

# People vs Products

Are people and products the same?

Product	Person
<p>A product is inanimate, which means <i>“lacking the special qualities of living things.”</i><sup>31</sup></p>	<p>A person is animate. Animate means having those “special qualities” of living things such as spirit, vigour and the ability to move by your own accord.</p>
<p>A product is created by others.</p>	<p>A person self-determines. (While we can see that there are influences of others and of culture, most of us believe we each have the ability to self-determine to at least some extent.)</p>
<p>A product is a commodity. A commodity is “something useful that can be turned to commercial or other advantage” or an “article of trade or commerce ... that can be processed and resold.”<sup>32</sup></p>	<p>A person is a human being.</p>
<p>A product can have a brand.</p>	<p>A person has an identity.</p>
<p>The value of a product is what the product can do.</p>	<p>The value of a person is not tied exclusively to what s/he can do – each person has intrinsic value. Of course a person can also do things of value, but that is secondary.</p>
<p>A product is purely matter.</p>	<p>A person is more than matter. People are more than the sum of their physical parts. (What this “more” is, is of course up for debate depending on your own beliefs and spirituality, but it is pretty commonplace to see persons as more than just physical matter.)</p>