Reading brief for “You want fries with that” by Richard Daynard (pp.296-301)

Context: Richard Daynard is a professor in a School of Law at Northeastern University. He is known for his work to establish legal responsibility of the tobacco industry. He currently serves as a chair of the tobacco products liability project, and editor in chief of the Tobacco Products litigation reporter. This essay was published in the May 2003 issue of the Northeastern University.

Summary: Position/Thesis: Can we really sue the fast food restaurants?

Claim 1: Food companies manipulate their costumer.

- Reason: By the 2000, the obesity percentage was 31 percents. An additional 34 percent of the population was overweight
  - Evidence: The companies accomplish this through a variety of misleading marketing ploys, and by buying off or manipulating those who are supposed to protect us-politicians, dietitians’ organizations, and school boards.
  - Evidence: Overweight and obese people are developing diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and other medical conditions in huge numbers.
  - Evidence: In 2000, premature deaths related to obesity were estimated roughly at 300,000.

Claim 2: The marketing scheme made by the Fast Food Industry.

- Reason: Deceptive health claims, and the rush to supersize everything.
  - Evidence: The extra sugars added and fats added to healthy potato, chicken, and fish dishes.
  - Evidence: our genetic makeup does not change that much in a few decades.

Claim 3: Benefits from food litigation.

- Reason: Cheap food would become healthier.
  - Evidence: There is no reason why the cheapest food should be the least nutritious.
Evidence: Food litigation has already produced media coverage, which has spotlighted the obesity epidemic.