



AIDS & ANTHROPOLOGY

B U L L E T I N

The Newsletter of the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group

Vol.4 No.2 September 1992

AAA DUMPS AIDS TASK FORCE

In a surprise move, the American Anthropological Association (AAA) Executive Committee decided not to renew the mission of its Task Force on AIDS for a three year extension. The Task Force on AIDS is an appointed body of anthropologists committed to AIDS research and policy development, and was formed in 1988 by the AAA in response to the AIDS crisis. Merrill Singer, Chair of the Task Force, expressed strong concern over this decision and indicated that it "will be read as a slap in the face to many anthropologists who have lost or will soon lose friends, lovers, informants, and co-workers to the epidemic."

In a letter dated August 2nd to Annette Weiner (President of the AAA), Dr. Singer writes that he finds the decision "most unfortunate and ill-informed," and "that this feels too much like other expressions of indifference and misunderstanding that have accompanied the epidemic, behaviors that have contributed to the cruel impact of the epidemic on already oppressed peoples." Dr. Weiner has responded with a letter indicating that the Task Force may continue on as an interest group of the AAA if it wishes. A meeting has been set up between Drs. Weiner, Singer, and others in Washington, D.C. on September 19th to discuss the issue. The Task Force members plan to go ahead and meet for its full-day semi-annual session at the annual meeting in San Francisco this December.

Since its founding by Roy A. Rappaport (former AAA President) and Douglas A. Feldman (Chair of the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group) four years ago, the AAA Task Force on AIDS has (without funding from the AAA):
1) established an organizational structure; 2) recruited and

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AMSTERDAM CONFERENCE

The VIII International Conference on AIDS was held in Amsterdam on July 19-24 and social, psychological, and prevention topics, as well as political activism, played an increasingly stronger role at the sessions than in past years. Some of the messages overheard were: 1) it is time for shifting away from often redundant seroepidemiologic studies toward well-funded prevention programs with ongoing evaluation research; 2) the pandemic is grossly underfunded (especially in developing nations) and that a major effort is needed to convince political and economic leaders to allocate sufficient resources; and 3) there is a need for research into human sexuality which go beyond frequency questionnaires to discover the sociocultural contexts of courtship, sexual beliefs and values, and sexual practices.

Anthropologists played a more prominent role in Amsterdam than at any previous international AIDS conference, but there still was no session allocated to a discussion or presentation of anthropological contributions to AIDS research. Among the anthropologists who

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maintained about 25 members; 3) met twice a year in one day sessions; 4) organized and sponsored symposia; 5) hosted public meetings on AIDS at anthropology conferences; 6) co-sponsored two conferences on AIDS and anthropology; 7) developed publications (including a special issue of the Journal of Sex Research in the Spring 1991, "AIDS on the Planet: the Plural Voices of Anthropology" in Anthropology Today, a pending short publication on "Anthropology and AIDS," and a pending special issue on "Women and AIDS"); 8) established relations with NORA (National Organizations Responding to AIDS), and lent support to several policy initiatives (such as opposing the cancelation by the U.S. government of a national study of sexual practices); 9) began work on an international roster and guide of anthropologists involved in AIDS work that has over 200 listings; and 10) developed materials for an anthropology and AIDS curricula for college-level anthropology courses.

New directions for the Task Force are being paved through the formation of work groups on sexual risk among gay and bisexual men, international training and clinical trials, AIDS-related policy at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, international AIDS consultants, and media and education. Several new members were recently appointed to three year terms on the Task Force just prior to the announcement by the AAA Executive Committee.

AMSTERDAM

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participated, Kevin O'Reilly (WHO, Geneva) spoke about community intervention for integrated STD and HIV prevention in a plenary session and led a minicourse session on creating effective HIV prevention programs. Maxine Ankrah (Makerere University, Uganda) moderated a session on care for orphaned children and was the discussant for a session on the impact of HIV on family systems. Barbara DeZalduondo (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore) was the discussant for a session on the determinants of sexual risk behavior.

