

# Chipotle FOOD WITH INTEGRITY?

## END SWEATSHOPS IN THE FIELDS!

Farmworkers labor from dawn to dusk for sub-poverty wages without the right to overtime pay, the right to organize, or benefits of any kind. Pickers for Florida-based tomato companies earn 40-50 cents for every 32-lb. bucket of tomatoes that they pick—a wage rate which has not changed significantly since 1978. At this rate, a farmworker must pick nearly 2½ tons of tomatoes just to earn minimum wage for a typical 10-hour day. In the most extreme cases, workers endure situations of modern-day slavery.



These sweatshop conditions result from the high-volume, low-cost purchasing practices of large corporate buyers like Chipotle, which was until recently part of the McDonald's family. Chipotle has been able to grow and prosper through access to McDonald's deep pockets and vast supply chain. By leveraging its purchasing power to demand the cheapest possible price for tomatoes, Chipotle directly contributes to a downward pressure on farmworker wages and working conditions.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), an organization of mainly Mexican, Guatemalan and Haitian farmworkers, has been organizing for over a decade to end sweatshops in Florida's fields. After establishing a precedent-setting agreement with Taco Bell to directly improve farmworker wages and working conditions in Taco Bell's tomato supply chain, the CIW called on McDonald's and Chipotle to do the same.

Instead, McDonald's has taken a path which threatens to undermine the wage gains won by farmworkers and push workers back away from the table where decisions are made that affect their lives.



Chipotle, however, recognizes that its volume purchasing of vegetables and meat places it in a unique position to influence the conditions under which its ingredients are produced and raised. The company's manifesto, entitled "Food With Integrity," discusses its mission to "revolutionize the way America grows and gathers its food" by "working back along the food chain" beyond distributors to encourage healthy production of vegetables and humane raising of animals by farmers supplying Chipotle. But it says nothing about the conditions under which farmworkers labor to harvest Chipotle's produce.

If Chipotle is sincere about "Food with Integrity," it must ensure "Work with Dignity" for the farmworkers in its supply chain:

a voice in the protection of their own rights	a code of conduct which guarantees universal human rights standards in the fields	a fair price for tomatoes which will go toward a fair wage
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**JOIN CIW IN CALLING ON CHIPOTLE TO MEET THESE DEMANDS AND JOIN IN EXTENDING THE PRECEDENTS OF THE TACO BELL AGREEMENT**

Write Chipotle CEO Steve Eells at  
1543 Wazee St., Ste. 200, Denver CO 80202

For more information go to [www.ciw-online.org](http://www.ciw-online.org) or email us at [workers@ciw-online.org](mailto:workers@ciw-online.org).