

## FILMS TO SPARK DIALOGUE ON IMMIGRATION

### Short (1 hour or less)

#### **Detained: The New Bedford Immigration Raid (30 minutes)**

On March 6, 2007, US Immigration officials raided a New Bedford, MA factory that makes vests and backpacks for US soldiers. Many of the 361 undocumented immigrants who were detained in the raid were women with small children.

A news report about the raid: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/17/AR2007031701113.html>

#### **Cartas del Otro Lado / Letters from the Other Side (Three 20-minute segments)**

A documentary captures the circumstances, doubts, struggles and hardships that Mexican families must endure when their husbands, sons, and male relatives migrate to the United States in search of work. Told from the perspective of several women.

#### **Echando Raices / Taking Root (Three 20-minute segments)**

A documentary in which immigrants from diverse countries tell their stories of the struggle to seek new futures in the United States. The film focuses on immigrants and the communities in which they live in California, Texas, and Iowa.

More info: <http://www.twn.org/catalog/pages/cpage.aspx?rec=692&card=price>

#### **Welcome to Shelbyville (1 hour)**

A documentary about the beginnings of the national movement to welcome immigrants, of which Uniting NC is an affiliate. Set in Shelbyville, Tennessee, it chronicles a community coming together to fight stereotypes and fear when a large group of Muslim refugees from Somalia move to town.

Trailer: <http://www.itvs.org/films/welcome-to-shelbyville>

#### **Not in Our Town (1 hour)**

A documentary that follows a community in crisis after the hate-crime related murder of a local immigrant. Stunned by the violence, diverse community stakeholders openly confront the crime and the divisive atmosphere, and commit to ongoing actions to prevent future hate crimes and intolerance.

Trailer: <http://www.niot.org/LightInTheDarkness>

#### **The Guestworker (1 hour)**

*The Guestworker* tells the story of Don Candelario Gonzalez Moreno, a 66-year old Mexican farmer who has been coming to the U.S. since the 1960s to work on a North Carolina farm. The film chronicles one particularly grueling season while delving into the little-known guest worker program that brings legal farmworkers to the U.S. As the U.S. engages in deliberations of who will do our farm work and how they will be employed, *The Guestworker* offers some humanity to a debate that could otherwise be callous and bureaucratic.

More info: <http://theguestworker.com/>

**Brother Towns / Pueblos Hermanos (1 hour)**

A story of two towns linked by immigration, family, and work: Jacaltenango, a highland Maya town in Guatemala; and Jupiter, a coastal resort town where many Jacaltecos have settled in Florida. Brother Towns chronicles a story of how and why people migrate across borders, how people make and remake their communities when they travel thousands of miles from home, and how people maintain families despite their travel. Includes voices of those opposed to undocumented immigrants as well as advocates helping migrants who seek work and hope, whether documented or not.

Trailer: <http://brothertowns.com/>

**Feature Length (1.5 to 2 hours)****The Visitor (1 hour, 45 minutes)**

A drama about an American professor from Connecticut, whose life is changed and enriched by a chance encounter with an illegal immigrant couple, a Syrian musician and a woman from Senegal. The Syrian man is eventually detained and deported, despite the professor's attempts to block his removal. A revealing tale about the way immigrants, legal and illegal, have become woven into the fabric of the United States.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGjx3WMmSE>

**What's Cooking? (1 hour, 49 minutes)**

A comedy about four households in L.A. that celebrate Thanksgiving amidst family tensions. Some deal with their immigrant children's acculturation, others discover affairs. There's a lesbian relationship and other common family issues that resonate with all cultures and families.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWA91OcPa7U>

**In America (1 hour, 45 minutes)**

A drama about a young Irish family consisting of a mom, a dad, and 2 daughters that moves to New York City with a tourist visa to try to make a living under dire financial and emotional circumstances.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CK4sLTF0MPA>

**Gran Torino (1 hour, 56 minutes)**

A drama about a disgruntled Korean war veteran who cannot accept the cultural change that is happening in his neighborhood or around the world. He is forced to confront diversity when his young Hmong neighbor tries to steal his precious car.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8Z2n534q1Q>

**God Grew Tired of Us (1 hour, 29 minutes)**

A documentary about boys from Sudan who embark on a journey to America after years of wandering Sub-Saharan Africa in search of safety. They experience culture shock and learn about basic things, routines and conveniences that the average person in the U.S. takes for granted.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32lxyvoSZKo>

**Under the Same Moon. (1 hour, 46 minutes)**

A young Mexican boy travels to the U.S. to find his mother after his grandmother passes away. The undocumented immigrant journey through the eyes of a child who encounters danger, prejudice and experiences life in California's immigrant community.

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jCZgUiPixE>