Richard Parker (State University of Rio de Janeiro) spoke on AIDS among men who have sex with men in Brazil at a roundtable on patterns and structures of male homosexuality. Ron Stall (Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, San Francisco)

participated in a session on alcohol, other drugs, and HIV infection, and was a co-author of a paper which demonstrated that clinical depression in San Francisco gay men predicts accelerated immunosuppression. Other anthropologists who participated in the conference included Ralph Bolton (Pomona College, California), Margaret M. Connors (RRI/TRITON, Washington, D.C.), Douglas A. Feldman (University of Miami School of Medicine), Carl Kendall (AIDSCAP, Family Health International, Virginia), and Susan McCombie (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia).

Many of the conference participants came away with a renewed commitment to HIV-related research and activism. The next annual conference will be held in Berlin in June 1993. The 1994 conference will be held in Yokohama, Japan.

AARG POLICY STATEMENTS

AARG will support policy positions, developed by its membership, relevant to the concerns of anthropologists involved with AIDS/HIV research and activities. Written policy positions will be considered by the AARG Steering Committee for possible support. These may be sent to Douglas A. Feldman (Chair, AARG) at the address on page 3 at any time.

Want to start an AARG regional meeting in your area? Let us know!

AIDS AND ANTHROPOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP

Officers:

Chair: Douglas A. Feldman
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Treasurer: Moses B. Pounds
Secretary: Janet McGrath

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AIDS & Anthropology Bulletin:

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Norris G. Lang
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Moses B. Pounds

Editorial

Assistant: Donna Rayburn

AARG is a Special Committee of the Society for Medical Anthropology, a unit of the American Anthropological Association. AAB is published quarterly and is the official newsletter of AARG. To contact the Chair of AARG or the Editor of AAB, write: Douglas A. Feldman, Ph.D., Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University of Miami School of Medicine, R-669, P.O. Box 016069, Miami, FL 33101 USA; (305) 547-6559. To become a member of AARG and receive AAB, write: Moses B. Pounds, Ph.D., 5224 Even Star Place, Columbia, MD 21044 USA;

(301) 328-8334. Membership for 1992 is \$15 payable to AARG. It is free to anthropologists in developing countries, unemployed anthropologists, and anthropology graduate students actively involved in AIDS research or activities.

KEEP US INFORMED!

Send us your hot-off-the press research reports (300-500 words), your brilliant think pieces (200-300 words), your announcements, requests for cooperation, employment opportunities, positions wanted, and startling discoveries! Our next deadline is October 31st.

WHERE'S THE MEMBERSHIP LIST?

In an effort to cut unnecessary costs, we have decided not to include the membership list with this mailing. It will now be sent twice a year, with the December and June issues. If you would like to revise or correct your listing at any time, please contact Moses B. Pounds at his address listed on this page. The next deadline is October 31st.

TREASURER'S NOTE

Moses B. Pounds, AARG Treasurer, reports that as of last April 30th we had \$1,339.87 in our bank account.

We are 200 members strong. Become part of AARG. Join today!

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR AARG PAPER PRIZES

The deadline for submission of papers for the professional and student AARG paper prizes has been extended to October 31st. The AARG Steering Committee voted last March in Memphis to inaugurate two new paper prizes for professional anthropologists and for anthropology students writing about AIDS from an anthropological perspective. The purpose of the awards is to encourage HIV-related research and publications by anthropologists.

Papers should be original, 15-30 double-spaced typed pages, and the sole or first author must be an AARG member and an anthropologist, anthropology graduate student, or undergraduate anthropology major. All papers need to be in press, submitted to press, or unpublished.

Submit four copies to: Merrill Singer, Ph.D., Chair, AARG Paper Prizes Committee, Hispanic Health Council, 98 Cedar Street, Hartford, CT 06106 USA by the new deadline of October 31, 1992. Please indicate whether it is for the AARG professional prize (for Ph.D.-level, non-student M.A.-level, or equivalent anthropologist entrants) or for the AARG student prize. The winners of both annually awarded prizes will receive \$100 each.

AARG AGENDA SET FOR SAN FRANCISCO

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) 1992 annual meeting will be held at the San Francisco Downtown Hilton Hotel on December 2-6. AARG will be hosting more events than ever before. New this year will be an HIV Support Group for Anthropologists, which will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd from 6:00-7:30 P.M. in the Lassen Room. Our semi-annual Roundtable on AIDS, in which we informally discuss the social aspects of AIDS, share ideas about HIV and anthropology, and compare our current research projects or AIDS-related activities, will be held on Thursday, December 3rd from 12:00-1:30 P.M. in Continental Ballroom 9.

