From: diannakinsey@hotmail.com
Sent: Sunday, December 27, 2009 8:53 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Monsanto

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December 27, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. This is anti-competitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that can raise prices at will.

But, my main concern is that, while Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their chemicals.

The vast bounty of food crops that farmers have cultivated and improved upon over the last 10,000 or so years should not be allowed to be bought up and put out of commission by a company bent on whittling down food varieties to a few pesticide-dependent genetically modified crops.

The most devious part of Monsanto's business model is that their Frankenseeds can cross-pollinate with organic and traditional varieties, destroying their unique characteristics and infecting them with genetically engineered chemical dependence or even "Terminator" or "Traitor" technology that renders seeds sterile, a literal death sentence for seeds maintained through conventional breeding.

The same way we protect animal species from extinction, we should protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from companies like Monsanto that are consciously eliminating them.

I urge you to please include in your investigation a consideration of the importance keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong. And no one should be allowed to patent life. All past patents should be revoked.

This is how Monsanto makes it so that seeds must be bought instead of using your own last year's seeds. Once again, Monsanto is showing Americans that PROFIT is their only concern, not ecology and good health as it should be.

Watch the documentary, THE FUTURE OF FOOD, for great insight regarding this issue. I do NOT want to eat genetically modified foods, yet corporations have floaded our marketplaces without being properly labeled as such. Could this be why cancer and autism are now so prevalent?

And high fructose corn syrup is as toxic to our bodies as alcohol use but without the buzz according to recent research. We must pass laws to immediately stop food manufacturers from using HFCS for the better health of everyone.

And aspartame, the sweetner, also needs to be eliminated from use due to it's neurologic damaging effects. Go to ASPARTAMEKILLS.COM for details and watch the documentary, SWEET MISERY: A Poisoned World (I believe is the title).

Sincerely,

Dianna Kinsey
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