

Forget brand

Forget USPs

Forget differentiation

Focus on your  
**client value  
proposition**





**FREETHS**

 **ADDLESHAW  
GODDARD**

**GOODMAN DERRICK LLP**

**Geldards**  
law firm

• Gateley Plc

**TaylorWessing**

**WATSON FARLEY**

&

**WILLIAMS**

 **BENEST  
CORBETT  
RENOUF**

 **M A Z A R S**

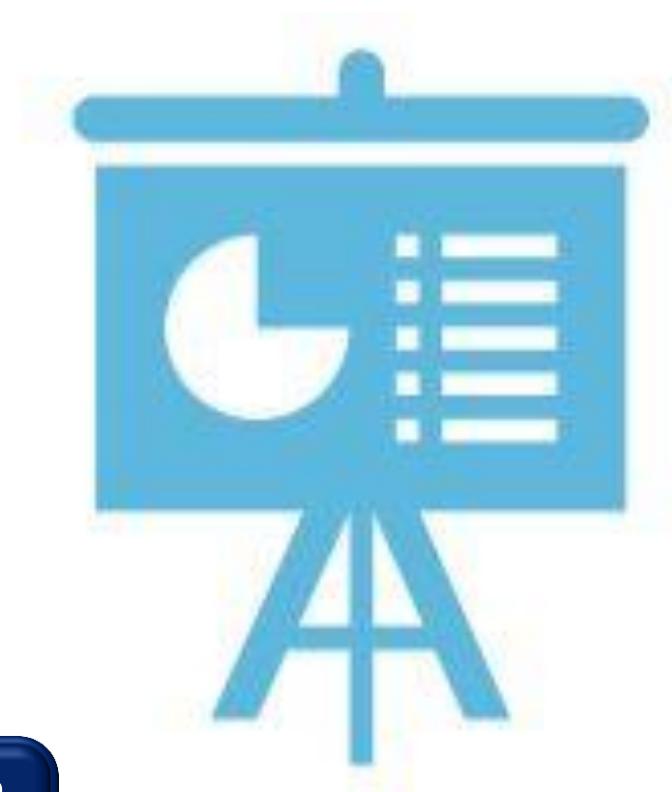
**MemeryCrystal**

What part does brand  
*really* play in a legal  
context?

What is a client value  
proposition?

How do you create a  
client value  
proposition?

How do you USE a  
client value  
proposition?





What is a  
brand?

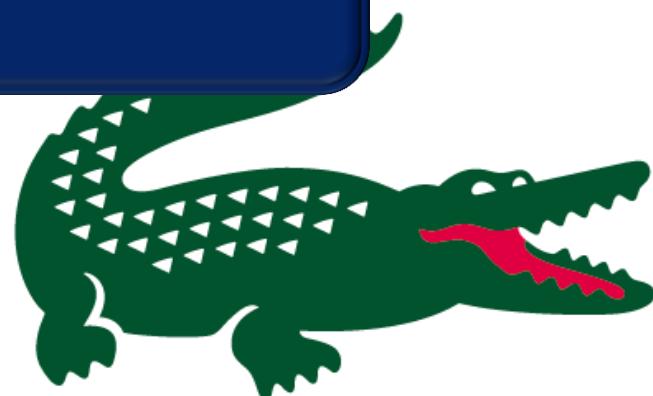


An emotional response

How we want to be perceived

What we want people to think

Your personality

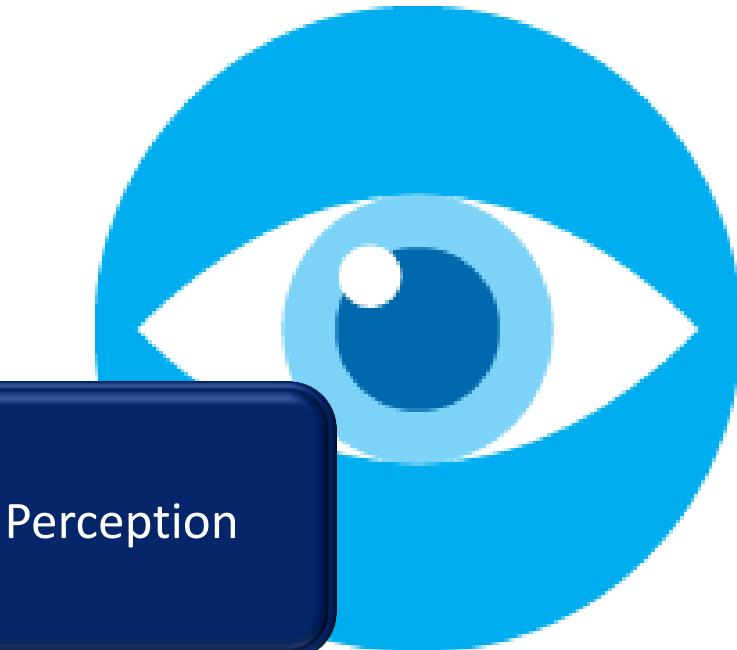




What is  
brand in a  
**legal** context?



