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Subject: Comments

I am one of the millions who have been harmed by chemicals. For the past 7 years, I have struggled to regain my life after developing severe multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS). It is especially hard to do when you live in the San Joaquin Valley with all of the pesticides being sprayed, often night and day, for most of the year. Pesticide drift requires me to keep my house closed up as tightly as possible, even on some of the prettiest days of the year. I was finally forced to retire from my position as a full professor at Calif. State University, Fresno. A big part of my fight back to health has meant drinking totally pure water and eating only organic foods. Slowly, very slowly, I have begun to get pieces of my life back. However, more and more of my neighbors and friends are coming to me, now sick themselves, asking what they can do to be healthier.

Our food supply has been degraded by pesticides and other substances that are harmful to our bodies. It is time to turn this around. Barbara Kingsolver's book, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* gives many suggestions as to how to do this. She also speaks about the dangers of genetically modified foods and what we have lost because of them.

I am 66 now and not well yet. I fear for my children and grandchildren. Safe air, water and food used to be something most of us could take for granted. It is past time to make it true for all of us.

Thank you.

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