



## Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture)

By Marion Nestle

Download now

Read Online →

### Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle

Food safety is a matter of intense public concern, and for good reason. Millions of annual cases of food "poisonings" raise alarm not only about the food served in restaurants and fast-food outlets but also about foods bought in supermarkets. The introduction of genetically modified foods—immediately dubbed "Frankenfoods"—only adds to the general sense of unease. Finally, the events of September 11, 2001, heightened fears by exposing the vulnerability of food and water supplies to attacks by bioterrorists. How concerned should we be about such problems? Who is responsible for preventing them? Who benefits from ignoring them? Who decides?

Marion Nestle, author of the critically acclaimed *Food Politics*, argues that ensuring safe food involves more than washing hands or cooking food to higher temperatures. It involves politics. When it comes to food safety, billions of dollars are at stake, and industry, government, and consumers collide over issues of values, economics, and political power—and not always in the public interest. Although the debates may appear to be about science, Nestle maintains that they really are about control: Who decides when a food is safe?

She demonstrates how powerful food industries oppose safety regulations, deny accountability, and blame consumers when something goes wrong, and how century-old laws for ensuring food safety no longer protect our food supply. Accessible, informed, and even-handed, *Safe Food* is for anyone who cares how food is produced and wants to know more about the real issues underlying today's headlines.

↓ [Download Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety \(California ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety \(Californ ...pdf](#)



# Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture)

By Marion Nestle

**Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture)** By Marion Nestle

Food safety is a matter of intense public concern, and for good reason. Millions of annual cases of food "poisonings" raise alarm not only about the food served in restaurants and fast-food outlets but also about foods bought in supermarkets. The introduction of genetically modified foods—immediately dubbed "Frankenfoods"—only adds to the general sense of unease. Finally, the events of September 11, 2001, heightened fears by exposing the vulnerability of food and water supplies to attacks by bioterrorists. How concerned should we be about such problems? Who is responsible for preventing them? Who benefits from ignoring them? Who decides?

Marion Nestle, author of the critically acclaimed *Food Politics*, argues that ensuring safe food involves more than washing hands or cooking food to higher temperatures. It involves politics. When it comes to food safety, billions of dollars are at stake, and industry, government, and consumers collide over issues of values, economics, and political power—and not always in the public interest. Although the debates may appear to be about science, Nestle maintains that they really are about control: Who decides when a food is safe?

She demonstrates how powerful food industries oppose safety regulations, deny accountability, and blame consumers when something goes wrong, and how century-old laws for ensuring food safety no longer protect our food supply. Accessible, informed, and even-handed, *Safe Food* is for anyone who cares how food is produced and wants to know more about the real issues underlying today's headlines.

**Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture)** By Marion Nestle  
**Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #150518 in Books
- Published on: 2010-06-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.00" w x 6.00" l, 1.42 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 408 pages

 [Download Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety \(California ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety \(Californ ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online **Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture)** By Marion Nestle