A calculated  
response



Perception



Trust and  
credibility



Image

YOU

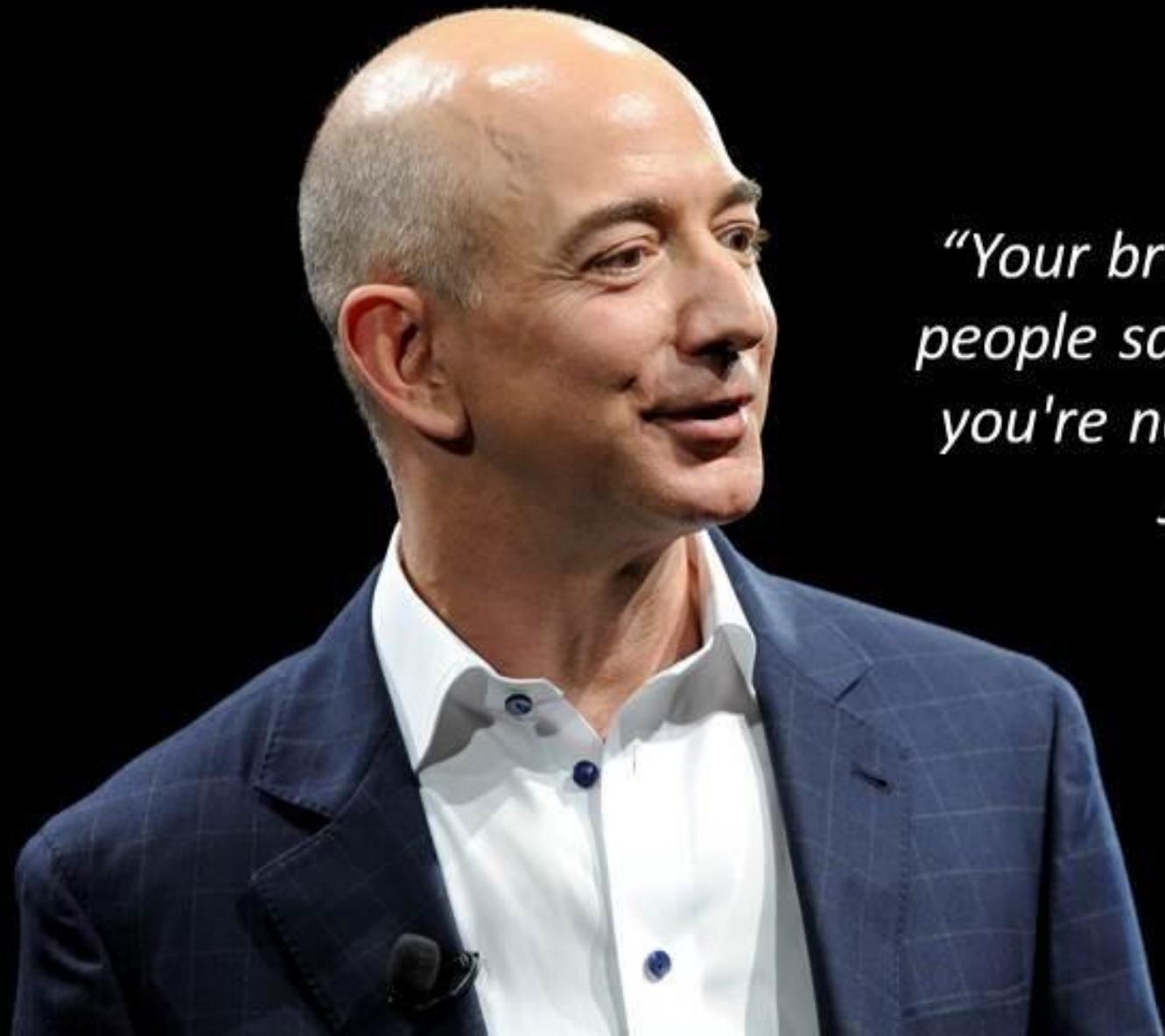
YOUR  
PRACTICE

YOUR  
FIRM

- 
- Logo
  - Strapline
  - Corporate colours
  - Brochure design
  - PowerPoint templates

