

What to Buy? On the Complexity of Being a Critical Consumer - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

What to Buy? On the Complexity of Being a Critical Consumer

This article criticises the notion that critical/political/ethical consumerism can solve issues related to sustainability and food production. It does this by analysing the complexity of the concept of sustainability as related to food choices. The current trend of pursuing a sustainable food production through critical purchase decisions rather than through regulation is shown to be problematic, as shopping for a more sustainable food system might be much harder than initially believed due to the conflicting values and inherent trade-offs entailed in the different notions of sustainability. Thus, critical consumerism may give way to false expectations as the complexity of choices transpires. One obvious way out is to let decisions regarding food choices be made earlier in the food production chain as well as through new modes of governance engaging members of civil society in their capacity as citizens rather than consumers. This entails complementing society's reliance on critical consumerism with a citizen-oriented and political process in support of making more sustainable food choices.

General information

State: Published

Organisations: Department of Management Engineering, Quantitative Sustainability Assessment, University of Copenhagen

Authors: Gjerris, M. (Ekstern), Saxe, H. (Intern), Gamborg, C. (Ekstern)

Pages: 81-102

Publication date: 2016

Main Research Area: Technical/natural sciences

Publication information

Journal: Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics

Volume: 29

Issue number: 1

ISSN (Print): 1187-7863

Ratings:

BFI (2017): BFI-level 1

Web of Science (2017): Indexed Yes

BFI (2016): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2016): SJR 0.605 SNIP 0.839 CiteScore 1.37

Web of Science (2016): Indexed yes

BFI (2015): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2015): SJR 0.497 SNIP 0.716 CiteScore 1.07

BFI (2014): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2014): SJR 0.485 SNIP 0.745 CiteScore 1.06

BFI (2013): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2013): SJR 0.475 SNIP 0.928 CiteScore 1.14

BFI (2012): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2012): SJR 0.492 SNIP 1.216 CiteScore 1

BFI (2011): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2011): SJR 0.787 SNIP 1.337 CiteScore 1.14

BFI (2010): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2010): SJR 0.386 SNIP 0.804

BFI (2009): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2009): SJR 0.454 SNIP 1.045

BFI (2008): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2008): SJR 0.533 SNIP 1.382

Scopus rating (2007): SJR 0.427 SNIP 0.876

Scopus rating (2006): SJR 0.405 SNIP 1.067

Scopus rating (2005): SJR 0.517 SNIP 0.922

Scopus rating (2004): SJR 0.46 SNIP 0.825

Scopus rating (2003): SJR 0.333 SNIP 0.81

Scopus rating (2002): SJR 0.334 SNIP 0.807

Scopus rating (2001): SJR 0.166 SNIP 0.649

Scopus rating (2000): SJR 0.117 SNIP 0.318

Scopus rating (1999): SJR 0.172 SNIP 0.634

Original language: English

Climate change, Food production, Critical/political/ethical consumerism, Sustainability

DOIs:

10.1007/s10806-015-9591-6

Source: PublicationPreSubmission

Source-ID: 119084424

Publication: Research - peer-review › Journal article – Annual report year: 2015