

THE INFLUENCE OF BRAND IMAGE, SOCIAL INFLUENCE, STATUS CONSUMPTION, PRICE QUALITY INFERENCE, AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PURCHASE INTENTION OF COUNTERFEIT ELECRONIC PRODUCTS VIA TIKTOK SHOP IN SEMARANG (A STUDY ON THE PREVALENCE OF COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS) Gofita Athallarizq Daffa Luqman Rafi, Cahyaningratri¹

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ABSTRACT

The development of technology has made it possible for counterfeiters to make high-quality goods, sell them online to customers throughout the world, and imitate the branding of real products remarkably well. One platform that has emerged as one of the most popular channels for counterfeiters to conduct their operation is TikTok. The platform has allowed the activity where online counterfeit sellers can engage with online buyers.

To aid the investigation of how brand image, social influence, status consumption, and price quality inference affects the attitudes of Gen Z in Semarang towards counterfeit electronic products, as well as the moderating effect of customer attitude towards counterfeit electronic products towards purchase intention of counterfeit electronic products, the Theory of Planned Behavior was used. The data that were obtained from 178 respondents in Semarang City was analyzed using Partial Least Structures Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM).

From the findings in this study, brand image, social influence, and status consumption have a positive relationship towards customer attitude towards counterfeit electronic products as well as a significant one. Price quality inference, however, was found to only have a positive relationship without significance. On top of that, customer attitude towards counterfeit electronic products also has a positive and significant relationship towards purchase intention of counterfeit electronic products. With this in mind, all the hypotheses except one were accepted. Under those circumstances, the managerial implications that this study provide would discuss the idea of creating marketing campaigns to emphasize the difference between genuine and counterfeit products which will be aimed to spread slowly to the whole customer base. Additionally, cheaper genuine products may also be proposed to help combat counterfeit products within the aspect of status consumption. Consequently, customer attention would shift in the direction of being favorable of genuine products.

Keywords: Counterfeit electronic products, Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), Brand Image, Social Influence, Status Consumption, Price Quality Inference, Attitude towards Counterfeits, Purchase Intention towards Counterfeits, Generation Z

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INTRODUCTION

Technological advancements have made it possible for counterfeiters to manufacture goods of higher quality, sell those goods on a global scale through online retailers, and replicate the branding elements of genuine products with an exceptional degree of similarity. Fascinatingly, since consumers with high incomes who can afford the genuine counterparts were exposed to the purchase of counterfeit goods, the low price of the created counterfeits has ceased to be the primary factor in decision-making for the purchase of those goods (Garas & Mohamed, 2022).

TikTok, one of the most well-known social media sites in recent years, has also been revealed to be a marketplace for counterfeiters to peddle their dubious goods. As of 2023, TikTok had more than 1.53 <u>billion</u> users, which indicates a sharp increase in popularity in recent years (Ruby, 2023). To add to that, in 2022 around 158 million Indonesians made online purchases totaling about \$14 billion in electronic items, which ranked first on the list (We Are Social, 2022). With that number in mind and the notion that TikTok has evolved into a marketplace for vendors looking to make money by peddling fake goods, there is a worry that many customers may unknowingly buy these electronic products online from shady vendors.

Figure 1



Source: (Oberlo, 2023)

It was claimed that the high profit margin of selling counterfeit goods, the low cost of production and purchasing from wholesalers, and lastly the ability of the counterfeit goods to closely resemble the real thing are the reasons for the prevalence of counterfeit goods on TikTok (Wang, 2020).

According to a study (Nursadah et al., 2022) that investigated gen z's interest in TikTok Shop, it has already established itself as a viable alternative for their online buying. Nearly 90% of respondents said the platform is simple to use, 86% agreed with the capabilities it offers for conducting transactions, and 93% thought there are only minor dangers associated with utilizing the site. It was also discovered that TikTok has replaced other online shopping options as the primary consideration for consumers due to the platform's focus on physical visualization through images and videos.

The research is based on the gaps that have been examined in past studies that discussed about the influence of the independent variables towards the intervening variable and the



dependent variable in this study (Abdullah & Yu, 2019; Teng et al. 2007; Varshneya et al., 2017; Mayasari et al., 2022; Phau et al., 2008; Triandewi & Tjiptono, 2013; Matos et al., 2007).

