

University of California Irvine

Real Food Series 2009 Fair Food Movie Screening and Discussion

Thursday, April 16, 2009

Rowland Hall Room 101

Movie Screening and Discussion Notes
 Compiled by the [Real Food Challenge at UC Irvine](#)

Question	Thoughts/Visions/Ideas/Answers	Next Steps
<p>What should we eat toward a more "fair" food system?</p>	<p>Organic is not necessarily fair. There is internal migration increased by NAFTA. US subsidies drive the invisibility of producers. Bad conditions are not limited to Mexico (slaves in US; domestic workers rights)</p>	<p>Be cautious of produce information and be aware of labels. Research third-party certifications such as "Rainforest Alliance Certified", "Domestic Fair Trade Certified", "Fair Trade Certified". Be aware of your local, native agriculture. What grows and doesn't grow locally?</p>
<p>How can we hold agri-business accountable?</p>	<p>Consumers drive the demand.</p>	<p>Consume fair food products; build awareness through alliances with Real Food Challenge, Coalition of Immokalee Workeres, United Farm Workers, Student/Farmerworker Alliance; consider the creation of a Global Fair Trade Union</p>
<p>Are there other projects happening in Grarero?</p>	<p>Other projects would be good. Response question: will they be able to survive from other programs, fair-trade and non-fair-trade?</p>	
<p>What's it like to deal with big agribusiness stakeholders?</p>	<p>Buyers, mostly men, think they are doing a good thing by offering jobs to farmworkers. Some simply don't know their effects to other stakeholders in the food system; they leave it to other food distributors. "A tractor doesn't tell them how to farm" - there is a backwards/racist mentality</p> <p>Agribusiness stakeholders' drive is money.</p> <p>Thailand buyer mentality of workers' conditions - "In Thailand, they would sleep on the ground anyway" - disregard of the law</p>	<p>Create more "food-borne illness" transparency.</p> <p>Create incentives to agribusiness stakedholders for a profitable and just market</p>

Why Grarero to film? Are there other similar situations happening?	Grarero is one of the poorest states. The networks within the state created the film.	
Should we be focusing on awareness of consumers or producers?	Both. Understand out priviledges and start with our own networks and resources to expand.	
Are there US child indentured cases?	Yes; in the Central Valley, there are cases with children less than 18 years or age.	
Are children required to go to school in Mexico?	Children are supposed to go to school, but the policy is not enacted and enforced well.	
Are there migrant farmers in Orange County?	Unknown of exact numbers.	
Are farmers required to report chemical use abroad?	There are hardly any regulations; the US has stricter laws for domestic use, but not abroad	
How do we ask farmers about their social responsibility?		Visit farms and farm field-days; ask farmers (1) how large their farm is and (2) if they are familiar with fair trade.