# Harvard Business Review

76 The New Analytics of Culture



102 The Elements of Good Judgment



# When Data Creates Competitive Advantage



# Contents

January-February 2020



"Managing for loyalty has gone from an intuitive idea to a conceptual goal to an operational practice." PAGE 56

## 41 SPOTLIGHT THE LOYALTY ECONOMY

42 STRATEGY

## Are You Undervaluing Your Customers?

It's time to start measuring and managing their worth. Rob Markey

#### 51 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

## How to Value a Company by Analyzing Its Customers

A guide to customerbased corporate valuation Daniel McCarthy and Peter Fader

#### **56 CUSTOMERS**

## "Over Time, the Market Will Demand This Information"

Vanguard chairman emeritus Jack Brennan on corporate disclosure Daniel McGinn

COVER PHOTOGRAPH Potter/Getty Images

Harvard Business Review January-February 2020

#### January-February 2020

# **59** FEATURES

#### 60 TECHNOLOGY Competing in the Age of Al

How machine intelligence changes the rules of business Marco lansiti and Karim R. Lakhani

#### 68 HEALTH CARE

## Managing the Most Expensive Patients

A new primary-care model can lower costs and improve outcomes. Robert Pearl and Philip Medvig

## 76 ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

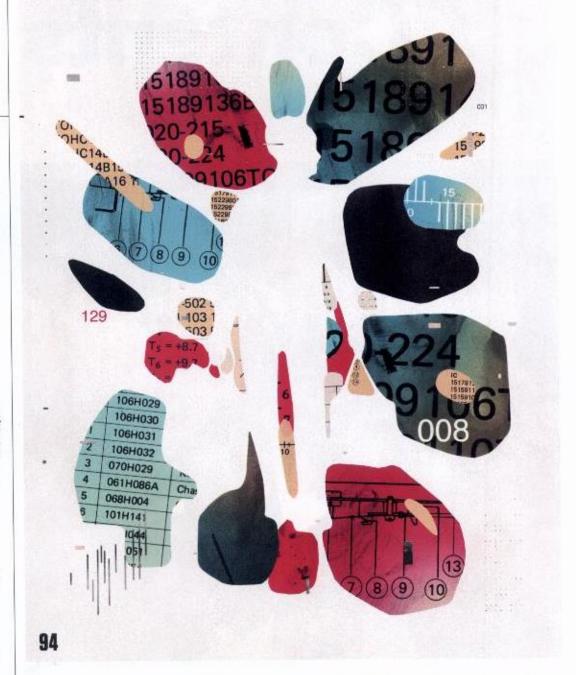
## The New Analytics of Culture

What email, Slack, and Glassdoor reveal about your organization Matthew Corritore, Amir Goldberg, and Sameer B. Srivastava

#### 84 HUMAN RESOURCES

### The Transformer CLO

The role of chief learning officer isn't just about training anymore. Abbie Lundberg and George Westerman



#### 94 STRATEGY

## When Data Creates Competitive Advantage...

...and when it doesn't Andrei Hagiu and Julian Wright

#### 102 LEADERSHIP

## The Elements of Good Judgment

How to improve your decision-making Sir Andrew Likierman

#### 112 OPERATIONS

## Taming Complexity

Make sure the benefits of any addition to an organization's systems outweigh its costs. Martin Reeves et al.

## 124 ECONOMICS & SOCIETY

#### **Choke Points**

Countries are turning economic infrastructure into political weapons, and that poses a major risk to business. Henry Farrell and

Abraham L. Newman

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New Research and Emerging Insights

#### 17 LEADERSHIP

### Why Boards Should Worry About Executives' Off-the-Job Behavior

DUIs, traffic tickets, and other factors can raise on-the-job risks. PLUS An upside to boredom, a new way to look at sponsorship, why awards can be demotivating, and more

#### 32 DEFEND YOUR RESEARCH

#### Advertising Makes Us Unhappy

The more a country spends on ads, the less satisfied its citizens are.



#### 35 HOW I DID IT

#### The Founder of Chewy.com on Finding the Financing to Achieve Scale

More exciting than the company's multibillion-dollar sale was the first significant investment. Ryan Cohen

# 135

## **EXPERIENCE**

Advice and Inspiration

#### 135 MANAGING YOURSELF

#### Building an Ethical Career

A three-stage approach to navigating moral challenges at work Maryam Kouchaki and Isaac H. Smith

#### 140 CASE STUDY

## Give Your Colleague the Rating He Deserves—or the One He Wants?

Not all the members of a high-profile team are doing their share of the work. Anthony J. Mayo, Joshua D. Margolis, and Amy Gallo

#### 146 SYNTHESIS

## #MeToo's Legacy

Lessons from the movement, and what women want next Nicole Torres

#### 152 LIFE'S WORK

Sugar Ray Leonard

## **DEPARTMENTS**

10 FROM THE EDITOR

12 CONTRIBUTORS

148 EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

#### Contributors



Many were surprised when the United States banned exports to the Chinese tech giant Huawei, throwing the telecom sector into chaos. Henry Farrell, a political scientist at George Washington University, says the move shouldn't have been shocking. He believes that businesses have taken for granted the informational. logistical, and financial networks that make the international economy work. "It's a global system of connections that have been out of sight and out of mind," he says. In an article in this issue, Farrell and his coauthor seek to remedy that oversight by examining this new form of political risk.

124 Choke Points





Maryam Kouchaki was a physics major in Iran when she took a course in the social sciences. "I fell in love with the idea that you could study how people behave," she says. Now an associate professor at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management, Kouchaki studies ethics in organizational settings and is especially interested in "vicarious moral licensing," whereby people belonging to groups seen as moral feel entitled to act immorally. "I'm fascinated by how 'good' people so often do bad things," she says. In this issue she and her coauthor describe "ethical humility" and how to develop it.

135 Building an Ethical Career



(2)

Before serving as the dean of London Business School from 2009 to 2017, Sir **Andrew Likierman** held executive and nonexecutive roles in a variety of industries and in the British government. In those positions he saw at first hand the importance of judgment and observed that it is rarely identified, encouraged, and developed. "My interest in judgment stems from my experience making decisions and assisting decision makers in different environments," he says. His article in this issue draws on that experience.

102 The Elements of Good Judgment



(2)

Rob Markey began learning about customer lifetime value from his grandfather, who built a thriving meat-provisioning business by putting customer loyalty at the heart of every decision. A partner at Bain & Company, Markey has always been fascinated by the failure of large companies to do the same, and he has spent 30 years helping them learn to apply a small-business owner's mindset. In his article in this issue he describes new methods that managers and investors can use to better understand how customer value drives enterprise value.

42 Are You Undervaluing Your Customers?



(7)

As a psychologist in her early twenties, Tatiana Plakhova designed diagrams that charted children's social behaviors, "Just lines and dots," she explains. "Dots were kids, lines were connections." Her passion for infographics and abstractions emerged from this early work. Plakhova left psychology for a career in graphic design, in which she continues to explore the theme of social structures. "It's all about networks." she says of her art. Her illustrations in this issue are from the collection Chaos and Structure.

112 Taming Complexity