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND HYPOTHESIS FORMULATION The Relationship between Brand Image and Attitude

The importance of brand image is that it helps the consumer with their decision making on purchasing a brand, whether it suits them or not. If the brand image is successfully channeled through the products, it will help the brand to build stable ground for its position, thus exempting them from their competition and helps grow their market performance. All of the mentioned attributes will be the key factors in building a long-term brand equity (Bian & Moutinho, 2011). It was further explained that consumers may not be able to distinguish between counterfeits and genuine products due to their lack of motivation, effort, and their capability in doing so.

H1: Brand Image positively affects attitude towards counterfeit products

The Relationship between Social Influence and Attitude

Social influence is the impact that one individual brings to another individual's buying behavior. Social class influences a person's buying behavior more significantly than their income hence it is said that consumers have a motive to impress others when they make purchases. Consumers are more aware of their self-image, and they tend to go the extra mile to be what society expects of them. They want to create a good impression on others (Bhatia, 2018).

H2: Social Influence positively affects attitude towards counterfeit products

The Relationship between Status Consumption and Attitude

Someone who has a lower status has the intention to purchase counterfeit products to present them to others in a higher position (Abdullah & Yu, 2019). Consumption enabled consumers to unify their selves and objects which consequently made the objects to portray the image of the consumers (Iyer et al., 2022) It was also argued if status consumption is the motivation that people had to display their status through the purchase of products. Status consumers want to have brands that show their symbol that are supposed to reflect the consumers self-identity which has an effect on their attitudes towards counterfeit products (Mayasari et al., 2022).

H3: Status Consumption positively affects attitude towards counterfeit products

The Relationship between Price Quality Inference and Attitude

Low-income customers purchase counterfeit products that resemble their genuine counterparts when they see the opportunity to save money. Nevertheless, it was also found out that higher income customers also have a genuine perspective towards the purchase of counterfeit products, if the products are sold at a lower price, when they believe that the products are comparable in quality and status to their genuine counterpart. In those specific cases, customers will enjoy their counterfeit products since they have higher-quality products at lower prices (Ndofirepi et al., 2019).

H4: Price Quality Inference positively affects attitude towards counterfeit products

The Relationship between Attitude and Purchase Intention

Attitude is a sensible factor when predicting a person's behavior, suggesting that a person's attitude to an idea will have significance to their intention towards it. It also can be utilized as a pivotal factor on consumer intention in purchasing counterfeit products. Since counterfeit products can give consumers the satisfaction that branded products offer, attitude towards counterfeit products pose as a key factor in predicting a consumer's intention on purchasing counterfeit products. Furthermore, it was stated that past studies have shown a positive bond between attitudes and the intention to purchase counterfeit products (Abdullah & Yu, 2019).

H5: Attitude towards counterfeit product positively affects purchase intention



Theoretical Framework

Based on past research and the relationship between variables, a theoretical framework can be made:



Figure 2 Theoretical Framework

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study contains independent, intervening, and dependent variables. The independent variables of this study are brand image, social influence, status consumption, and price quality inference. The intervening variable of this study is attitude. While the dependent variable of this study is purchase intention.

Operational Definitions of Variables and Indicators

 Table 1

 Operational Definition of Variables and Indicators

Variable	Definitions	Indicators	Statements
Brand Image	Consumers' general perception and feeling about a brand and has an influence on consumer behavior	 Being Concerned about the impression they make The importance of the physical appearance of the products used Confidence of having products from well- known brands Concern about the prestige that certain products bring Level of attractivity of products from certain brands 	 I am concerned about the impression I make on others Physical appearance of products I use are important to me I feel confident when using products from well-known brands Products from certain brands can bring me more prestige Products from certain brands can make me attract other people's attention



