

From: Sue von Roedern <allvonrs@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2009 1:04 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. The fact that we as a nation allow companies like Monsanto, Cargill, ADM, etc. dictate what our food safety policies will be is disgraceful. Their interest is in the almighty dollar not our collective health or safety.

I suggest that if you want an intelligent look at part of the problems we face, you might read Omnivore's Dilemma or watch Food Inc. If they do not bring you to tears, you are part of the problem. Please wrest control from the agribusiness machines that are chewing up our values and our health as a nation! Look around you as you walk down the street. How many overweight people do you see? This dangerous trend is not just due to laziness or bad eating practices of the American populace. It is also due to how food is available, engineered and MARKETED!

We go the farmers market, eat mostly local food, have a garden, and avoid meat several times a week. However, not everyone has the luxury of being able to do this. They should still have the right to access to unadulterated, healthy food.

Let's make health, good stewardship, humane working conditions, animal kindness be our priorities instead of short-term profit (and long term devastation).

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Sue von Roedern

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