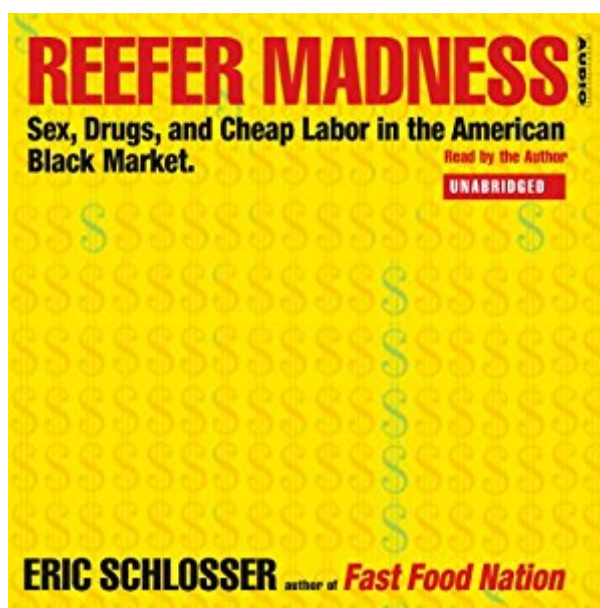


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# Reefer Madness: Sex, Drugs, And Cheap Labor In The American Black Market



## Synopsis

From the author of *Fast Food Nation*, Eric Schlosser's *Reefer Madness: and Other Tales from the American Underground* follows the money to uncover made the country rich: porn, pot and exploitation. In three linked essays, Eric Schlosser uncovers how dirty dealings and secret vices are part of a global black market on which we all depend. *Reefer Madness* traces the history of the contemporary 'war on drugs' from its origins in Reagan's social conservatism through to its profound impact on civil society, creating a justice system that punishes marijuana offences more harshly than rape and murder. *An Empire of the Obscene* tells the story of Reuben Sturman, the billionaire 'Walt Disney of porn' who most effectively exploited economies of scale to create a business that now saturates America and the world with graphic sexual imagery. *In the Strawberry Fields* shows how public demand for a soft red fruit is causing mass migration from Central America and changing California's political economy forever. 'An amazing secret history of America's favourite vices' *Independent* 'A shocking journey through the underside of the world's mightiest economy' *The Times* 'Schlosser tells us things we already suspect to be true, but don't dare think about' *Daily Telegraph* 'Superb ...mind-blowing ...quite simply the non-fiction book of the year' *The List* Eric Schlosser is an author and investigative journalist based in New York. His first book, *Fast Food Nation*, was a major international bestseller. His work has appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Rolling Stone* and the *Guardian*. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Although the author is gifted, this is a very light-weight sequel to *Fast Foot Nation* and the author's

next book on prisons is therefore already suspect. This could have been a great book--indeed it could have been three great books--but in the rush to publish a second book in order to profit from the justifiable applause for his first one, the editor and publisher and author have all failed. There are three articles here: the first is about the inconsistencies of the drug versus the murder laws, the number of people in jail for marijuana, and the social implications of all this; the second is on the underground economy of illegal workers and profiteering abusive corporations (McDonald's is especially evil in this depiction); and the third is about pornography but with a twist, focusing on how hotels and other major corporations are profiting. The book ends with a very short but thoughtful observation regarding the need to change the law and punishment so as to back away from life-ending punishments for individual behavior that is merely self-destructive or distasteful, and focus the heaviest punishments on those who commit economic crimes against society and entire sub-sections of society. In each of these three cases, there are other books that are better--Deep Cover by Michael Levine on the futility of drug enforcement and the corruption of Drug Enforcement Agency "suits

Like the numerous other reviewers on here have mentioned, this book is actually 3 completely different stories that look at 3 different underground or black market aspects of American society. The stories explore how and where money is exchanged when the deals are not above board so to speak. The first section deals with marijuana and it is a pretty interesting read. Facts are all referenced and opinions are sprinkled throughout without being overwhelmingly biased. I enjoyed the book, but I had anticipated it would be all about drugs and the drug trade, not about migrant workers and strawberries. Good book, but not what I had expected. Shame on me for looking at the title and thinking it was all about Reefer. You can't judge a book by its cover, and apparently you should not base expectations on a title either.

Great book with great insight - not my first time reading it but I bought it for some "GET THE IMMIGRANTS OUT" Trump enthusiasts who say that immigrants cost us money; when the reality is that they contribute to our GDP and are quite nice to have around!

Had to have it for college..... wouldn't recommend it. The book that is, of course I recommend college.

Another great book by Eric Schlosser.

This is a powerful expose but it lacked the punch that Fast Food Nation had. Drugs, immigrants and the adult biz are issues covered but I wanted to read much more of each. This was like an appetizer, I wanted a full course meal. There are great stories along with facts but this seemed like only 50% of energy was put forth. Nonetheless, this is essential if you want to know more about taboo topics. Schlosser is a talented writer and I will pick up his next book.

Keen observations of what shapes our economy. Pulls back the veil. Smart, intelligent and no spin.

Got it in a good condition. Started to read the book for class and its pretty interesting

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