

From: The Fauvells <tfauvell@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 7:04 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: America's Food

I am so thrilled the DOJ is looking at food production in America. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE....you have the power to help us. I feel that what big agribiz is doing to our nation's food supply is having far-reaching consequences which were not planned for.

First of all, I am a mother of 2 children. It makes me SICK TO MY STOMACH that I have been feeding genetically modified foods to my youngest son, born in 1999, without my knowledge or consent, for his entire life. How on earth can MY GOVERNMENT, which should protect me, have allowed these foods to enter our supermarkets WITHOUT PROPER LABELING? It's deceitful and deceptive and wrong! I was only made aware of the GMO's in our foods in 8/09; now I don't buy any product containing corn, canola, soy or cottonseed unless it's organic. But what about the millions who are unaware, as I was until 4 months ago? IT'S NOT FAIR TO NOT LABEL GMO'S! Give America a choice, the way other countries and continents have given their citizens a choice. Let people decide what they will feed to their children, for God's sake!

As to the whole GMO issue, and the patenting of seeds, it is PREPOSTEROUS! How can something be patented which can spread and self-propagate? If I were a farmer and this seed happened onto my property, I would be liable? That also is PREPOSTEROUS! All patents on life should and must be withdrawn. It would be too easy for Monsanto to "accidentally" lose some seed in Mexico in an attempt to own corn production in that whole country. And I don't put it past them or any other multinational; the only language some of these companies understand is that of the almighty dollar.

Now, what about the revolving door which swings between industry and government regulatory agencies? Of course the relationship between regulators and the companies they are supposed to regulate wherein an impropriety is purported to exist is too long to mention here. But what about Michael Taylor, who was a lawyer for Monsanto, then went on to approve GMO's in the FDA in 1996, and then went back to Monsanto as a VP. Now Michael Taylor has become the senior advisor to the commissioner of the FDA. What is going on? This revolving door needs to be SLAMMED SHUT! No one in private industry should ever be allowed a regulatory role governing an industry where they have worked unless they sign a contract stating they will not accept employment or compensation of any sort from that industry again.

Now back to the GMO's which Mr. Taylor unleashed on an unsuspecting nation. I wonder if he feed his children GMO corn? And if his children have BT-toxin factories in their intestinal flora? This is what I fear for my children. Who knew I was feeding them corn genetically programmed to create an insecticide, and that these organisms, genetically introduced into the corn, would go on to combine with the healthy bacteria in my sons' guts? What have we done? What have I done? The effects won't be known for decades.

But there are effects going on right now. I am an 8th grade English teacher in the NYC public school system. It seems the kids grow more and more inattentive every year. They just can't focus. How long until the entire nation is Special ED? Now that I know about the effects GMO's have on gut bacteria, it has me wondering. What are my students eating? Are their brains being properly nourished? How much pesticide is each of them consuming? I also have a nephew with autism. Because of this, I know all children with autism have what my sister termed "leaky gut syndrome." This has something to do with their gut bacteria being unable to process certain foods. I'm no scientist, but the correlation between gut problems associated with GMO's and those associated with autism seem impossible to ignore. Shouldn't someone be studying this correlation? Because GMO's have certainly been shown to increase allergies to soy and other items, such as BT-cotton. WHO IS LOOKING INTO THIS? MONSANTO?

As I started my letter, I beg you, I implore you, please stop the madness. Please stop Monsanto and

other MNC's from owning the patents on life. Please stop the harmful foods which have been permitted to be on Americans' tables without even the testing we would require of a new food coloring. Please make TRUTHFUL labeling the law, rather than side with corporate American and outlaw it. It makes me sick to think that these American companies are trying to take over other countries' food systems as they have ours. If the world sees us as THEM, it's no wonder they hate us. Please help the world; and help me, a simple, hard-working mom, feed her kids healthy foods.

Sincerely,
Teresa Fauvell