# Vice Media: Competitive Advantage and Global Expansion













### What is Next for Vice?

- Goal: Become the largest youth media platform in the world
- No longer a niche player, Vice is very close to being considered mainstream









#### Competitive Advantages

- "Offers something unique and valuable in the marketplace"
- "Does things different than its rivals on a day-to-day basis"
- · Serves a very specific niche

### **Questions?**

Given the fact that Vice's largest demographic is 18-34 year old males, do you believe that broadening their strategy to include more females would benefit its revenue stream? If so, how can they work to achieve this?

Given Porter's Five Forces that shape strategy, can you think of any substitutes to Vice?

Do you believe the rumor that Vice's founders started about Richard Szalwinski buying out Vice was a good or risky business strategy?

Do you think Vice will ever truly be mainstream?

Do you believe that companies can remain in niche market after achieving great amounts of success? Should they break into mainstream culture and risk failure?

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## Agenda

/ Introduction

History

🌶 Global Expansion 🏴

Future Outlook <sup>©</sup>

Competitive Advantages

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**Future Outlook** 

Competitive Advantages

# What is Vice?



- Digital Media Company
- Sarcastic, unconventional, edgy, in-yourface, thought-provoking
  - Gonzo Journalism
    - Niche market
- Largest demographic: Males from 18-34

that's the barometer of a good story."

-Rocco Castoro, Editor-In-Chief

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## The People Behind Vice

Shane Smith and Suroosh Alvi



# **Ethos**

## **Building a Family Atmosphere**

- Free flow of ideas
- Family atmosphere
- Personal support system



## Timeline From 1994 Until Today

- 1994: Voice of Montreal
- 1996: Renamed Vice Media and began distribution in the United States
- 1998: Richard Szalwinski bought into Vice Media
- 2000: Technology bubble bursted
  - 2002: Vice Music founded
    - 2010: AdVice launched





# Vice International

- 5 phases from 2001 to 2013
- For the First 3 Phases: Gradual global strategy
- Fourth and Fifth Phases: Born-again global strategy
- China and India: Global youth culture approach not exportable
  - · Global Domination of a Niche: Global media
- 2013: 20% magazine and online content was local, 80% global