- Image
- Perception
- Credibility
- Service
- Quality





*“Your brand is what other people say about you when you're not in the room.”*

*Jeff Bezos*

# The successful legal brand (in a perfect world)

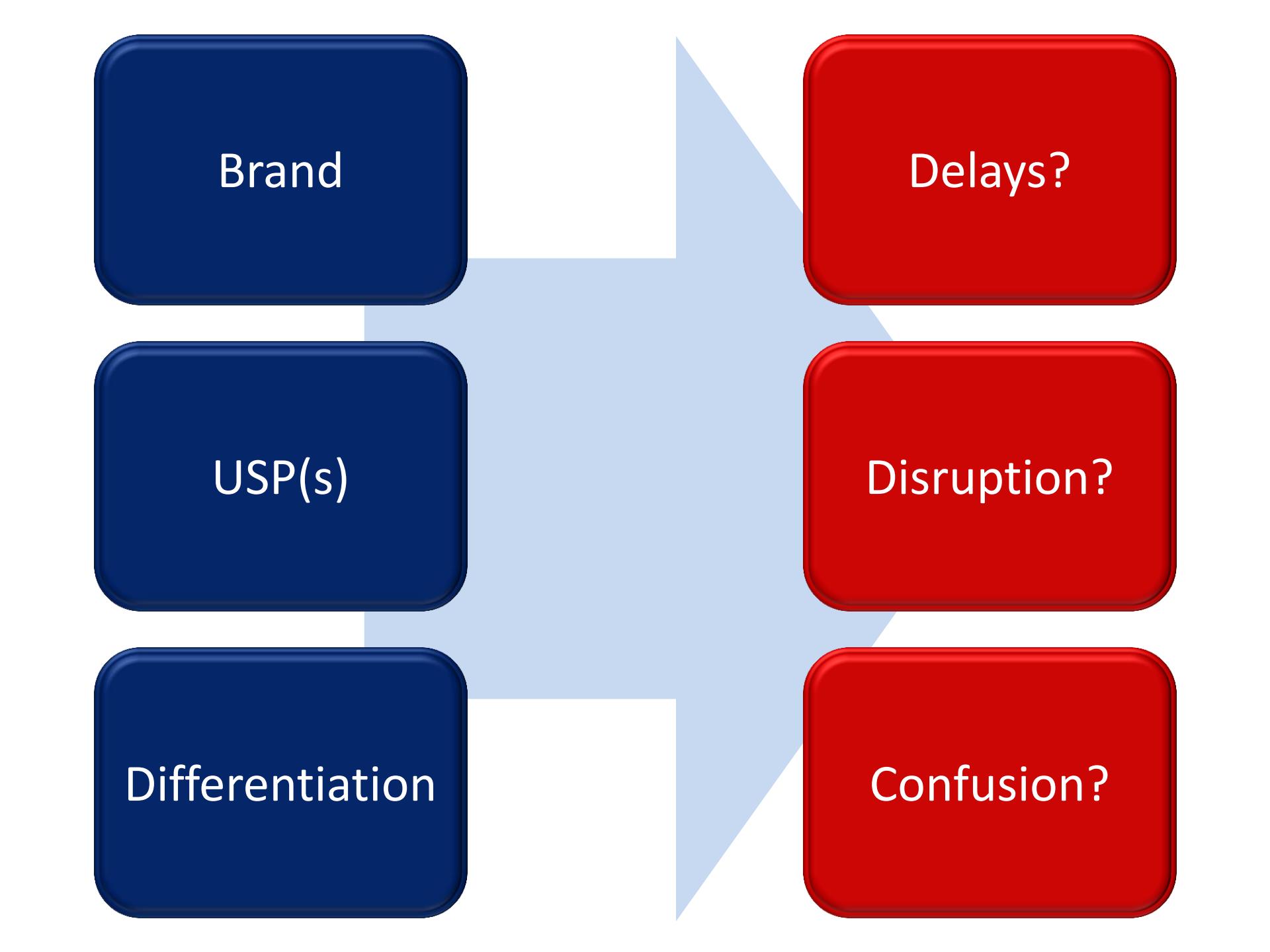
Your market thinks what you want them to think when they hear or see your firm's name

They understand your personality and believe you offer the quality, credibility and service they demand



All very admirable  
... but is this the  
**real world?**





Brand

USP(s)

Differentiation

Delays?