The AARG Steering Committee will meet on December 3rd from 4:30-5:15 P.M. in the Saratoga Room. The AARG Business Meeting, which is an administrative meeting, will be held on December 3rd from 5:30-7:00 P.M. in Continental Ballroom 8. Our Cash Bar Reception will immediately follow the Business Meeting from 7:00-8:00 P.M., also in Continental Ballroom 8.

Also new this year will be an AARG AIDS Memorial on Friday, December 4th from 7:15-8:15 P.M. in Continental Ballroom 7.

The Steering Committee Meeting is open only to AARG Officers and Steering Committee members. The AARG Business Meeting is open to all AARG members and their guests, although only AARG members may cast a vote at the meeting. All other activities, including the Cash Bar Reception which follows the Business Meeting, are open to everyone and all are encouraged to attend.

SAN NEWSLETTER

The Sociologists' AIDS Network, our counterpart among sociologists, publishes a semi-annual newsletter for its members. To become a member of SAN and get its newsletter, send your name, address, phone, and research interests with a \$10 check (\$5 for students and the unemployed) to: Debbie Indyk, 622 Queen Anne Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 USA.

NEW BOOK AVAILABLE

The University of California Press has just published AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame by Paul Farmer (AARG Steering Committee member). Information may be obtained from the publisher by calling 1-800-822-6657 (in the U.S.). The volume is \$35 cloth.

GRADUATE STUDENT INTERN PROGRAM

The Bureau of Health Resources Development in the Health Resources and Services Administration has a mandate to fund services for some of the most critical public health problems facing the United States. The Office of Science and Epidemiology, in cooperation with program offices in the Bureau, designs and conducts evaluation studies that will help the Bureau to achieve its goals. Areas of interest include uncompensated services, HIV/AIDS services, and organ transplant surgery. They have created a graduate student intern program, in which the students will work with a multidisciplinary staff of public health and social scientists. Students must have a 3.5 grade point average and an interest and aptitude for health-related research. For information, contact Steve Niemcryk, Ph.D. at (301) 443-6560, or Beverly Bogner at (301) 443-6652. To apply, submit an SF 171, Application for Federal Employment, and a certified copy of your college transcript to Beverly Bogner, Parklawn Building, Room 11-11, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852 USA. The program starts January 3, 1993.

POSITIONS OPEN

Family Health International (FHI) is seeking a Research Officer to assist in designing and managing the Behavioral Research program of the new global AIDS Control and Prevention Project (AIDSCAP) and to provide expertise in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the Project's behavioral research program. The position requires a Ph.D. in one of the social sciences, or a combination of education and experience with the AIDS epidemic, and considerable experience in designing and implementing behavioral science research projects in the developing world.

FHI is also seeking a Women and AIDS Officer to assist in designing and managing the Behavioral Research program of the new global AIDS Control and Prevention Project (AIDSCAP). The specialist will be charged with planning, implementing, and evaluating the program from a gender perspective. The candidate should have a doctorate in a social science field, and be experienced in and committed to gender analysis and research issues. In addition, the candidate should be familiar with policy issues related to women and AIDS, and have a broad range of qualitative and quantitative research experience.

For both positions, the candidates must have the ability to travel internationally. Fluency in French or Spanish is preferred. FHI offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package. For additional information, call Carl Kendall, Chief, Behavioral Research Unit, at (703) 516-9779. To apply for either of the two positions, send a letter, your c.v., and salary requirements as soon as possible to: Linda Rodriguez, Personnel Coordinator, Family Health International, 2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22201 USA.

PSYCHOLOGISTS NETWORK

The American Psychological Association (APA) AIDS Resource Network is a computer file of mostly psychologists who have expertise in AIDS. The file is searchable by name, geographic region, specific topics, occupation, and other variables. To request a search, contact the APA Office on AIDS at (202) 336-6057.

