The consumer sets out to change a habit/behavior:

"Yikes, I better think about finding a different sunscreen for my kids."

### **Brand Guidance**

Trusted brands have a powerful opportunity to help consumers progress along their sustainability journeys. There will be a period following the initial awareness spark when these consumers are considering new products, but are still uncertain. If a known brand can adequately address their concerns and help them feel confident in trying an unfamiliar, sustainable product, they will be more likely to tip from intention to action.

# Awareness Intention Barriers Action Connecting the Dots

### **Barriers**

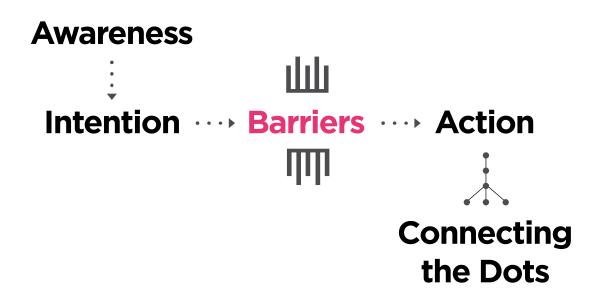
Obstacles, such as time, money, and shopper-confusion, often get in the way of making a change:

"Geez, that means a higher price. Is there a difference between sunscreen and sun block? What number should I get? What's this one—a natural option? Is it worth it? I hate wading through all this information."

### **Brand Guidance**

Know consumers' barriers and position your product accordingly to lower (or in some cases, exploit) those barriers. If time is a barrier, your product better make it easy. If money is a barrier, show them why spending more is worth it.

Companies and trusted sources can lower barriers for making a decision. When mainstream brands offer sustainable products,consumers are more likely to trust them



compared to a lesser known natural brand. Friends, family, and news outlets are also important trusted sources of information for most consumers.

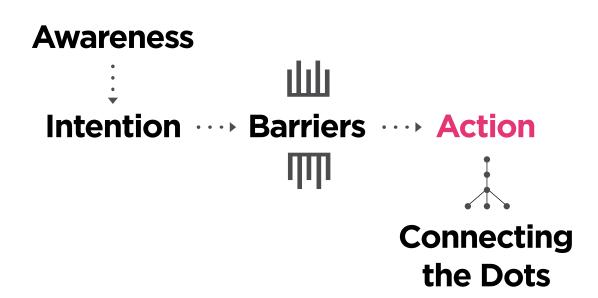
### **Action**

The consumer takes a step toward changing a behavior:

"I'll give it a try. I hope it works as well as the sunscreen my kids are used to."

### **Brand Guidance**

Make sure your product delivers. There are endless stories of consumers taking a risk on a new natural product that doesn't work, and then never trusting *any* natural options again. You have one chance to prove that your product is an all-around great option.



# **Connecting the Dots**

Action leads to more action:

"Wait, what other things should I think about? My household cleaners? My food?"

### **Brand Guidance**

Once you make the sale, have the next, related product, idea, or message ready and help the consumer connect the dots.



# about us

# We build Constructive Brands.

Guided by a strong reason for being, Constructive Brands advance profitability without screwing over future generations. They shift culture, build up employees, and future-proof resources.

We make sure they are wildly successful.

**DESTRUCTIVE** 

CONSTRUCTIVE

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