Social Influence	The combination	1.	Concern of personal	1.	Personal impression is an
	of the social		impression when		important consideration when
	identity of a	2.	buying products Influence from close	2.	I buy a well-known product The consideration of
	particular group member to share	Ζ.		Ζ.	
	a belief about a		ones to buy well-		purchasing a well-known
		3.	known products Influence from the		product is because of the influence from people whom I
	viewpoint to have a certain way of	5.	majority of consumers		feel close with
	thinking, and to		to buy well-known	3.	The consideration of
	do tangible work		products	5.	purchasing a well-known
	that is considered	4.	Influence from		product is because the product
	appropriate and	4.	consumers' assessment		is what the majority of
	objective		to buy well-known		consumers buy
	objective		products	4.	The consideration of
		5.	Attention to other	4.	purchasing a well-known
		5.	consumers about the		product cannot be separated
			products they are		from the assessment other
			interested in		consumers have of the
			interested in		products
				5.	I tend to pay attention to well-
				5.	known products that other
					consumers are interested in
Status	The activity of	1.	Buying tendency of the	1.	I would buy a product just
Consumption	showing that they		status that a product		because it has status
1	are as good as		has	2.	The status of a product is
	other people in	2.	Relevance of a product		irrelevant to me
	terms of	3.	Interest in products that	3.	I am interested in products
	purchase, use,		have status		that have status
	display, and	4.	Tendency to buy	4.	I prefer buying authentic
	consumption of		authentic products for		products because they have
	goods and		the value they have		more value
	services	5.	Confidence of owning	5.	Owning an authentic product
			authentic products for		shows my status when
			their status		compared to other people.
Price Quality	A predicting	1.	Inference of price	1.	I do not think that generally
Inference	behavior by		towards quality		speaking, a product has better
	consumer because	2.	Level of agree that the		quality the more expensive it
	for them price		price of a product	_	is
	may strike them	_	indicates quality	2.	I disagree with the statement
	as a hint to	3.	The price of a product		that the price of a product is a
	specifying the		does not determine the	_	good indicator of its quality
	quality of a		quality	3.	You do not always have to
	product				pay more for the best



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Attitude	An acquired	1.	Tendency to buy	1.	I buy counterfeit products if I
	predisposition to	2	counterfeit due to price		think authentic products are
	conduct in a	2.	Confidence in the	2	too expensive
	consistently		reliability of using	2.	Counterfeit products are as
	favorable or		counterfeit products		reliable as the authentic
	unfavorable way	3.	Confidence in the		counterpart
	with relation to a		usage of counterfeit	3.	Counterfeit products offer
	given object		products		similar functions like the
		4.	Normalcy of		authentic counterpart
			purchasing counterfeit	4.	There is nothing wrong with
			products		purchasing counterfeit
		5.	Level of benefit that		electronic products
			counterfeit products	5.	Generally speaking,
			bring to consumers		counterfeit electronic
			e		products benefit the
					consumers
Purchase	A situation where	1.	Willingness to buy	1.	I have the willingness to buy
Intention	consumer tends to		counterfeit products		an electronic counterfeit
	buy a certain	2.	Influence of counterfeit		product
	product in certain		products when making	2.	I think about counterfeit
	condition		a purchase		products when I buy
	•••••••	3.	Likeliness to buy		electronic products
		5.	counterfeit products	3.	It is likely for me to purchase
		4.	Likeliness to buy	5.	electronic counterfeit
		т.	counterfeit products		products
			due to affordability	4.	Because of their price, I
		5		4.	
		5.	Continuity of buying		consider buying electronic
			counterfeit products	5	counterfeit products
			due to financial	5.	With financial condition in
			conditon		mind, I will continue to buy
					counterfeit electronic
					products

Population and Sample

Since TikTok Shop has been established as an alternative for online shopping activities by Generation Z (Sa'adah et al., 2022), the targeted population group of this study is Generation Z who is born between 1997 and 2012 (Baresfordresearch, 2023). The population group that are used in this study are consumers who have the intention to purchase counterfeit electronic products via TikTok Shop in Semarang.

The sample that was taken for this research is non-probability convenience sampling approach. The reason behind is because it is an approach in determining the sample under specific considerations to justify that respondents with these characteristics possess the information needed for this study. The method that was used is non-probability sampling, which is a sampling technique that selects random participants. The elements of the population that were selected as the sample could be due to pure coincidence or due to other factors that had previously been planned (Sekaran & Bougie, 2017). The participants for this research are in Semarang City with the premise that the target participants have knowledge of counterfeit products. The justification in determining the sample for this study are:

- 1. Belonging to the Generation Z age group.
- 2. Live in Semarang City.
- 3. Have the intention to purchase counterfeit product(s) on TikTok Shop.
- 4. Have knowledge of counterfeit electronic products.



RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION Outer Model



CONVERGENT VALIDITY

Convergent validity is an overall metric of a reflective measurement model that measures the extent to which the indicator of a construct converges (Hair et al., 2019, pp.775).