NEW VIDEOS

DSR, Inc. has produced three new videos on AIDS in Africa: "Challenges in AIDS Counselling" (made in Zambia), "It's Not Easy" (made in Uganda), and "Born in Africa" (also made in Uganda; available for sale only in Africa). For information, call (410) 964-0037, or write: DSR, Inc., 9650 Santiago Road, #10, Columbia, MD 21045 USA. Fax: (410) 730-8322.

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

All AARG members are asked to kindly vote in our 1992 AARG election. Your official ballot is enclosed with this mailing. Please complete this ballot and mail it to: Douglas A. Feldman, Ph.D., Chair, AARG, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University of Miami, R-669, P.O.Box 016069, Miami, FL 33101 USA by the November 15th deadline. Only AARG members may vote. It is required that you sign or print your name on your return envelope in the upper left-hand corner (or directly onto your ballot if you prefer) for it to be counted. Your vote will be kept strictly confidential. Thank you for your nominations.

The two candidates for Chair-Elect (who automatically becomes Chair of AARG for 1994) are:

Michael C. Clatts, Ph.D. (Researcher, Narcotic and Drug Research, Inc., New York, New York USA; interests: AIDS and injecting drug use, AIDS and homelessness, AIDS and street ethnography; USA; AARG Steering Committee member)

Janet McGrath, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio USA; interests: AIDS epidemiology, stress, immune function and AIDS; Africa, Uganda, USA; AARG Secretary)

Vote for one. The current chair is Douglas A. Feldman. Norris G. Lang becomes Chair in 1993.

There are eight candidates for the position of Steering Committee member for a three-year term (1993-95). Vote for any four:

Ralph Bolton, Ph.D. (Professor, Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, California USA; interests: AIDS and sexuality in Norway and Benelux; former AARG Chair and current Steering Committee member)

Francis Conant, Ph.D. (Professor, Department of Anthropology, Hunter College, City University of New York, New York, New York USA; interests: AIDS and HIV mapping in East Africa)

Margaret M. Connors (Senior Associate/Ethnographer, RRI/TRITON, Washington, D.C. USA; interests: AIDS

prevention among high risk minority groups, AIDS and injecting drug users; USA, Indonesia)

Stephen L. Eyre, Ph.D. (Visiting Post-Doctoral Scholar, University of California, San Francisco, California, USA; interests: adolescent sexual risk-taking, sociocultural adaptation to HIV illness, USA, Papua New Guinea, Haiti)

Susanna Hoffman, Ph.D. (Independent Researcher, San Francisco, California, USA; interests: AIDS in heterosexuals, USA, Europe; former AARG Steering Committee member)

William L. Leap, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, The American University, Washington, D.C. USA; interests: language and AIDS; USA)

Michael D. Quam, Ph.D., M.P.H. (Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Sangamon State University, Springfield, Illinois USA; interests: AIDS public policy, USA)

Claire Sterk-Elifson, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia USA; interests: HIV risk behaviors, AIDS health care utilization, USA, Western Europe)

AIDS SYMPOSIA AT THE AAA PLANNED

In addition to the several AARG events scheduled for the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in San Francisco this December (see related story on page 4), there are a number of AIDS-related symposia planned. Norris G. Lang will chair an invited poster session on "AIDS and Anthropology" on December 3rd from 9:00-11:45 A.M. Stephen L. Eyre and Merrill Singer will co-chair a session on "Ethnography and the Prevention of HIV Transmission" on December 5th from 8:15-11:45 A.M. J.Raul Magana will be the discussant. Paul Rabinow and Nancy Scheper-Hughes will co-chair a panel on "AIDS and the Social Imaginary" on December 5th from 12:00-1:30 P.M. Michael C. Clatts and Michele G. Shedlin will co-chair a session on "Self and Other in the Ethnography of AIDS" on December 5th from 2:00-4:45 P.M. Dooley Worth and Dr. Shedlin will be the discussants.

"CULTURE, SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND AIDS"

After the main conference (see related story on page 1) came the anthropology conference. The Department of Anthropology of the University of Amsterdam sponsored a conference on "Culture, Sexual Behavior and AIDS" last July 24-26. Opening remarks were made by Gilbert Herdt (University of Chicago), Paul Grifhorst (Netherlands), and Humphrey Lamur (Netherlands). Richard Parker (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro) gave the first keynote address on "The Social and Cultural Construction of Sexual Risk." Ralph Bolton (Pomona College, California) gave the second keynote address on "Rethinking Anthropology: the Study of AIDS."

