

abUSed - The Postville Raid [flyer]

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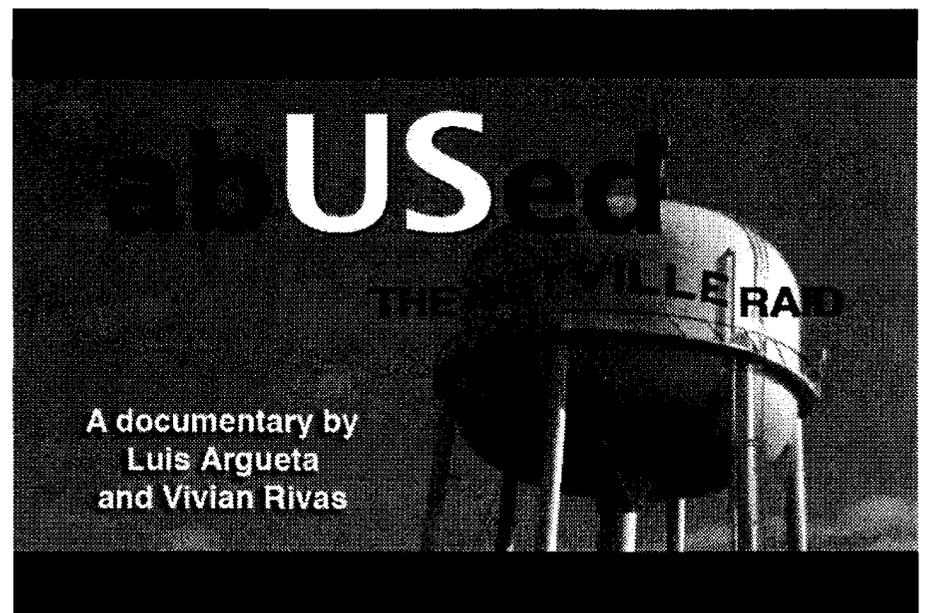
abUSed - The Postville Raid

From internationally acclaimed director Luis Argueta (*The Silence of Neto*, 1994) comes a documentary about the most brutal, most expensive and one of the largest immigration raids in the history of the US.

On 12 May 2008, in Postville, Iowa (population 2,320), 900 armed ICE agents, with the support of helicopters, planes, state troopers and local police, arrested, handcuffed and chained almost 400 undocumented workers from Guatemala and Mexico at Agriprocessors, Inc., the largest kosher slaughter-house and meat-packing plant in the country. The ICE agents herded these workers in secured buses and took them to the National Cattle Congress in Waterloo, Iowa, which had been outfitted by the government as a human detention and processing facility. There, without any presumption of innocence, the workers were "fast-tracked" through the U.S. legal system in a manner which left them humiliated, convicted and torn away from their families.

The Postville raid is a clear example of the de facto war on immigration that criminalizes workers who do not have a regular immigration status, while diverting the attention and tax-dollars of government agencies away from pursuing serious criminals, such as drug and gun traffickers and white-collar criminals.

abUSed - The Postville Raid, weaves together the personal stories of the individuals, families, and the town directly affected by the events of May 12, 2008. The full-length film presents the human face of immigration along with the socio-economic forces which fuel migration, and serves as a cautionary tale of government abuses of constitutional and human rights.



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