Insights & Ideas: Popeye's Newest Menu Item! - Darren Nesbitt - June, 8, 2021

What kicked off between Popeyes and one other restaurant is now a frenzy of discussion shared between every major QSR. Novelty and specificity could be wearing off as over 17+ similar offerings have been introduced over the past two years, and people don't find them half bad. Going from a head-to-head spectacle to a general category of food news has made the space for announcements all the more crowded and less sticky, even for the brand that kicked this chicken sandwich era into high-drive.

INSIGHTS

There's no conversation without Popeyes - Among top social banter and critiques of chicken sandwiches, there are few that **don't** reference Popeyes.

🔑 Specifically sauces have been brought up as the key differentiator for many. 🔑

- Sweet Heat is the taste that comes to mind for super fans reviewing their BTS nuggets meals from McDonald's,
 - In-response, Just go to Popeyes
 - Chrissy Teigen challenging 'spiced sauce' in relation to spicy chicken sandwiches;
 - in-response her fellow influencers champion Popeyes as the exception.

Competition continues among new entrants but Popeyes is the default when it comes to dipping sauces and chicken sandwiches.



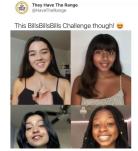
Social Audio is the current frontier - After becoming very familiar with our webcams throughout lockdown, people are more apt to join voice/audio experiences that maintain empathy and genuine connection, without the demands of video or the gravity of written comments. Along with Spaces-- Discord, Apple (Facetime), Facebook and Spotify are setting the stage for audio clips and conversations to become ubiquitous in our shift from scrolling feeds, towards hanging out together online.

- Let the Social Audio Revolution Begin
- Voice-based social; more empathy, fewer blatant trolls
- 40+ new social audio apps or features available to users

THOUGHT STARTERS



#Lost in the Sauce: Radio Series - "If a man does not have the sauce, then he is lost. But the same man can be lost in the sauce." is a popular quote from rapper Gucci Mane that speaks to self-worth vs. self-centeredness. In a lighter, more literal sense this could also apply to today's breadth of choices. To keep the Cajun BBQ Sauce top-of-mind fans will be invited to experience a recurring live-audio show. Featuring influencer interviews, music, and giveaways. A promoted reach campaign would drive listeners to follow and be notified about future shows. Platforms: Spotify Greenroom, Twitter Spaces, Clubhouse.



They Have the Sauce: Singing Challenge - One place where talent and fun tend to collide are after a bite of your favorite food! Energize the culture with the viral energy of Logan Mac's Chicken song, (covered by Todrick Hall) by partnering with @TheyHaveTheRange to hold a challenge prompting singers to share their take on the Popeyes jingle or a unique rendition celebrating the new Cajun BBQ Sandwich. Amplified using promoted hashtags and held across Tiktok, Instagram Reels, and Twitter Spaces.