Disruption?

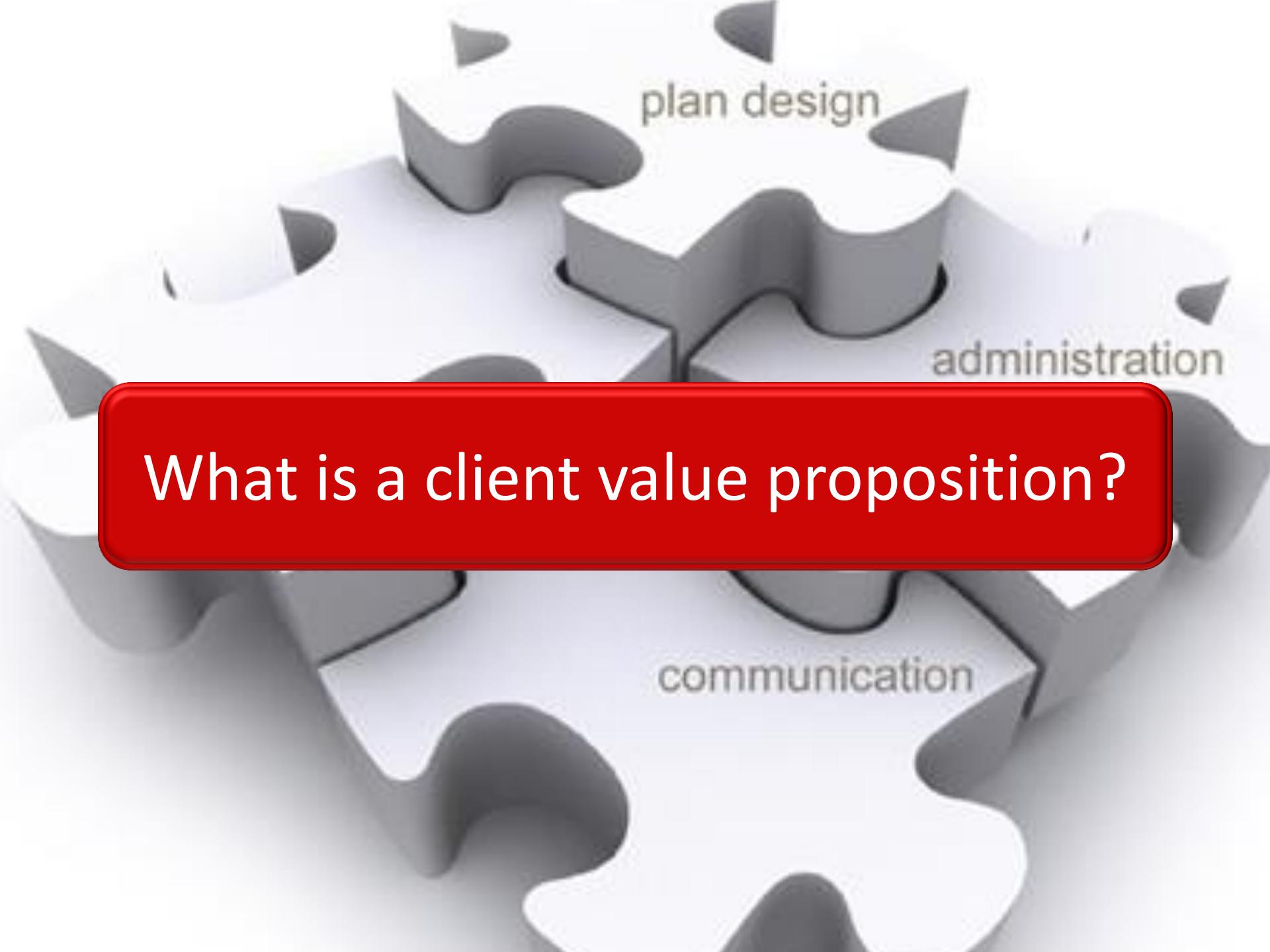
Confusion?



OK, so  
what's  
the  
answer?



A client value proposition



What is a client value proposition?

What you do

What is a client value proposition?

What you do

Why you do it

What is a client value proposition?

What you do

Why you do it

What is a client value proposition?

How you do it

What you do

Why you do it

What is a client value proposition?

How you do it

SO WHAT?

# What isn't a client value proposition?



A large blue rectangle on the left contains the text "A CVP gives you". A thick blue arrow points from this text to three light blue ovals stacked vertically on the right. Each oval contains one of the three benefits of a CVP.

