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Rhet 105

1 April 2018

Word count: 542

### Double Edged Industrial Farming

Modern society is supported by various technologies from small, such as electronics, to huge, such as network and farming. Some people do not realize what kind of technology is behind the farming, but farming defiantly is composite of various technologies, and this allows industrial farming. Even though industrial farming is something that sustains and supports our modern society, there is huge controversy regard with this practice since there is a various drawback. In agriculture society, there is an ongoing argument between both sides to expand the convention of farming that they believe is right.

The movie, *King Corn*, displays industrial farming in the USA, specifically corn production. The movie shows advantage and disadvantage of industrial farming of corn. While the film shows that mass production of corn and corn syrup cause a various health problem in the USA, such as obesity and diabetes, it also highlights that governments subsidize on corn farming and genetically modified corn seeds allow mass production of corn, which provides cheaper foods to consumers in the USA.

In fact, both movie and the author of “The Omnivore’s Delusion: Against the Agri-Intellectuals”, Blake Hurst, argues that industrial farming allows providing cheaper foods in the USA. Hurst points out that “Only “Industrial farming” can possibly meet the demands of an increasing population and increased demand for food as a result of growing incomes”. Hurst even rebukes those critics who criticize industrial farming by telling that industrial framing helps those critics by providing “cheap foods” (Hurst, 242) As an industrial farmer, he is tired with criticizing agribusiness and tries to argue that industrial farming is

what supports modern society. However, it is inevitable to avoid the fact that there is some drawback on industrial farming. Even the movie points out that mass production of corn caused a major problem in our society, such as obesity and diabetes. Furthermore, the film also shows that industrial farming leads into domination of single crop, as Vandana Shiva, the author of “Soy Imperialism and the Destruction of Local Food Cultures”, argues that how industrial farming eliminates domestic crops.

From her own experience with industrial agriculture, Shiva emphasizes that industrial farming should be abolished since it wipes out local and domestic crops. She shows an example of “mustard-oil tragedy” that India had to suffer. While mustard oil was dominant, and part of culture in India, oil adulteration caused “free imports of soybeans” (Shiva, 182), this lead to “extinction of a crop that is the very symbol of spring” (Shiva, 183) Shiva also argues that the industrial framing lead into seed monopoly as well, which only favors corporations and makes “Both U.S farmers and Indian farmers are losers” (Shiva, 184)

Before I read Hurst’s essay, I considered industrial farming as bad conversion, since there are many documentary and movies that show only drawbacks of industrial framing. However, after I read about Hurst’s point of view, I realized that industrial farming is what sustains modern society and secures food safety. I do believe that there is some moral problem with Industrial farming, such as caging and confining the animal. However, I also do believe that people’s moral and importance of industrial farming can lead to sustainable and moral farming industry.

Works Cited

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