

UNCOVERED

UNCOVERED puts a human face on America's health care crisis by chronicling the harrowing struggles of the Nazaretyan family to care for their disabled children without insurance. George and Narine Nazaretyan's twin babies were born three months prematurely and remained in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 15 weeks. When the Nazaretyan's health insurance company received expensive medical claims, they rescinded the family's insurance policy, leaving the Nazaretyans with medical bills of a million dollars, a house they can no longer afford, and severely disabled children that need specialized medical attention for the rest of their lives.

This gripping and disturbing story will make viewers feel both outraged and motivated to address this crisis at an opportune moment while the nation is debating proposals for universal health insurance during the run-up to the presidential election.

I chose a cinema verité style because I wanted viewers to vicariously experience the medical, financial, and emotional impact of being unable to obtain necessary health care. Instead of interviewing experts or policy makers who would tell viewers what to think, I wanted this disturbing story to unfold through the experiences of one family. I believe that this kind of personal narrative will engage viewers far more effectively than yet another recitation of grim facts and statistics.

UNCOVERED is a continuation of my ongoing exploration of timely social issues. My previous 25 documentaries have won over one hundred awards, including Emmy, DuPont-Columbia, and Peabody awards as well as two recent Academy Award nominations. Many of these productions have taken viewers inside the health care system, including *SOUND AND FURY*, *WHAT'S AILING MEDICINE*, *OUR CHILDREN AT RISK*, *BORDERLINE MEDICINE*, *WHO LIVES - WHO DIES*, and *CAN'T AFFORD TO GROW OLD*. I hope that *UNCOVERED* can build on this two-decade body of work in order to engage viewers in the national debate over how to extend health insurance coverage to all Americans.

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