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No matter where you go, you are going to find junk food. Most of us wouldn't complain, after all, what is there to complain about? There is actually a lot to complain about if we pay attention to what we are putting in our mouths. Luckily, some states do care about the welfare of students and what they eat. These states are beginning to ask a very important question, "Should we ban junk food in schools?" When asked, most people would say yes and they are right. Junk food is delicious, but what it does to students is both unforgivable and unacceptable. Statistics show that of every 3 students, 1 will grow up to become diabetic. We can prevent this and all the problems it causes. This includes the food industry, health care, and the economy. Food industries try to target younger groups of people to get them hooked to their products as soon as possible.

Going more into detail, food companies only ever have 1 thing in their minds, which is money. They want money so that they can further their own businesses. According to Medical Daily.com, the article states "In low-income communities, fast food is easy to access and affordable, but healthy food is inaccessible and very expensive." Rather clever, but this heavily affects the health of the next generation. No one in a low-income community is going to eat healthy if it is more expensive than junk food. Food industries even make their own product as desirable as possible in order to get students addicted to their products. Specifically evidence for this can be found in the same article, which says "Puffy snacks, for example, melt very

quickly in your mouth, so you desire another bag.” Food companies are now receiving a lot of money from customers that have become addicted to their product. They can use the money to make even more junk food and the cycle continues. Something else that big food companies do, whether by accident or not, is that they also cause health issues for many of the people that are addicted to junk food.

Even more important are the health issues junk food causes, junk food has always caused problems, but until 1970, it wasn't so noticeable. An infographic, properly named “Norton Center Infographic,” shows statistics of what junk food is doing to the next generation of children. On the infographic, it says, “Since 1970, childhood obesity rates have increased by 500%.” Those is a giant number. Obesity only seems to be getting worse and worse over time and the numbers do not seem ready to stop rising. On the same infographic, it is argued that “Today’s children will be the first generation since The Great Depression to have a shorter lifespan than their parents.” The Great Depression was from 1929-1939. That was over 70 years ago. If the life span for children is getting shorter, what’s keeping it from getting worse? There is no good reason to not ban food if it is the reason children are expected to die sooner than their parents. It’s not possible to argue that any version is better than to give children the chance to live longer. Food companies and health care are part of something much bigger, the economy.

Money makes the world go round. It truly does. Without economy, there’s no way to give something value. There can be no society without economy, one cannot exist without the other. So what happens if one begins to crumble? It all falls down. That is exactly what junk food is doing. According to Source C, “Children treated for obesity are 300% more expensive for our healthcare system than kids of a healthy weight.” That is 3 times as much. Unfortunately,

sometimes schools don't really have a choice, as argued in Source E. "Lucrative contracts with soft drink or candy manufacturers have often paid for activities that financially strapped districts could not afford." If these districts do so, it is still unacceptable, but rather understandable. They don't really have a choice and food companies take advantage of that. If districts choose not to sign the contract, they slowly but surely fall apart and students are left without an education. All the same, it is extremely devious for food companies to do.

In the end, the future of children doesn't lay in the hand of the states or the food companies, but in our hands. The only reason any of these problems surfaces is because we let them. Sure, the foundation society was built on is crumbling, but we can fix it with our tools. It will all be worth it, because this is the future, and whether the food industry, health issues, or the economy that is chipping away at the foundation, the future is always worth fighting for.