



Our Genes / Our Choices

# Who Gets to Know?



Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, worrying about health insurance repercussions, faces a tough decision when program moderator Arthur Miller, in the role of her brother, asks her whether he should take a genetic test to determine if he has a predisposition toward cancer.

**ARTHUR MILLER:**

Congresswoman Slaughter, you're my younger sister. What do you think?

**LOUISE SLAUGHTER:**

I would recommend against it. I would not want you to do it because Congress has failed to act to pass the legislation that would protect you.

**ARTHUR MILLER:**

Because Congress has failed to act I die?

**LOUISE SLAUGHTER:**

It seems...

**ARTHUR MILLER:**

I don't understand this.

**LOUISE SLAUGHTER:**

And it seems to me so simple and so important to do.

**ARTHUR MILLER:**

Remember what she said to me?

**LOUISE SLAUGHTER:**

Yes.

**ARTHUR MILLER:**

She said, you may be at risk too.

**LOUISE SLAUGHTER:**

Oh, I understand. And I'm just telling you that from my point of view I can't risk it. I have family to take care of. I'm the sole provider for the health insurance in my family. There isn't any way I would risk losing that health insurance or my job.