

Fast food critique essay

[Business](#), [Industries](#)



odBradd DentFastFoodNation Questions Introduction America's fast food industry was founded by self made man who took risk, worked hard, some not even going to collage. Today the industry relies on a low-paid and unskilled workforce, where a handful are able to rise up the corporate ladder, while the vast majority lack fulltime employment, receive no benefits, and end up quitting after a few months.

The fast food industry prospered over the last 30 years because minimum wage was lowered, marketing was directed at children, federal agencies meant to protect workers and consumers ended up working for the companies, and corporations worked with congress to oppose laws that didn't help them. The "American world view" is embodied in fast food because it takes advantage of those who don't know any better. Chapter 1 The element of car based restaurants like the ones started in Southern California encouraged the spread of fast food because they had good food, became successful, and were very popular among young people.

Chapter 2 Disney and Kroc were similar because they both used science to sell their products, made up famous mascots to sell products and both focused selling to kids. They were different because Disney founded his company, and Kroc bought his, they sold different products, and Kroc wasn't involved in politics, while Disney was. Their companies cooperated when McDonald's agreed to sell Disney toys and Disney agreed to allow McDonald's in Disneyland. The fast food industry started with billboard ads to attract kids and evolved to advertising every where, from TV, to the internet, to school hallways.

They also make the restaurants themselves fun for kids with play places and selling toys so they want to go more, and even as adults bring their own kids. Personally, I don't think it is ethical to advertise in schools because it fast food is unhealthy and kids should be learning that, not that the burgers at McDonald's get an A in taste. Chapter 3 Most employees of fast food restaurants are teenagers because most are willing to work long hours with little pay.

Fast food corporations relentlessly stop their workers from unionizing by doing things like integrating workers with information about a possible union with lie detectors, or closing locations with unions and opening new locations near by. Working conditions at fast food restaurants are unsafe. Typical dangers the employees face are slips, fall, cuts, burns, and robberies. Problems are dealt with by increasing security with cameras or more parking lot lights. If I worked at a fast food restaurant and I injured my self, I might not tell my manager because I could lose my job because they could blame me for the injury.

Chapter 4 The advantages of starting your own business is if it is successful, you could get a lot of money, not to mention you are your own boss so no one besides the government tells you how to run your business. The disadvantages are the business could be unsuccessful and you could lose a lot of money. The advantages of working for someone else are you do not have to make too many tough decisions. The disadvantages are you will not make as much money as your boss, and you may not like your boss for whatever reason.

Some legal issues that fast food franchises have been involved in are the Coble's Bill which makes franchises obey the principles other companies follow. The Subway fast food franchise was involved in the SBA which helps restaurants by giving them government funds. Subway got involved and made it so they would get extra money. Chapter 5 Family farms are disappearing because industry farms take all the business and close family farms because they have no one to sell to. there are only a few small potato farms left because industries take up all the land and business.

The take-over of agricultural farms effects communities because local farms go out of business and communities become dependent on the corporate farm. Chapter 6 Development and fast food farms take land and effects cattle pastures because there is less land for the cattle to graze. Since most cowboys and ranchers have gone out of business, they have become irreverent in today's culture. The government set up the Sherman Antitrust Act and a congressional investigation in the meat packing industry to help ranchers. Later, the Reagan administration allowed the top four meat packing firms to merge and they took over the cattle markets.

Corporate domination affected family farms by forcing them to work for them or go out of business. Self-reliance is still a viable goal for Americans, but has become very difficult because of big corporations. The fast food industry makes chicken farmers work for them or they would get no business. In farm culture, the land is a tangible connection to the past, meant to be handed down and not sold. To native Americans, the land meant life and prosperity.

In traditional Irish culture, the land is a link to past generations and to loose the land meant to fail your relatives.

Their concept of land is similar to the American concept. Chapter 7 The demands of the fast food industry changed towns by making it so almost everyone ends up eating fast food because the industries are allowed to put their restaurants wherever they want and advertise as much as they want until the town's economy runs on the fast food restaurants. Chapter 8 Meatpacking is dangerous because of the machines and rarely cleaned cutting tools. Since a meatpacking manager's bonus is based in part on injury rate, many injuries go unreported and the worker is either given an easier job or takes time off to recover.

Chapter 9 The meat packing and meat processing industry has been a spreader of disease because the animals are not screened well enough or sick workers spreading disease on the animals. After reading about the pathogens in hamburger meat, I am concerned about food poisoning in fast food. E. coli is not common in restaurant food, but is likely to be in hamburger meat. Chapter 10 Many Americans are obese because of lack of information and improper food laws. Fast food probably plays a big part in obesity because it provides unhealthy food to almost everywhere.

Americans are probably more obese than other countries because fast food started here. Fast food companies increase the size of their meals to effect the calorie count look better for the per serving part. This effects American health because it is misleading and you eat more than you thought you were going to. People in other countries do not want fast food because

they have seen its effect on America. Epilogue The free market Schlosser talks about leaves workers unprotected with little interference from the government. In the quote, Schlosser is referring to the free market.

I agree to what Schlosser says on 216. I believe the government needs to work harder to protect both the workers and consumers of fast food. At the end of the Epilogue, the author remedies his criticisms with the fact that it is a person's choice to eat what they want. Afterword Mad Cow disease is a disease that slowly destroys the brain and can be spread through hamburger meat. It can be controlled by feeding cows grass instead of corn and hormones, and inspecting the meat better. Cattle get infected by it because they stand in the dung of an affected cattle. It is a very serious threat to humans.