

From: Kristen Rutland <KristenRutland@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 3, 2010 6:23 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

? Just one company, MONSANTO, controls the majority of seeds in the US, and regularly THREATENS farmers who don't buy its seeds....how awful is that!!!!???

? What's in our food, anyway? And why aren't there decent labels telling you WHERE it grew, what chemicals are on it, and if it's genetically MODIFIED???

? There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations aren't held to strict standards....Where are the ethics? I find this disgusting and plan to take action by using my vote and educating ALL of my friends. The days of "good old boys" politics are over my friend!

? Prices are rising at the supermarket, but you've heard that farmers are struggling -- and big food companies have made record profits this year at my and the public's expense!

? Food is grown and raised in ways that are terrible for the environment, with methods that pollute the water, poison the soil, and threaten our long-term food security. When I was growing up, our family owned the "Rutland Ranch" in Bradenton, Fl. where cattle ate grass...NOT CORN!! This is how it should....the way the Good Lord intended it to be.

My final thoughts are on the possible connection of our food supply and AUTISM. Boys born today now have a 1 in 70 chance of having autism....ONE IN SEVENTY!!!!!! I'm concerned that the lack of oversight in our food system has contributed to the dramatic rise in Autism. Action must be taken in order to protect "we the people"!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Kristen Rutland Reese

Kristen Rutland

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