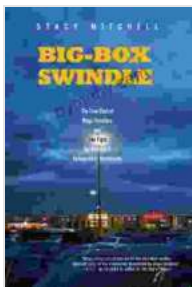


The True Cost of Mega Retailers and the Fight for America's Independent Businesses

Mega retailers are a growing threat to independent businesses in America. These big box stores often offer lower prices than their smaller competitors, and they can afford to stay open later and on weekends. This makes it difficult for independent businesses to compete, and many have been forced to close their doors.

The closure of independent businesses has a devastating impact on communities. These businesses are often the heart of their communities, and they provide jobs, tax revenue, and a sense of place. When they close, communities suffer.

There are a number of things that can be done to fight the threat of mega retailers. One is to support independent businesses by shopping at them whenever possible. Another is to get involved in your community and support organizations that are working to promote independent businesses. Finally, you can contact your elected officials and let them know that you support policies that help independent businesses.



Big-Box Swindle: The True Cost of Mega-Retailers and the Fight for America's Independent Businesses

by Stacy Mitchell

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3567 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled



The fight for independent businesses is a fight for the heart of our communities. We must all do our part to ensure that these businesses can continue to thrive.

Mega retailers have a number of advantages over independent businesses. They can buy in bulk, which gives them lower prices. They can also afford to stay open later and on weekends, which makes it difficult for independent businesses to compete.

These advantages have led to the closure of many independent businesses. In the past decade, the number of independent retailers in the United States has declined by 20%. This decline has been particularly pronounced in rural areas, where mega retailers have often replaced the local hardware store, grocery store, and pharmacy.

The closure of independent businesses has a number of negative consequences for communities.

- **Loss of jobs:** Independent businesses are a major source of jobs in communities. When these businesses close, jobs are lost.
- **Loss of tax revenue:** Independent businesses pay taxes that support local governments. When these businesses close, tax revenue is lost.
- **Loss of a sense of place:** Independent businesses are often the heart of their communities. They provide a place for people to gather,

socialize, and shop. When these businesses close, communities lose a sense of place.

There are a number of things that can be done to fight the threat of mega retailers.

- **Support independent businesses:** One of the best ways to fight the threat of mega retailers is to support independent businesses. Shop at them whenever possible, and tell your friends and family about them.
- **Get involved in your community:** There are a number of organizations that are working to promote independent businesses. Get involved in these organizations and support their efforts.
- **Contact your elected officials:** Let your elected officials know that you support policies that help independent businesses. These policies could include tax breaks, zoning changes, and marketing assistance.

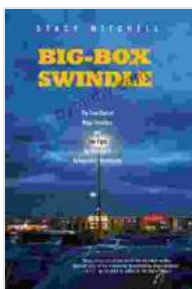
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Mega retailers are a threat to independent businesses in America. These big box stores often offer lower prices and can afford to stay open later and on weekends, which makes it difficult for independent businesses to compete. The closure of independent businesses has a devastating impact on communities, leading to the loss of jobs, tax revenue, and a sense of place.

There are a number of things that can be done to fight the threat of mega retailers. We can support independent businesses by shopping at them

whenever possible, get involved in our communities and support organizations that are working to promote independent businesses, and contact our elected officials and let them know that we support policies that help independent businesses.

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