Outer Loading										
	Attitude	Brand Image	Price Quality Inference	Purchase Intention	Social Influence	Status Consumption				
A1	0.839					•				
A2	0.749									
A3	0.838									
A4	0.812									
A5	0.882									
BI1		0.797								
BI2		0.726								
BI3		0.777								
BI4		0.796								
BI5		0.795								
PI1				0.825						
PI2				0.777						
PI3				0.820						
PI4				0.743						
PI5				0.792						
PQ1			0.892							
PQ2			0.926							
PQ3			0.907							
SC1						0.795				
SC2						0.726				

l able 2
Outer Loading



SC3	0.805
SC4	0.817
SC5	0.848
SI1	0.850
SI2	0.770
SI3	0.831
SI4	0.821
SI5	0.847

According to the values in the table, each indicator has fulfilled the minimum loading factor value of 0.7, which is the preferred minimum threshold unless it is for explanatory research (Wong, 2013).

Average Variance Extracted						
Average variance extracted (AVE)						
Attitude	0.681					
Brand Image	0.606					
Price Quality Inference	0.825					
Purchase Intention	0.627					
Social Influence	0.679					
Status Consumption	0.638					

Table 3

As the table above suggests, the displayed value of Average Variance Extracted (AVE) are all greater than the acceptable threshold of 0.5 which indicates that convergent validity is confirmed (Wong, 2013).

Discriminant Validity

The value of the construct's loading should be greater compared to the other construct's loadings. If the loadings value of other constructs is higher than the current construct's loadings value, that is an indication of a problem relating to its discriminant validity (Kamis et al., 2020).

	Attitude	Brand	Price	Purchase	Social	Status			
		Image	Quality	Intention	Influence	Consumption			
			Inference						
A1	0.583	0.453	0.274	0.403	0.403	0.469			
A2	0.520	0.359	0.193	0.367	0.367	0.391			
A3	0.582	0.472	0.211	0.388	0.458	0.445			
A4	0.564	0.434	0.194	0.335	0.393	0.433			
A5	0.613	0.484	0.271	0.450	0.421	0.475			
BI1	0.428	0.553	0.249	0.349	0.392	0.441			
BI2	0.353	0.504	0.206	0.283	0.369	0.340			
BI3	0.434	0.540	0.256	0.284	0.390	0.401			
BI4	0.446	0.553	0.274	0.340	0.413	0.421			
BI5	0.417	0.552	0.230	0.344	0.392	0.361			
PI1	0.399	0.337	0.153	0.573	0.269	0.365			
PI2	0.376	0.341	0.180	0.540	0.265	0.381			
PI3	0.390	0.323	0.176	0.569	0.235	0.353			
PI4	0.338	0.300	0.140	0.516	0.231	0.306			
PI5	0.365	0.330	0.215	0.550	0.259	0.322			
PQ1	0.255	0.325	0.619	0.211	0.250	0.301			
PQ2	0.246	0.257	0.643	0.197	0.207	0.238			

Table 4 Cross Loadings



PQ3	0.260	0.272	0.630	0.187	0.265	0.244
SC1	0.440	0.388	0.213	0.351	0.374	0.552
SC2	0.355	0.313	0.169	0.299	0.278	0.504
SC3	0.444	0.447	0.224	0.331	0.342	0.559
SC4	0.431	0.424	0.260	0.384	0.408	0.567
SC5	0.469	0.438	0.274	0.376	0.380	0.589
SI1	0.434	0.441	0.293	0.283	0.590	0.403
SI2	0.337	0.376	0.199	0.248	0.535	0.320
SI3	0.420	0.431	0.176	0.249	0.577	0.358
SI4	0.409	0.397	0.163	0.256	0.570	0.372
SI5	0.433	0.422	0.256	0.274	0.588	0.390

As shown in table, the loadings value of each construct exceeds the loadings value of the other constructs. This finding brings evidence for the validity of the data.

Table 5					
Fornell Lacker Criterion					

	Attitude	Brand Image	Price Quality	Purchase Intention	Social Influence	Status Consumption
			Inference			
Attitude	0.825					
Brand Image	0.772	0.779				
Price Quality	0.403	0.451	0.908			
Purchase	0.681	0.593	0.314	0.792		
Intention						
Social Influence	0.714	0.723	0.382	0.458	0.824	
Status	0.774	0.729	0.415	0.630	0.646	0.799
Consumption						

There is also the Fornell-Lacker criterion, which allows one to compare the square root value of the Average Variance Extracted (AVE) with the construct correlation value that displays the highest value in any column or row in comparison to the highest correlation value of any other construct (Kamis et al., 2020).

