Chapter 2

Should Fast Food Be Regulated?

America’s propensity for wolfing down fast food has caused some to argue that the industry should be strictly regulated; others claim to do so would infringe on Americans’ right to eat what they like.
Fast-Food Restaurants Should Be Banned in Certain Areas

Peter Milosheff

In the following viewpoint Peter Milosheff explains why fast-food restaurants should be banned near schools. He draws on a study conducted by the University of California and Columbia University that showed students who go to school within 0.1 miles of a fast-food restaurant are more likely to be obese. Because fast food tastes good to kids, and because it tends to be advertised in connection with fun toys and popular movie characters, Milosheff asserts that placing fast-food restaurants near schools is unfair; children are too vulnerable to be highly exposed to them. Milosheff and others believe that banning fast-food restaurants near schools can reduce childhood obesity and later cases of cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, and other health problems.