

From: Jen Gross <Jengrossjen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 2, 2010 10:09 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing because it concerns me that there is only one company, Monsanto, controlling the majority of seeds in the US. I find this extremely disturbing, as I strongly believe that competition not only encourages, but ultimately forces companies to strive to produce their best possible products. As a mother of a 10 month old, who does not tolerate soy, I have spent a lot of time in the past months reading food labels. By doing this much more diligently than I have ever done before, I have learned that almost all products in a standard supermarket contain soy. How can we be sure that all of this soy is up to par, if it is predominantly being produced from seeds sold only by Monsanto? I was very upset to learn that Monsanto regularly threatens farmers who do not purchase their seeds. It baffles my mind that this is going on in this day and age. I ask the question, how is our government not regulating this?

I am extremely disappointed in our government's lack of action, and it seems pretty clear that the government is looking the other way while this goes on due to the "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. It is no wonder that corporations aren't held to strict standards, when the people running these corporations are tied in with the government.

While growing up in this country I was under the impression that the government was for the people, and supposed to protect us. After learning about the agricultural industry in the United States, I unfortunately no longer feel this way. The government seems to be doing very little to protect the American people in terms of food safety. After all of the outbreaks of e.coli and salmonella, it seems insane to me that stricter laws have not been put into place to regulate agricultural production. The government is enabling large corporations to ultimately kill countless American people, and it's imperative that this stops. Loss of life for corporate gain is an absolute crime, and that is what it should be considered. The laws must change to protect the American people, and it's time for the government to do what NEEDS to be done.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Jen

Jen Gross

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