Table 6

Table 0										
Reliability Test										
	Attitude	ttitude Brand Price Quality Purchase Social Status								
		Image	Inference	Intention	Influence	Consumption				
Attitude	0.825									
Brand Image	0.772	0.779								
Price Quality	0.403	0.451	0.908							
Purchase	0.681	0.593	0.314	0.792						
Intention										
Social Influence	0.714	0.723	0.382	0.458	0.824					
Status	0.774	0.729	0.415	0.630	0.646	0.799				
Consumption										

As can be seen in table, the Composite Reliability values obtained are in the range of 0.841 to 0.894 for Composite Reliability (rho_a) and 0.885 to 0.934 for Composite Reliability (rho_c). The Cronbach's Alpha values on the table also suggest the range between 0.838 and 0.894. This proved that the Composite Reliability and Cronbach's Alpha values are satisfactory and acceptable.



R ² Table						
	R-square	R-square adjusted				
Attitude	0.715	0.708				
Purchase Intention	0.463	0.46				

Table 7

The R^2 value of Attitude is 0.715. This indicates a moderate-to-high explanatory power of the construct. Meanwhile, The R^2 value of Purchase Intention is at 0.463 which means that the explanatory power of that construct can be considered as weak-to-moderate.

Table 8

Q ² Table						
	Q ² predict	RMSE	MAE			
Attitude	0.695	0.569	0.396			
Purchase Intention	0.389	0.802	0.588			

The Q² value of Attitude is at 0.695 while Purchase Intention has a Q² value of 0.389. According to the rule of thumb of Q² values, the values of those constructs mean that Attitude has a large predictive relevance while Purchase Intention has a medium-to-large predictive relevance.

f ² Table							
	Attitude	Brand Image	Price Quality Inference	Purchase Intention	Social Influence	Status Consumption	
Attitude				0.864			
Brand Image	0.122						
Price Quality Inference	0.00						
Purchase Intention							
Social Influence	0.081						
Status Consumption	0.234						

Table 9 f² Table

The effect size of Attitude to Purchase intention is large as it has a value of 0.864. The effect of Brand Image to Attitude is at 0.122 so it has a small effect size. The effect of Price Quality Inference to Attitude is at 0.00 which means that it does not have any effect sizes to the R^2 value of Attitude if it were to be removed. The effect size of Social Influence to Attitude is small since the f^2 value is at 0.081. Status Consumption has an f^2 value of 0.234, which indicates a moderate effect size to Attitude.

Table 10 Model Fit					
	Saturated model	Estimated model			
SRMR	0.054	0.057			
d_ULS	1.162	1.329			
d_G	0.585	0.601			
Chi-square	578.374	588.088			
NFI	0.825	0.822			

A value less than 0.10 or 0.08 is considered a good fit (Hu & Bentler, 1999). Based on that, when we look at Table 4.14, we can see that the Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) value in this study is 0.054 which indicates a good fit.



	Attitude	Brand	Price Quality	Purchase	Social	Status
		Image	Inference	Intention	Influence	Consumption
Attitude				1.00		
Brand Image	2.885					
Price Quality	1.285					
Inference						
Purchase						
Intention						
Social Influence	2.246					
Status	2.312					
Consumption						

Table 11 Collinearity Statistics

The Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) of Brand Image is at the level of 2.885, Price Quality Inference at 1.285, Social Influence at 2.246, Status Consumption at 2.312, and finally Purchase Intention at 1.00. The Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) of all the constructs are below 3.00 which means that the level of collinearity of the indicators is on an ideal level.

	Original	Sample	Standard	T statistics P			
	sample (O)	mean (M)	deviation (STDEV)	(O/STDEV)	values		
Attitude towards ->	0.681	0.674	0.068	9.943	0		
Purchase Intention							
Brand Image -> Attitude	0.317	0.314	0.098	3.232	0.001		
towards							
Price Quality -> Attitude towards	0.01	0.012	0.04	0.248	0.805		
Social Influence -> Attitude towards	0.227	0.24	0.086	2.65	0.008		
Status Consumption -> Attitude towards	0.393	0.38	0.131	2.998	0.003		

Table 12 Bootstrapping Result

The explanation of table are as follows

1. The Effect of Brand Image towards Attitude

The P Value of Brand Image on Attitude is 0.001 which is less than 0.005, this indicates that there is a significance. The Original Sample value is 0.317 which indicates a positive relationship between the two. The T Statistics value is at 3.232 which indicates that Brand Image has a significant impact on Attitude (Hair et al., 2019, pp. 304). The findings prove that Brand Image has a positive and significant impact on Attitude.

