A four-hour documentary series exploring our socio-economic and

PBS

racial inequities in health

Airing four consecutive Thursdays, March 27 to April 17, 2008 (check local listings)

UNNATURAL CAUSESis inequality making us sick?

COLLATERAL DAMAGE / **NOT JUST A PAYCHECK** *Hour Four airs Thursday, April 17, 10pm on PBS (check local listings)*

Hour Four consists of two segments. *Collateral Damage* traces the health challenges of Marshall Islanders from the South Pacific to Springdale, AR, while *Not Just a Paycheck* explores the heavy toll of layoffs and job insecurity in western Michigan.

COLLATERAL DAMAGE (1st Segment)

The lives and health of Marshall Islanders in the South Pacific were disrupted when the U.S. used their outer islands for extensive nuclear testing after WWII. But the dislocation set in motion by globalization and the presence of the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Testing Site may be taking an even greater toll. Their traditional way of life destroyed, many Marshallese, desperate for jobs at the U.S. base, crowd the nearby island of Ebeye, where tuberculosis and other diseases are fed by poverty and squalid conditions. Today, many Marshallese have sought brighter prospects in the unlikely town of Springdale, AR, bringing a legacy of poverty and powerlessness with them.



VOICES & EXPERTS

- For more than 30 years, Dise Langarus has lived on Ebeye, where she was relocated after nuclear fallout from U.S. atomic testing rendered her home island uninhabitable.
- Dr. Neal Palafox, a Marshall Islands native, is a University of Hawaii professor and family practitioner.

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unnaturalcauses.org



Produced by California Newsreel with Vital Pictures • Presented by the National Minority Consortia of public television





UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?....

- Tony de Brum, former Republic of Marshall Islands health minister, has testified widely on the impact of nuclear testing on humans and continues to advocate for better conditions on Kwajalein and neighboring Ebeye.
- Abacca Anjain-Maddison grew up on Ebeye and is currently a senator in the Marshall Islands parliament.
- Jim Yong Kim, MD, François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Health and Human Rights at Harvard University School of Public Health, is an expert on tuberculosis.

Collateral Damage Credits: Directed and Produced by Eric Stange Co-produced by Kimberlee Bassford

NOT JUST A PAYCHECK (2nd Segment)

When Electrolux shut down the largest refrigerator factory in the country and moved it to Juarez, Mexico in search of cheaper labor, it turned upside down the lives of many of the 3,000 employees. Hospital visits in Greenville, MI more than tripled as a result of depression, alcoholism, and domestic abuse. And heart disease and mortality are predicted to rise. Hardly a ripple was felt when Electrolux shut down one of its plants in Sweden, where social policies are based on an ethos of shared responsibility that protects workers from the impact of globalization.



Not Just a Paycheck Credits: Produced and Directed by James Rutenbeck Co-produced by Franziska Blome

VOICES & EXPERTS

- Sandy Beck worked at the Greenville Electrolux factory for 31 years. As a supervisor, she earned over \$21 an hour, with benefits and union protections. Working in fast food, she makes \$7 an hour without benefits or job security. She's at risk of losing her home – a family farm held for three generations.
- Psychologist Richard Price directs the University of Michigan Prevention Research Center, which is a national resource on the connections between job loss and health.

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UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?...

- Sir Michael Marmot is an epidemiologist and director of the groundbreaking Whitehall Studies of British civil servants.
- Harvey Brenner, professor emeritus of Johns Hopkins University, has tracked the relationship between unemployment and death rates.

REPORTING TIPS

• What new policies, if any, have been enacted by state and local governments to correct past negligence or to protect citizens displaced by globalization's effects on the labor market?



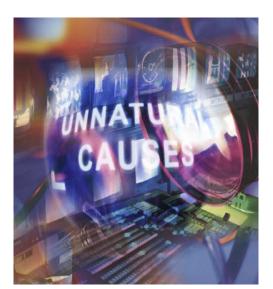
- Neal Palafox's work includes the ongoing health challenges faced by Pacific Islanders exposed to radiation, e.g., "The Health Predicament of the US-associated Pacific Islands: What Role for Primary Health Care?" (1997). Asian American and Pacific Journal of Health, pp. 49-56
- How does job loss actually lead to poor health? See Richard Price et al. (2002). "Links in the chain of adversity following job loss: How financial strain and loss of personal control lead to depression, impaired functioning, and poor health." *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 7(4), pp. 302-312.
- More information about Sir Michael Marmot's research can be found by visiting the following link: *Whitehall Study of British Civil* Servants http://www.ucl.ac.uk/whitehallII/index.htm
- Dr. Harvey Brenner has written extensively about economic impacts on health, including "Health Inequalities in the Era of the Knowledge Economy," (Aug 2006) *Williams Review*: http://www.thewilliamsinstitute.org/Portals/10/Williams_Review/2006/brenner.wr06.pdf. His pioneering 1984 study found that every 1 percent increase in unemployment resulted in a 2 percent increase in premature deaths.



UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?...

UNNATURAL CAUSES was produced by the San Francisco-based film production and distribution center California Newsreel, in partnership with Vital Pictures of Boston. It is being presented on PBS by the National Minority Consortia of public television. California Newsreel is the nation's oldest nonprofit documentary production and distribution center, dedicated to disseminating social interest films and videos. Vital Pictures is a documentary company dedicated to social justice issues.

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Larry Adelman is the series creator and executive producer; Llewellyn M. Smith is co-executive producer and Christine Herbes-Sommers is series senior producer.

For a press kit, review DVDs or interviews with series spokespeople, please contact Ajeenah Amir (ajeenah@mckpr.com) or Gwen McKinney (gwen@mckpr.com) at 202-833-9771.

