

From: Ted Stein <ted@tschuanghu.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 9:49 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: The Control of Food Production and Distribution by a Few Corporations

The control over food exerted by a relatively few corporations is a serious problem. It gives them too much power to decide what we eat and of what quality our food is, and they are happy to exercise this power, since it enables them to reach a higher profit than they would otherwise. Too often, as a result of the way these big food-production and -distribution players use their market power, the food consumers purchase is not healthy and not of high quality, or it is lacking in nutrients we need and do not get. This leads to disease in us consumers, even fatal illness. It also enables the producers to pollute the natural environment, as on pig farms with the disposal of animal waste, polluting streams and soils; or it allows big producers to use chemicals and medications that are harmful to individual eaters and to world health, as in the case of antibiotic use that builds up resistance in microbes that then cannot easily or at all eliminated when they attack human hosts. The handling of animal farms, in addition, typically increases the volume of polluting gases that escape into the atmosphere and threaten the globe with destructive climate changes. Finally, near-monopolistic control of food production encourages destructive farming practices.

Please look into all these things and come up with remedies that have teeth, so that high-quality nutrition is achieved and diseases and environmental pollution are eliminated.

Very truly yours,

Edwin Stein Jr, M.D., Ph.D.
40 Conger Street, Apt 712A
Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3325
973-337-8324 (h); 862-596-9513 (c)
ted@creativec.us