

From: tracyhansen579@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, January 3, 2010 2:08 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Return to us our basic right to choose what we eat!!!

Tracy Hansen
794 Fairview Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403-2946

January 3, 2010

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

I am a 24 year old citizen who is flabbergasted by the government's overwhelming support of a company that clearly does more harm than good. I am outraged to see that if things do not change, I simply may not be able to find non-GMO foods on supermarket shelves someday. I'm sure you know what I'm talking about. I'm just hoping you'll actually do something about it.

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.

If you want you and your family to not have to fear dying from something they ate, you need to take action and eliminate the monopoly that is Monsanto.

An enraged citizen,

Tracy Hansen