

1. Full citation.

Vogel, David. *The Politics of Precaution : Regulating Health, Safety, and Environmental Risks in Europe and the United States*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012. Ebook Library. Web. 23 Jan. 2013.

2. Where did/does the author work, what else has s/he written about, and what are her/his credentials? (This question only has to be answered once for Vogel.)

David Vogel is a professor at the University of California, Berkeley in the school of business. He is the Solomon P. Lee Chair in Business Ethics. He has his PhD of Politics from Princeton University. His research areas are in consumer and environmental regulation in Europe and United States, corporate social responsibility in global economy, food safety, biodiversity and biosafety. He has published writings on European food safety, transatlantic regulatory cooperation, trade and environment in a global economy, and Jewish environmental ethics.

3. What are the topics of the text?

The topics of the text are regulations in the European Union compared to the United States, trade disputes, and risk society verses precautionary principles.

4. What is the main argument of the text?

The main argument of the text is that the United States began with strict environmental regulations, however in the 1980's the European Union developed stronger regulations and the United States have become more relaxed. Since this role reversal the European Union has become a world super power.

5. Describe at least three ways that the argument is supported.

The first way the argument is supported is the shift from United States regulations to European strict regulations. Europe created the strongest regulations in 2006, and America made strongest regulations in 1976 and hasn't continued since. Secondly, European Union has developed a precautionary principle. The third supporting evidence is that if a country complies with European Union regulations than they can be marketed anywhere in the world.

6. What three quotes capture the message of the text?

"In 2006, the EU significantly strengthened and broadened its health and environmental regulations for chemicals; the last comprehensive statutory reform of American chemical regulation took place in 1976."
(2)

"Formerly, it was Europeans who often accused Americans of acting too hastily to impose highly stringent risk regulations that lacked adequate scientific justification. More recently, American officials and firms have criticized many of the more stringent risk regulations adopted by the EU in identical terms." (10)

"The claim that there has been a temporal change in European and American regulatory stringency is explicitly challenged by Jonathan Weiner, but his analysis also includes a number of policies that fall outside the scope of my analysis, including speed limits, teenage consumption of alcohol and tobacco, choking hazards embedding in food, gun ownership, restraints on potentially violent persons, and terrorism." (18)

7. What three questions about environmental risk and precaution does this article leave you with?

Carrie Ann Drexel
Governing Environmental Risk
01/29/13

Why did the United States stop their regulations and become more relaxed in their policies?

Does compulsory regulation really help with environmental risk, or would voluntary change in business and private use help with environmental risk faster?

Is the health and happiness of the European Union been helped with the compulsory regulations? Or is the United States path towards less compulsory regulation helped people achieve true pursuit of happiness and health.

8. What three points, details or references from the text did you follow up on to advance your perspective on environmental risk and precaution? (Provide citations, with a brief explanation of what you learned. One of these should be fully annotated, as your second required reading for each week.)

I wanted to follow up on the idea of compulsory regulation. Which countries have put compulsory regulation in place and how has this affected their citizens. Also, how quickly does it take other countries to observe the effects of compulsory regulation and make similar compulsory regulations. Thirdly, how is the globalization has shown how the countries can only trade with similar regulations, so would strict regulations really help in the long run with global trading. I am going to look into the study about Danish ban on trans-fatty acids, and how it has affected the relationship between the United States and European Union.

Bech-Larsen, Tino, and Jessica Aschemann-Witzel. "A Macromarketing Perspective on Food Safety Regulation: The Danish Ban on Trans-fatty Acids." *Macromarketing* 10 (2012): 208-17. Web.