A CVP  
gives  
you

A short statement that clearly communicates the benefits of working with your firm

A consistent promise that relates directly to what your clients want and how they want be served

A way to articulate the benefits **[SO WHAT?]** you always add ... and why they should choose you, not your competitors

What are the  
strengths of a  
CVP?

# What are the strengths of a CVP?

Relevant

Tangible

Easy to understand

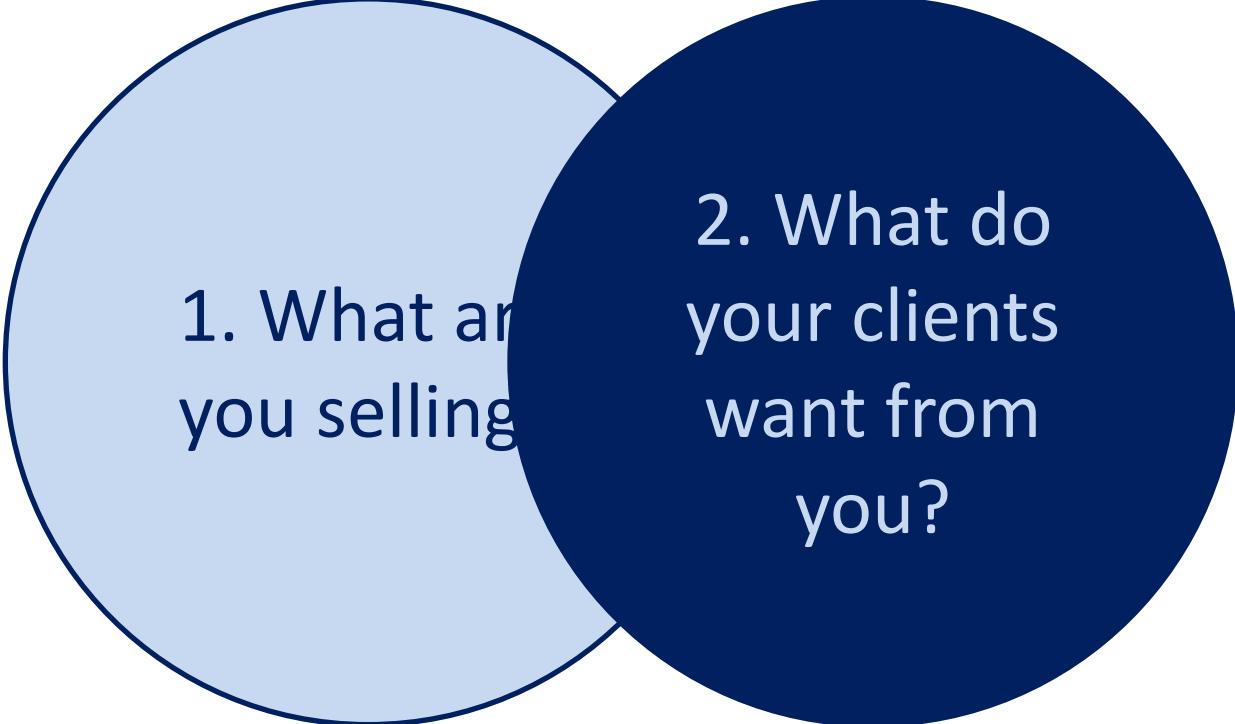
Attractive



How do I build  
an attractive  
CVP?

