America’s regulation of food policy from victim and consumer advocate perspectives

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STOP Foodborne Illness

YOUR VOICE FOR SAFE FOOD

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
1906: Upton Sinclair exposed to the world how unsanitary working conditions in the meat industry put consumers at risk.
1993

*E. coli* outbreak in ground beef

- Fast Food Hamburgers
- Sickened >650 people in several states
- Alarming number of hospitalizations
- Many children developed HUS
- Killed 4 children
STOP Foodborne Illness is a leading national nonprofit public health organization dedicated to the prevention of illness and death from foodborne pathogens by:

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STOP Foodborne Illness

- Advocating for sound public policy,
- Building public awareness,
- Assisting those impacted by foodborne illness.
“No product, no industry, no job is more important than the life of a human being - especially that of a young child.”

DARIN DETWILER testimony before USDA officials and U.S. Senators
Safe Handling Instructions

This product was prepared from inspected and passed meat and/or poultry. Some food products may contain bacteria that could cause illness if the product is mishandled or cooked improperly. For your protection, follow these safe handling instructions.

- Keep refrigerated or frozen.
- Thaw in refrigerator or microwave.
- Keep raw meat and poultry separate from other foods. Wash working surfaces (including cutting boards), utensils, and hands after touching raw meat or poultry.
- Cook thoroughly.
- Keep hot foods hot. Refrigerate leftovers immediately or discard.
Reports of Foodborne Pathogens per year of Illness

- Salmonella
- E. coli
- Shigella
- Listeria

Year categories: 1980's, 1990's, 2000's.
1998

*E. coli* outbreak in Apple Juice:
- sickened >70 people in several states
- 14 children developed HUS
- killed a 16-month-old girl

**First** U.S. federal criminal conviction in a large-scale food-poisoning outbreak
2003
Hepatitis from Mexican Onions
• 3 died,
• 600 ill in 3 states
2006

*E. coli* in Spinach

- 5 died,
- 200 ill in 26 States
2006-2007
Salmonella in Peanuts

- Company shipped peanut butter contaminated with *Salmonella*
- Nation-wide outbreak
- Sickened over 700
- In 2015 company agreed to plead guilty and pay $11.2 million
2008

*Salmonella* – Mexican Jalapenos

- 1,440 ill in 43 states
2008- 2009

*Salmonella*

in peanuts

- 9 died,
- 714 ill in 47 States

- 98 federal felony charges - introducing adulterated food into interstate commerce, “with the intent to defraud or mislead”
2010
Eggs *Salmonella* in eggs
1,939 confirmed ill (estimates > 62,000)
2011

Listeria outbreak tied to Cantaloupes

- 147 ill in 28 states
- 34 died
1955
Arsenic-tainted Milk Powder in Japan

- Arsenic accidentally mixed into preservative which was then added to milk powder
- > 13,400 illnesses
- > 100 deaths
- Company’s head of factory production - three years in jail
1981
Toxic oil syndrome in Spain

- Colza oil intended for industrial rather than food use
- About 25,000 affected
- Over 600 people died
1998
Mustard Oil Contamination
New Delhi, India

- Mustard oil (for cooking) mixed with a poisonous Mexican poppy seed oil
- ~ 3,000 people hospitalized
- 60 deaths
2008

Melamine in Milk - China

- Melamine added to powdered milk and baby formula produced by state-owned dairy company
- 300,000 illnesses
- 54,000 babies hospitalized
- Six babies died due to kidney damage
China food scandal spreads, drags in Starbucks, Burger King and McNuggets in Japan

BY ADAM KHURJAN

British supermarkets 'must take German food off the shelves': Expert's warning as 11 UK victims diagnosed with mutant E.coli

By VANESSA ALLEN FOR THE DAILY MAIL
UPDATED: 15:32 GMT, 4 June 2011

- More than 1,800 ill as outbreak spreads across EU
- WHO says E.coli bug is 'super-toxic' mutant strain
- E.coli cases in 10 European countries and the U.S.
When does a multi-state outbreak become a pandemic?
British supermarkets 'must take German food off the shelves': Expert's warning as 11 UK victims diagnosed with mutant E.coli

WHERE IT HAS STRUCK

- UNITED STATES: 2 infected
- UNITED KINGDOM: 11 infected, 3 with HUS
- NETHERLANDS: 8 infected, 4 with HUS
- DENMARK: 17 infected, 7 with HUS
- SWEDEN: 43 infected, 15 with HUS, 1 death
- NORWAY: 1 infected
- RUSSIA: has banned imports of vegetables from all EU countries
- CZECH REPUBLIC: 1 infected
- AUSTRIA: 2 infected
- SWITZERLAND: 2 infected
- FRANCE: 6 infected
- GERMANY: 1,733 infected, 520 with HUS, 18 deaths

Outbreak centre
- Suspected cases
- Other countries affected
- Cases of E.coli
- Cases of haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)

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“The things described by Mr. Sinclair happened yesterday, are happening today, and will happen tomorrow, and the next day, until some Hercules comes to cleanse the filthy stable.”