2. The Effect of Social Influence towards Attitude

The P Value of Social Influence is 0.008, the value is less than 0.05 which indicates a significance in the relationship. The relationship is also suggested to be positive since the Original Sample value is at the positive point of 0.227. Finally, the T Statistics value is at 2.65 which further suggests a significant relationship between Social Influence and Attitude.

3. The Effect of Status Consumption towards Attitude

The P value on Status Consumption towards Attitude is 0.003 which shows a significance in the relationship. Since the Original Sample value is at the level of 0.393, it means that there is a



positive relationship between the 2 variables. Furthermore, Status Consumptions seems to have a significant impact on attitude because the T Statistics value exceeds 1.96 at 2.998.

4. The Effect of Price Quality Inference towards Attitude

The P Value of Price Quality Inference is 0.805 which indicates that there is no significance between the variables. The Original Sample still shows a positive relationship since the value is at 0.01. The T Statistics value is at 0.248, which is below 1.96, which suggests that there is no significant impact on Attitude.

5. The Effect of Attitude towards Purchase Intention

To start with, there is a significance in the relationship due to the P Value that is at 0. The relationship has an Original Sample value of 0.681 which means that the relationship is positive. Lastly, The T Statistics Value that this relationship has is at 9.943 which suggests the significant impact that Attitude has on Purchase Intention. The findings on this relationship indicate the positive and significant impact that Attitude has on Purchase Intention.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Brand Image has a positive and significant relationship towards Attitude towards counterfeit products. With this finding, it can be concluded that Brand Image is favorable towards the Attitude towards counterfeit products which makes H1 to be accepted.
- 2. Social Influence has a positive and significant relationship towards Attitude towards counterfeit products. Based on this, it can be concluded that Social Influence is also favorable towards the Attitude towards counterfeit products which validates H2.
- 3. Status Consumption has a positive and significant relationship towards Attitude towards counterfeit products. According to that, it can be concluded that Status Consumption is also favorable towards the Attitude towards counterfeit products hence making H3 to be accepted.
- 4. Price Quality Inference is still in a positive relationship towards Attitude towards counterfeit products, but Price Quality Inference has no significance. With this finding, H4 is accepted.
- **5.** Attitude towards counterfeit products has a positive relationship towards Purchase Intention. Based on the finding, it can finally be concluded that the relationship between Attitude towards counterfeit products and Purchase Intention is favored. This means H5 is accepted.

Limitations

- 1. The scope of this research is limited to the Z generation that have previously purchased counterfeit products via TikTok Shop.
- 2. The research is limited to Z generation who at the time of the questionnaire lives in Semarang, so this study's findings may not reflect the whole Z generation.
- 3. The data analysis technique that was used to analyze the samples was PLS-SEM using SmartPLS, but the analysis returned with one unsatisfactory result for one hypothesis.

Managerial Impact

- 1. Companies can try buying the fake product to compare it with the authentic counterpart and point out the differences. Companies can then start a marketing campaign focusing on those differences and emphasize that the fake products are still fake products and cannot match the real product.
- 2. The marketing campaign would then be aimed at reaching the desired audience. At a steady pace, the information regarding the danger of counterfeit products would spread



within consumers which in turn would rise the probability of one consumer being influenced by the other to stop buying counterfeit and start buying the genuine counterpart.

- **3**. Brands should consider developing new products that contain more affordable materials but keeping the association between the brand and products going. This strategy should help the brand to magnetize both old and new consumers by proving that the original brand also sells affordable products.
- 4. It was found out that Price Quality Inference has an insignificant effect on Attitude towards counterfeit products. Even though the respondents of the study prefer price over quality, it is of no significance towards their attitude on counterfeit products.
- 5. By mixing and combining the previous strategies mentioned for Brand Image, Social Influence, and Status consumption, brand owners can direct the attention of counterfeit consumers to their companies. When the ideal situation where consumers are well informed about the quality and danger of counterfeit products, their attitude may shift from being in favor of counterfeit products to in favor of authentic products.

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