

MODULE 5 Assignment – Worth 50 points

Name: _____

Remember the one point = one quality sentence rule.

Power of Multi-National Corporations (18 total points)

Part A. Food Inc. (12 points)

As you watch the Food Inc. documentary, think about and make note of potential issues caused by the actions of large companies (McDonalds, Monsanto, and Poultry Companies (Smithfield and Perdue). Fill out the following chart for each one.

McDonalds

Innovative/Good Business Decision or Action	Unintended Consequence from a Decision or Action	Perhaps Unethical Actions	Perhaps Illegal Actions

Monsanto

Innovative/Good Business Decision or Action	Unintended Consequence from a Decision or Action	Perhaps Unethical Actions	Perhaps Illegal Actions

Smithfield/Perdue

Innovative/Good Business Decision or Action	Unintended Consequence from a Decision or Action	Perhaps Unethical Actions	Perhaps Illegal Actions

Other Food Inc. Issues (6 points) Food Inc. also makes some other points including the Food Libel Laws prevent people from talking about food, the regulatory agencies are greatly influenced/controlled by people from the Food Industry, the Food Industry wants to control the information we have about what is in our food, and Even if you choose not to eat at a Fast Food Restaurant you are still buying food at a grocery store that was produced by the same system.

Pick the issue that concerns you the most. Explain why and suggest a way for us as individuals to work around that issue.

B. Environmental Laws and Love Canal. (20 points)

Most of the environmental laws were passed in the 1970s. One reason for this was the discovery of many rivers, lands, and other sites contaminated by toxic waste. I ask you to look at a lot of clips about Love Canal. Some are from the 1970s, some tell the history, and some are some recent sites.

First, as you watch the first clips, I want you to think about which entities acted unethically? Illegally? Explain why you think that way. Fill out the following information.

Entity and Action	Unethical Actions? Why do you believe so?	Illegal Actions? Why do you believe so?	Good Business Decision. Why do you believe so?
Hooker Chemical			
NY Board of Education			
Home Builders who built home around toxic pit			
Federal Government			

Of all the companies/entities, who acted the most unethically? Why do you believe that?

Role of Regulations and Ethical Business Conduct (12 points)

Generally when there is a crisis, lawmakers do what they have power to do – pass a law or adopt a regulation. However, through time, the amount of regulations ebbs and flows. If you look at the Powerpoints provided on the various “ethics” laws or laws that impact business conduct, you’ll see that there were a lot of regulations which occurred in the 1960s/70s. Then when President Reagan was elected in the 1980s, we entered a major period of deregulation. During the 1990s, we had a few additional laws passed but nothing like the period of time in the 1970s. Currently, we are again in a period of time of de-regulation.

What role do you believe regulations play in steering the behavior of business? Explain. If you believe they play a role, explain. Pick an industry for which regulations are very important and discuss.

If you believe regulations do not steer ethical business conduct, then explain your point of view. What then steers ethical behavior? Explain.

Remember to provide a good discussion as this part is worth 12 points.