

# Fast food nation: responses to quotes



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## Contents

- Quotations About Fast Food

Quote (p. 5): “ In the early asses, the farm activist Jim Weightier warned of the Nationalization of America. ‘ He viewed the emerging fast food industry as a threat to independent businesses, as a step toward food economy dominated by giant corporations, and as a honeymooning influence on American life. In *Eat Your Heart Out* (1975), he argued that ‘ bigger is not better. ‘ Much of what Weightier feared has come to pass. ” Response: I agree a lot on Whistler’s argument.

If the fast food industry continues to expand like this, then all the other businesses will disappear, especially the ones dedicated to promoting healthier foods. Bigger is certainly not better, the same as how too much of a good thing can be a bad thing. From an economic point of view, I see the fast food business expanding and dominating the entire food industry, which will affect many people that don’t work in fast food business. There is a limit to the size of everything, and fast food expansion has to stop somewhere.

## Fast Food Quotes

If we let the fast food business do whatever they want, then not only are they ruining business for other food businesses, but they eliminate the need for many (skilled) workers, pose any kinds of health risks, etc. This literally affects American life for all. Quote (p. 80-81): “ Elise had wanted to work at McDonald’s ever since she was a toddler? a feeling shared by many of the McDonald’s workers I met in Colorado springs. But now she hates the job and

is desperate to quit. Working at the counter, she constantly has to deal with rude remarks and complaints.

Many of the customers look down on fast food workers and feel entitled to treat them with disrespect. Sweet-faced Elise is often yelled at by strangers angry that their food's taking too long or that something is wrong with their order. " Response: Obviously, having more jobs available in the fast food industry doesn't make the economy or future better than anyone. If every child dreamed of being a McDonald's worker or a worker of some other fast food restaurant, then there would be no imagination. Nobody would want to work any other occupation or career that actually would benefit society.

Even worse, working in McDonald's doesn't prove to be good but bad. People who eat a lot of or rely on fast food for daily or occasional meals don't even respect the people that help order the meals. I understand why some people work a simple job at McDonald's; they simply need more money to support the family. But giving up your original dreams of another career that'll pay more money and bring more respect and working a meager job where you get disrespected by everyday isn't worth it. Quote (p. 118): " Prices have recovered since then, but remain unusually low.

An Idaho potato farmer's annual income is now largely determined by the weather, the world market, and the whims of the giant processors. ' The only thing I can really control,' one farmer told me, ' is what time I get out of bed in the morning. " improvement. Not only is simple fast food? burgers, soda, etc. ? becoming more popular, but adding fries to the course increased popularity even more. They're easy to eat and tastes good. In times like this

when fast food is on everyone's agenda, of course farmers want to take advantage of the time to grow as much food to supplies to fast food chains/companies.

But the labor is tedious and costly, and as more farmers participated, more supplies came out, thus able to be bought at low prices, which doesn't benefit the farmers at all. I don't think increases in demand does good or the economy because people want to pay less for large quantities, once that demand is met, it's over. That farmer really meaner what he said. Things can change immediately and spontaneously, and it's dangerous to all those involved economically. Quote (p. 190): "' They used me to the point where I had no body parts left to give,' Kenny said, struggling to maintain his composure. Then they just tossed me into the trash can. ' Once strong and powerfully built, he now walked with difficulty, tires easily, and feels useless, as though his life were over. He is forty-five years old. " Response: When Kenny was still working, he was the most loyal worker in Inform, where he worked. I admire his loyalty and dedication, but he doesn't realize his being used as a meaner of higher production only for the company. The company exploited him. This is one aspect of working in the fast-food industry? and many others alike? that needs to be changed.

### **Quotations About Fast Food**

The work settings, regulations, laws, etc. All need to be improved. This is another way in which fast-food hurts people. The Jobs pay so low that one would strive to his best to be praised and get higher salary, but nobody can really get out of that low zone. People need to understand that all of these major companies are only in for the money and using the workers for it.

Loyalty doesn't pay in these settings. The workers are disposable and can be replaced by others who are better fit for work. Something even the Job itself doesn't pay. Quote (p. 95): " But the nation's industrialized a centralized system of food processing has created a whole new sort of outbreak, one that can potentially sicken millions of people. Today a cluster of illnesses in one small town may stem from bad potato salad at a school barbecue? or it may be the first sign of an outbreak that extended statewide, nationwide, or even overseas. " Response: With the expansion of fast food comes the spread of diseases. I have every right to believe that fast food does make a lot of things occur? rush of Jobs, food to eat, market expansion, and reemerging diseases.

The business owners are are too busy hurrying up to make fast food expand faster to even slow down and realize what problems their haste caused in the general population. They don't even realize they're doing this. If the fast food industry wants to attract more customers with their food, then the food should be checked for safety so that they don't sent customers way with lethal diseases. The one thing that made this industry expand and explode ironic and simply self-destruction. Quote (p. 03): " Knives are supposed to be cleaned and disinfected every few minutes, something that workers in a hurry tend to forget. A contaminated knife spreads germs to everything it touches. The overworked, often illiterate workers in the nation's slaughter-houses do not always understand the importance of good hygiene. They sometimes forget that this meat will eventually be eaten. They drop meat on the floor and them place it right back on the conveyor belt. They cook bite-sized pieces of meat in their sterilizer, as snacks, there by rendering the

sterilizer ineffective. Response: Another example of exploiting the workers. The company owners want as many workers as possible while paying only the minimum wage, and most of those workers are immigrants, school drop-outs, etc. Who absolutely have no other choice but to work in these slaughterhouses. If the companies want to be successful, then they should provide meat for people to eat that is clean, safe, and healthy, not dirty, contaminated, and potentially fatal. Same thing for the workers. They only know how to do their job and not make sure the meat is even capable of being eaten.

In addition to health regulations for the meat, there should also be training for the workers so they know how to properly handle the meat and use the equipment properly. If the workers don't know what they're doing, then won't do their job right, and that only causes havoc for everyone. If the company owners don't even care about how the workers are doing in the slaughterhouses, then they certainly have no right having a place in an industry that creates something many people want and/or depend on.