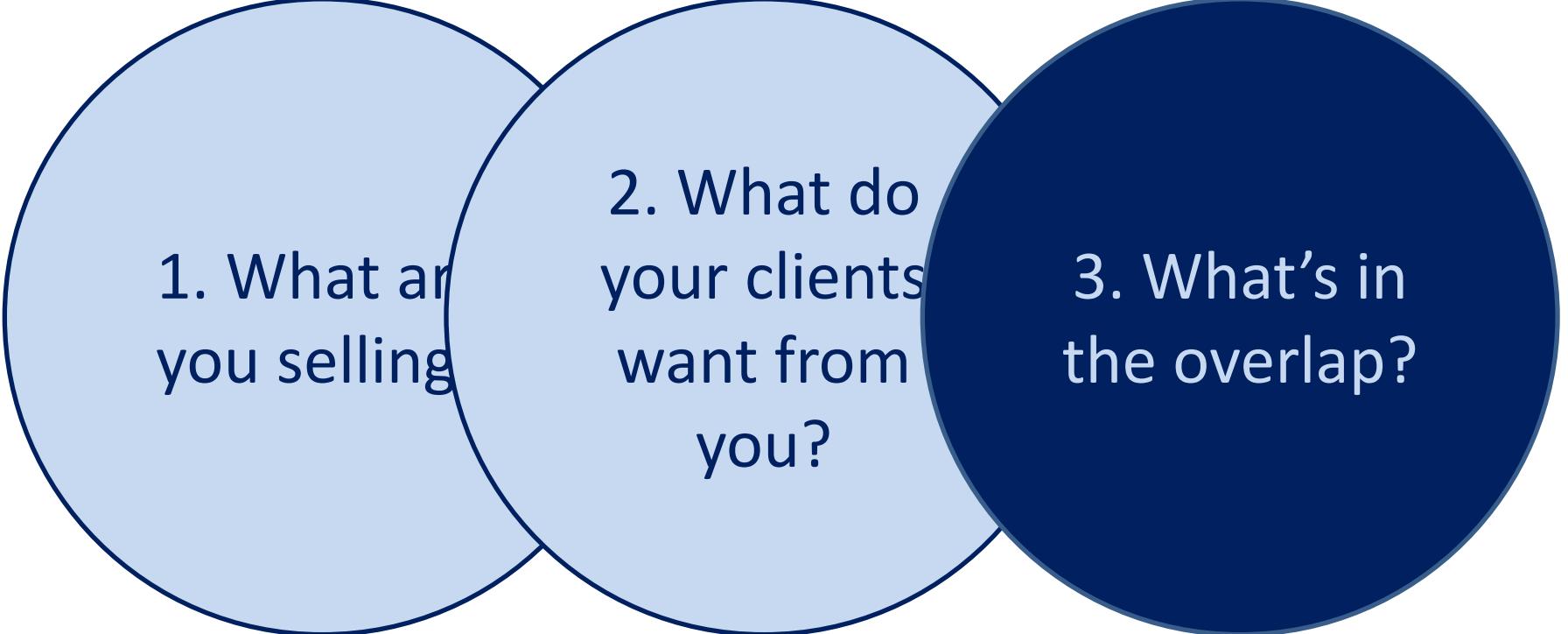


1. What are  
you selling?



1. What are  
you selling

2. What do  
your clients  
want from  
you?



1. What are you selling

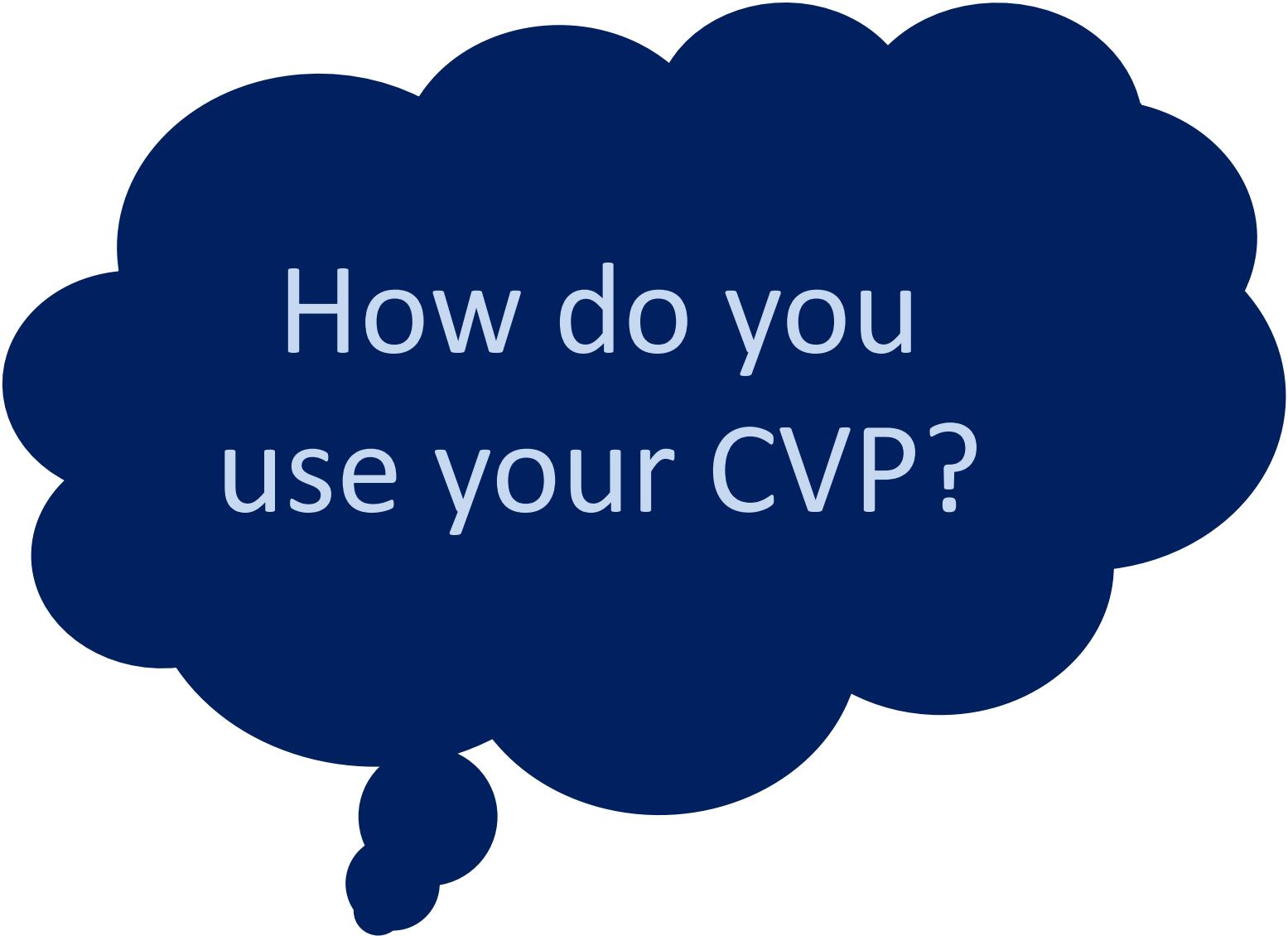
2. What do your clients want from you?