---

### Editorial Review

From The New England Journal of Medicine

"Food safety is political." So claims the title of the introduction to Marion Nestle's book *Safe Food*, and this assertion is solidly confirmed in the pages that follow. In her instructive monograph, Nestle exposes the political workings of the system that supposedly guarantees the safety of our food. The operation of this system is unfamiliar to many, but Nestle's well-researched and carefully documented arguments convince me that the topic should be of concern to anyone who eats. Most Americans believe that the United States has the safest food supply in the world. But is this belief justified? Does the public know what the government does and does not do regarding food inspection? How many people believe that their ground sirloin is tested for *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, their chicken for campylobacter, and their cold cuts for listeria? How many know whether their taco shells are made from transgenic corn? Do people assume that the package label reflects this information? And most important, do they know who decides what is done to ensure food safety and why? The answers to these questions are surprisingly predictable when one considers the workings of other regulatory systems in our society. In *Safe Food*, we learn of food producers that place the interests of stockholders above those of the public, byzantine government agencies that work at cross-purposes, the flow of personnel between government and industry that confuses the goals of the watchdog with those of the watched, and a spectrum of citizens' groups that engage in activities ranging from responsible public advocacy to street theatrics and "biovandalism." In essence, all the troubling problems of the military-industrial complex seem also to be manifested in our food-production system. *Safe Food* addresses all these elements in two major sections and a conclusion that roughly correspond with the three Bs in the book's subtitle. Part one, "Resisting Food Safety," includes an account of the government agencies concerned with food safety -- there are no fewer than 12 -- and their sometimes inexplicable regulatory responsibilities. For example, the reader learns that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) oversees the production of hot dogs in pastry dough, whereas the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates hot dogs in rolls. Beef broth and dehydrated chicken soup are regulated by the USDA, but chicken broth and dehydrated beef soup are regulated by the FDA. After this look at the regulatory side of the process, Nestle turns to a discussion of food producers' historical resistance to regulation. Since 1906, one role of USDA meat inspectors has been to exclude diseased animals from the food supply. The suggestion to refocus oversight on specific pathogens by instituting Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems at critical points in food production has been repeatedly deferred by political and legal actions since the early 1980s. For example, from 1971 until the mid-1990s, the meat industry argued successfully that foodborne pathogens such as *E. coli* O157:H7 are inherent components of raw meat and therefore not "adulterants" that are subject to regulation. Part two of the book recounts the efforts of biotechnology firms to introduce genetically modified foods onto the farm and into the food supply. This introduction was accomplished with the complicity of government agencies but largely without the knowledge or consent of the public. Industry aggressively promotes genetically engineered foods as the solution to world hunger. But what evidence supports this claim? And what of the hidden dangers of so-called Frankenfoods to our health and economy that some outspoken critics predict? Nestle stresses two major themes here: the exploitation of science-based justifications for points of view on either side of the question, and the notion that public opinion in these matters is often based on values, a sense of dread, and a healthy distrust of institutions, rather than on scientific principles. The conclusion, which deals with bioterrorism, may be the weakest part of the book. Here the author uses examples of novel foodborne diseases, such as mad cow disease, to show how authorities might react to a deliberate contamination of the food supply. A few minor inaccuracies in the argument are more annoying than substantive, but the premise itself is a bit of a stretch. The last major revolution in food safety in this country followed the publication of Upton Sinclair's 1906 fictional expose, *The Jungle*. Remarkably, our system for

securing the food supply has grown in size and complexity but only marginally in scope since then. Safe Food will probably not generate the public uproar that Sinclair's book did, but it expresses in scholarly terms the compelling reasons for undertaking another reorganization of the system. An advocate holding a passionate and transparent point of view, Nestle concludes her book with a list of specific suggestions for the food industry, the federal government, and the public. As citizens, consumers, and patient advocates, physicians would be wise to be informed about these issues and their possible solutions. *N. Cary Engleberg, M.D.*

Copyright © 2003 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved. The New England Journal of Medicine is a registered trademark of the MMS.

## Review

"Nestle clearly explains the intersection between policy, politics, and the plate, delivering practical advice on every corner of the grocery store."

(*Christian Science Monitor* 2010-08-23)

## From the Inside Flap

"Marion Nestle's compelling and accessible book explains what the industrialization of the food supply in this country has done to both the taste and safety of the foods we eat."—Alice Waters

"Marion Nestle has emerged as one of the sanest, most knowledgeable, and independent voices in the current debate over the health and safety of the American food system. All of us who eat should count ourselves lucky to have this indispensable book."—Michael Pollan, author of *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World*

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Curtis Monahan:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your spare time? Or are you busy person? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question due to the fact just their can do that. It said that about guide. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on guardería until university need that Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) to read.

#### **Charles Baker:**

The actual book Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading the book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

**Tamela Campbell:**

In this time globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended for you is Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) this publication consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. This book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The words styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book appropriate all of you.

**John Fouts:**

As a scholar exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just tiny students that has reading's soul or real their leisure activity. They just do what the professor want, like asked to the library. They go to there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pics on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) can make you truly feel more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety  
(California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle  
#H97D5IXVO64**

## **Read Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle for online ebook**

Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle books to read online.

### **Online Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle ebook PDF download**

**Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle Doc**

**Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle Mobipocket**

**Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety (California Studies in Food and Culture) By Marion Nestle EPub**