Marion Nestle is a consumer advocate, nutritionist, award-winning author, and academic who specializes in the politics of food and dietary choice. Her research examines scientific, economic, and social influences on food choice and obesity, with an emphasis on the influence of food industry marketing. Her books explore issues like the effects of food production on dietary intake, food safety, and access to food and nutrition.


Dr. Nestle’s book, *What to Eat* was named as one of Amazon’s top ten books of 2006 and a “Must Read” by *Eating Well* magazine; it also won the Better Life Award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the James Beard Foundation book award for best food reference in 2007. She has also written; *Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine*, a book about food safety, and *Feed Your Pet Right*, co-authored with Malden Nesheim. *Why Calories Count: from Science to Politics*, also with Malden Nesheim, won book of the year from the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP) in 2012. Her most recent book, *Eat, Drink, Vote: An Illustrated Guide to Food Politics* also won an IACP book award in 2014.

She appears frequently in documentary films, among them *SuperSize Me!* in 2004, *A Place at the Table* (2013), and *Fed Up* (2014).

She is currently working on a book about how to advocate for healthier food and food systems, titled *Soda Politics: Taking on Big Soda (and Winning)* (Oxford University Press.). Marion Nestle is Paulette Goddard Professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health (the department

“[Nestle] challenges us to consider the political environment in which the science of food and nutrition exists.”
—The New England Journal of Medicine
she chaired from 1988-2003) and Professor of Sociology at New York University. She also holds an appointment as visiting professor in the Cornell Division of Nutritional Sciences. She was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from Transylvania University in Kentucky in 2012. Her degrees include a Ph.D. in molecular biology and an M.P.H. in public health nutrition, both from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Nestle has received many awards and honors, among them the Bard College Prison Initiative’s John Dewey Award for Distinguished Public Service (2010), the National Public Health Hero award from the University of California Berkeley School Of Public Health (2011), the James Beard Foundation Leadership Award (2013), and the Innovator of the Year Award from the United States Healthful Food Council (2014).

Dr. Nestle’s first faculty position was in the Department of Biology at Brandeis University. From 1976-86 she was Associate Dean of the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine, where she taught nutrition to medical students, residents, and practicing physicians, and directed a nutrition education center sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

From 1986-88, she was senior nutrition policy advisor in the Department of Health and Human Services and managing editor of the 1988 Surgeon General’s Report on Nutrition and Health. She has been a member of the FDA Food Advisory Committee and Science Board, the USDA/DHHS Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, and American Cancer Society committees that issue dietary guidelines for cancer prevention. Her research focuses on how science and society influence dietary advice and practice.

From 2008 to 2013, she wrote the monthly “Food Matters” column for the San Francisco Chronicle. She blogs daily (almost) at www.foodpolitics.com. She can be followed on her Twitter account @marionnestle, which TIME magazine named as one of the top 140 most influential, and one of the top 10 in health and science, and which has more than 100,000 followers.

“Food politics underlie all politics in the United States. There is no industry more important to Americans, more fundamentally linked to our well-being and the future well-being of our children. Nestle reveals how corporate control of the nation’s food system limits our choices and threatens our health.”

—Eric Schlosser