

Conduct a brief participant observation

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It is not simply the fear of getting an upset stomach right after having a meal in a greasy spoon is what I am frightened about. Although it may sound rude or discriminatory to some, but eating out in greasy spoons make me feel uncomfortable because of a different ambiance it radiates, probably due to a different crowd from where I usually hang out with.

Aside from the prices of the food that are way cheaper than the usual restaurants I go to, this greasy restaurant lacks the cozy atmosphere that other restaurants I went to. The tables and chairs were a bit crowded and the customers are noisily chatting with each other while waiting for their orders to be served at the counter. The first thing I noticed about the place though was the fact that the regular customers were mostly adults. It was easy to spot regulars for they seem to know every corner of the place knowing exactly what they would have for the day and with a single bite, knows exactly how they taste like. However, even though the food that is served in the restaurant was obviously loaded with fats and oil, most of their regulars were unexpectedly not obese. In fact, most of them if they do not have lean body structure, they appear to have only a few more pounds than the appropriate body weight. This could be because of the fact that these people work hard enough that they use up all the energy they obtained from this greasy restaurant.

About ninety percent of the customers are blue-collar workers from the nearby construction, maids, cops and students. Within almost two hours that I have stayed there watching customers come and go, there was only one person wearing a decent suit who dropped by and went off as soon as he had his food. Apparently, a huge majority of the people who came by the shop do not intend to stay longer in the place. Most likely because they still have to

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go back to work or they do not find the place comfortable enough for them to spend to. It could, however, be because they make room for other customers who will be coming by to have their piece of meal for the day.