

strays into such topics as the nature of the gene and control of gene expression. This video is best suited as a review lesson on translation and then as a launching point for more advanced topics in molecular genetics.

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Raw Terror: E. coli Bacteria

Produced by Alan LaGarde, Films for the Humanities and Sciences (1-800-257-5126), 1997, 1 VHS videotape, \$129; rental, \$75.

Target Audience: Raw Terror is appropriate for high school or lower-division college biology courses.

Description: Raw Terror is a 24-minute video that recounts the case of Damion Heersink, a boy who was infected with *Escherichia coli* O157, presumably through eating undercooked hamburger. Through interviews with Damion, his parents, and caregivers, along with dramatic recreations, the viewer is guided through Damion's near-fatal experience with *E. coli*. The disease starts as a case of flu-like enteritis and progresses through hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) to thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura. Damion experiences several near-fatal episodes, but eventually recovers with the aid of an experimental plasma exchange procedure.

The video briefly describes the pathogenesis etiology of the *E. coli* infection and the types of treatments that were necessary. The video also describes the potential sources of *E. coli* contamination and provides some tips for minimizing personal risks of *E. coli* infection.

Recommendations: Raw Terror is suitable for general biology or introductory microbiology classes. While the video provides a good overview of *E. coli*-caused diseases, it lacks many details, including the types of toxins produced by the bacterium, the mechanisms by which the bacterium avoids host defenses, and the reasons behind the complications caused by the organism.

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Ebola: Diary of a Killer

Films for the Humanities and Sciences (800) 257-5126/(609) 275-1400, 1998.

Target Audience and Purpose: The film should appeal to a broad