

# Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Mean

*Eric Schlosser*

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**Eric Schlosser : Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Mean** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Mean:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book and weight loss program!By Joel CommI read this book about 10 weeks ago and I am recommending it to friends and family. Politically, I lean heavily towards the right. Mr. Schlosser is obviously a liberal. However, he makes many excellent points in regard to runaway corporations doing as they please despite the public interest. His solutions for more regulation are flawed, though. That said, this work provides an excellent birds-eye view of the effects that the fast food industry has had on our culture, as well as the world. I did not expect to learn so much from this title. Schlosser ventures from sector to sector (the family farm, the factory, the slaughterhouse, the franchise, the laboratory, etc...) in search of stories that represent the norm as well as the extreme. Highly entertaining and very sobering. My doctor has told me to lose weight. My wife has told me to lose weight. But this book was truly an inspiration to do so! Since reading, I have lost 40 pounds. So, put away Atkins, Sugarbusters and the other diets. Read Schlosser! - Joel Comm, author of The AdSense Code: What Google Never Told You About Making Money with AdSense0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great pieceBy Renee St. LaurentFast Food Nation is a book dedicated to enlightening the American population about how the fast food industry rules our nation. Schlosser (2001) accomplishes this feat in two major ways. The first is through highlighting several policy implications related to fast food. One implication involves the governments role in regulating food safety in the United States. So far, government efforts to improve fast food safety have been blocked by fast food corporations resulting in continued unsafe working conditions for employees and a lack of safety in the food itself.

The second policy implication is related to the poor quality of the nutrition in fast food. Schlosser reveals how the initial products, the potatoes and meats, are harvested and then processed so that the resulting food is essentially a chemical mixture with a high fat content and little to no nutritional value. Finally, the last main policy implication revolves around the ability of fast food chains to market to and exploit children and the governments inability to prevent fast food companies from doing so. Schlossers second method for educating the American public involves telling the stories of the people involved in the fast food industry. He presents the story of a McDonalds CEO next to the story of a teenage cashier next to the story of a meatpackers daily experience. Through these stories, Schlosser is able to highlight all of the complex aspects that come together to create fast food in a way that any American would be able to relate to and understand. The book is a well-balanced mix of factual information provided on a backdrop of the personal life stories of people working in the fast food nation. I fully support the message Schlosser is sending and believe that his writing style deserves 4.5 stars. Overall, Fast Food Nation is a deeply moving educational piece that shows America a bleak and honest picture of how our fast food nation stands today and how, with very little effort, our fast food nation could improve to be so much more. Reference Schlosser, E. (2001). Fast food nation: The dark side of the all-American meal [Kindle Version]. Boston: Mariner Books. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Book arrived fast. By Alan Fontana I recommend the book and the seller. The book arrived promptly and in very good condition. The book is a great insight into a growing postwar America, although much of it describes trends which many families, including my own, did not indulge. Recycling in the 50's was a residual wartime ritual and perhaps exceeds what's going on today. Nevertheless, Schlosser connects many things, fast food to suburban sprawl, the assembly line concept to food preparation, the chemical industry to taste. He explores the mentalities of the various people who started the fast food industry, how it expanded with a mind of its own, and how many Americans expanded along with it. A powerful and effective book, at some point you will want to put it down and go into the woods and collect berries. Written factually and without food prejudice, this book has many surprises.

Fast food has hastened the mailing of our landscape, widened the chasm between rich and poor, fueled and epidemic of obesity, and propelled American cultural imperialism abroad. That's a lengthy list of charges, but Eric Schlosser makes them stick with an artful mix of first-rate reportage, wry wit, and careful reasoning. Schlosser's myth-shattering survey stretches from California's subdivisions, where the business was born, to the industrial corridor along the New Jersey Turnpike, where many of fast food's flavors are concocted. Along the way, he unearths a trove of fascinating, unsettling truths—from the unholy alliance between fast food and Hollywood to the seismic changes the industry has wrought in food production, popular culture, and even real estate. An avalanche of facts and observations...A fine piece of muckraking, alarming without being an alarmist...Schlosser makes it hard to go on eating fast food in blissful ignorance.