3. What's in the overlap?

**SOWHAT**

# And here are 10½ steps to make managing the whole process internally much ,much easier ...

1. Pull together all of the background information you have
  2. Pull the key themes from that material
  3. Choose a working group
  4. Host a facilitated discussion session
  5. Don't forget to ask "so what?"
  6. Wait a few days then revisit the notes from your discussion session
  7. Pull together the key themes
  8. Explain where they've come from
  9. Reconvene your working group and agree the CVP
  10. Agree the plan and timeline for the staff launch
- 10½. Execute your plan!**



How do you  
use your CVP?

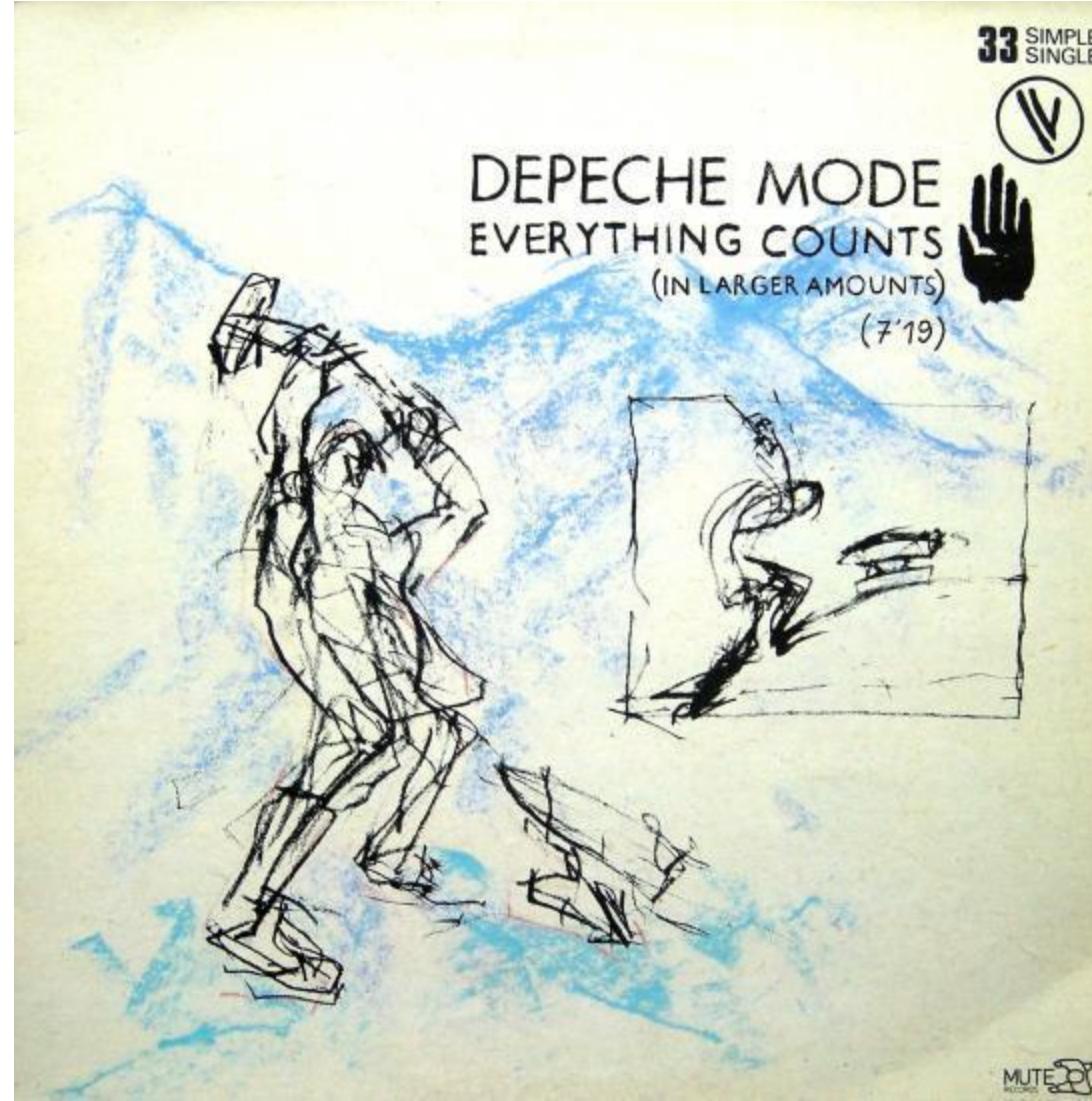
# CONSISTENCY



# Everything counts

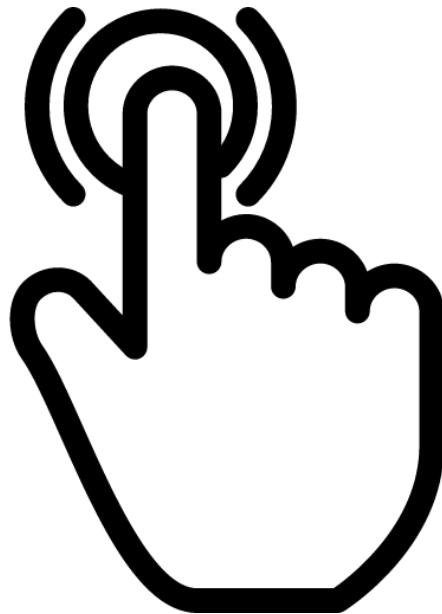
What impact do you create when you communicate with clients and referrers?

Is this congruent with what you are saying your firm offers?





1. In person



2. Online



3. In writing

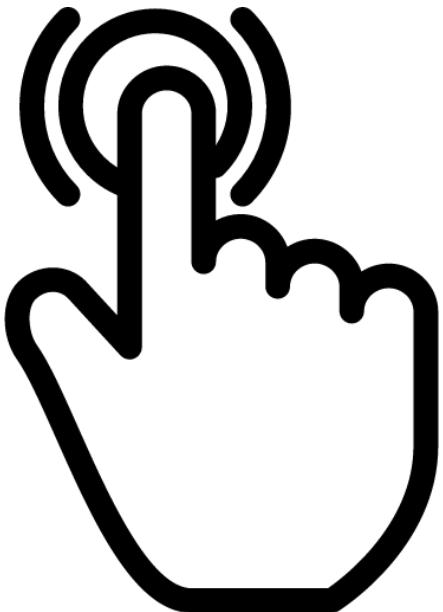
## 1. In person

**“Why should we use *you*? ”**



- Fee earners
- Reception
- In pitches/beauty parades
- Over coffee

## 2. Online



Your website:

- Design
- Content
- Purpose

Your social media activity:

- Platform
- Tone
- Objectives

## 1. In writing



- Your voice: tone & style
- Your ‘platform’ (point of view)
- Format & frequency



How do you  
launch your  
CVP?



External

Internal

- Web copy
- Brochures
- Pitch docs
- Your writing ‘voice’
- Reception

Road-test it with key clients  
and key referrers – does  
your CVP match the firm  
they know?





- A full staff launch
- Explain ‘why’ as well as ‘what’

Ask ALL staff for suggestions on how best to present your CVP at every point



## Any questions?

Would you like a free copy of the first chapter of *Package, Position, Profit*?

Would you like to arrange a free 45 minute chat to discuss how to tighten your firm's CVP?



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Bernard Savage



size 10½ boots

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