Twitter Thread by American Economic Liberties Project



American Economic Liberties Project
@econliberties

The @Uber-@Postmates merger will ONLY benefit monopolistic pandemic profiteers focused on growing their power at the expense of restaurants, workers, and consumers.

2/ Both @Uber & @Postmates' business models are built on trapping restaurants & workers in a predatory payday loan cycle of dependence and destitution.

And both @Uber & @Postmates use the "Break it till you Make It" approach to the law.

3/ @Uber was a vanguard in the business of providing illegal taxi service and misclassifying workers as "contractors."

@Postmates pioneered the predatory practice of stealing menus and offering unauthorized delivery service from restaurants without their knowledge.

4/ Now, unauthorized deliveries are one of the apps' favorite bait-and-switch tactics for convincing restaurants to pay 30-60% commissions.

When COVID-19 shut down dining rooms & dozens of cities capped fees to help restaurants, both @Uber & @Postmates lobbied hard to stop them.

5/ @Postmates, in particular, was not subtle about breaking the laws.
https://t.co/IU8QQIiAVC

6/ Merging these two repeat offenders will only hurt struggling independent restaurants, more than 100k of which have closed permanently or long-term due to COVID-19.

7/ Meanwhile, @Postmates & @Uber are burning $$$, backed by deep-pocketed investors who are betting they can monopolize the market, cut wages & hike their already-enormous fees.

8/ In the Q1-Q3 of 2020, @Uber lost $5.7 billion.

And @Postmates lost $105 million in Q1 & Q2 of 2020.

Obviously, their business models have been successful…■

9/ It's time to recognize these eternally cash burning companies for what they really are: Silicon Valley slush funds to promote the abolition of labor rights & normalize the disruption of small biz out of existence.

10/ President-elect Biden's new antitrust chief should investigate whether the @Uber-@Postmates deal is corrupt and undo this illegal merger.

11/11 In the meantime, there are ways to ensure restaurants & communities can connect through new tech while preventing predatory practices by middlemen.

As @moetkacik explains in "Rescuing Restaurants," now more than ever, we must #ProtectOurRestaurants■https://t.co/AjDGkiJqEE