

Watch the documentary "Food Inc." and fill out the worksheet. Here is the link if you are not in class to watch the movie:

[HTTPS://TUBITV.COM/MOVIES/515340/FOOD-INC](https://tubitv.com/movies/515340/food-inc)

Questions

Fast Food for All:

1. What production strategy was used by McDonald's to lower its prices?
2. How did the fast food industry change agriculture?
3. How did the shape of chickens change from 1950-2008?
4. Why do some companies prefer to hire undocumented workers?
5. How do big companies "control" chicken farmers?

A Cornucopia of Choices:

6. What percent of US farmland is planted with corn?
7. Why does the US government subsidize corn production?
8. How does the corn diet affect the gut biome of cows?

Unintended Consequences:

9. How are harmful strains of E. coli getting into our food supply?
10. What is the danger of having a smaller number of slaughter houses?
11. What problem is addressed with Kevin's Law?
12. Why was congress unable to pass Kevin's Law?

Dollar Menu:

13. Why is processed food so cheap?
14. Why is diabetes more common among poor people?

In the Grass:

15. Why did the USDA try to shut down the chicken processing operation at Polyface Farms?
16. What happened to the meat packing industry between 1950 and today?
17. Why did so many corn farmers in Mexico go out of business?
18. Why do immigration raids fail to stop the Smithfield from hiring undocumented workers.

Hidden Costs:

19. What is a hidden cost of fast food?
20. What are Joel Salatin's (owner of Polyface Farms) views on business expansion?
21. How does Gary Hirsh (CEO of Stoneyfield) justify his relationship with Walmart?

From Seed to Supermarket:

22. Why are GMO soybean farmers unable to save their seeds for planting the next crop?
23. What company is involved in preventing farmers from planting their own seeds?
24. What is "Round-Up"?
25. What special trait is found in genetically altered soybean plants relating to "Round-Up."
26. Why are many non-GMO soybean farmers unable to plant their own seeds?

The Veil:

27. What is the meaning of the expression "revolving door"?
28. How does the "revolving door" undermine the public interest?

Discussion: The first posting is worth 3 points. For the first posting you need to address one of the items below. To facilitate grading, make sure you enumerate the two items you chose:

1. Quote or indicate an item from the documentary that you found interesting, surprising, and/or upsetting.
2. How might this documentary affect the way you buy your food from now on?
3. How can healthy foods be made more affordable to working class Americans?
4. Even though mass production plays a major role in reducing costs, can you think of hypothetical examples of how government policies “rig” the system at the expense of organic farming?
5. Non-GMO soybean farmers are being prevented from saving their seeds due to allegations that pollen from GMO soybeans contaminated their crops. How do we protect the right of non-GMO farmers to save their seeds?
6. Border security is a very contentious issue in the US. Is anyone in the US adversely affected by this policy? What special interests in the US benefit from a porous border?
7. Do you think the revolving door between industry and government disproportionately influenced US Department of Agriculture nutritional recommendations?

For the second posting you need to respond to one post by another fellow student. The second posting is worth 2 points. For the second posting I recommend the following format:

- 1) I like how because
or
- 2) I agree/disagree with because
or
- 3) This relates tobecause