E. Maxine Ankrah (Makerere University, Uganda) chaired a panel discussion on "Culture and the Response to AIDS." There were several concurrent workshops. Maria de Bruyn chaired a workshop on "Women and AIDS." Dr. Parker chaired a workshop on "Gays and AIDS." Georg Broring chaired a workshop on "Mobile Populations and Sex Tourism." Brooke G. Schoepf chaired a workshop on "Theoretical and Methodological Implications of AIDS for Anthropology." Andrew Boxer chaired a workshop on "Cultural Constructions of AIDS." Dr. Lamur chaired a workshop on "Sexual Subcultures and Cultural Minorities." Han ten Brummelhuis (University of Amsterdam) chaired a workshop on "Sex Workers and Clients." Norman Miller (African-Caribbean Institute) chaired a workshop on "HIV Transmission: Beyond Risk Groups." Dr. Herdt chaired a

workshop on "Ethical Considerations and Interdisciplinary Research." Jeffery Weiss chaired a workshop on "Culture and the Response to AIDS."

Dr. Herdt chaired a panel discussion on "The Challenge to Anthropology: AIDS, Prevention and Intervention." Regional workshops were held for South and Southeast Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Europe, and the United States. The conference discussed the social aspects of AIDS in a wide variety of global settings. Discussion included AIDS in Argentina, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Curacao, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, the United Kingdom, the United States, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

HEALTH NETWORK FORMED

Peter Kunstadter reported at AARG's last Business Meeting in Memphis the formation of a new North American Social Science and Health Network. It will work toward greater equality in the global distribution of, and access to, health services, including AIDS-related services. For more information, contact Dr. Kunstadter at the Institute for Health Policy Studies, University of California, San Francisco, 1388 Sutter Street, 11th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109 USA.

AARG MEMBERS VOLUNTEER

Several AARG members have generously volunteered to serve as contact persons for particular regions. They are:

Great Britain: Ms. Angie Hart, Oxford University, 21 Picton Street, Brighton, BN2 3AF, England, United Kingdom; phone: (0273) 670372; fax: (0273) 571810.

Africa: Charles B.U.Uwakwe, Ph.D., Director, Ibadan University, AIDS Social and Behavioral Research Group, Department of Guidance and Counselling, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria; phone: (022) 400555/6/7 ext.1576; fax: (022) 414677/414849.

Africa: Abdul A. Mansaray, Ph.D., Ibadan University, AIDS Social and Behavioral Research Group, Department of Teacher Education, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria; phone: (022) 400555 ext.1576; fax: (022) 414849.

Mexico: Dr. F.Alejandro Guerrero, Director, Activities Against AIDS/SIDA, Centro Medico Nacional El Fenix Instituto, Mexicano del Seguro Social, Calle 41 SN Ex Terreno, El Fenix, Col Industrial, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico; phone: (5299) 271100 ext.299; fax: (5299) 240853.

Rochester, New York USA: Ms. Anastasia Hopkins, 8 Prince Street, Apt. #1, Rochester, NY 14607 USA; phone: (716) 244-9207.

CONFERENCES

October 19-23, 1992: Planning and Evaluating HIV Health Education Programs, San Francisco USA; contact: San Francisco STD Prevention/Training Center, 13372 Mission Street, 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94103-2609 USA; (415) 554-9630.

November 8-12, 1992: American Public Health Association 120th Annual Meeting - Uniting for Healthy Communities, Washington, D.C. USA; contact: APHA, 1015 Fifteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20077-1674 USA; (202) 789-5600.

November 8-12, 1992: International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi, India; contact: Prof. A.N.Malaviya, Chairman, Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari, Nagar, New Delhi 110-029 India; phone: (9111) 661123; fax: (9111) 6862603.

December 2-6, 1992: American Anthropological Association 91st Annual Meeting, San Francisco USA; contact: AAA, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009 USA; (202) 232-8800.

December 8-11, 1992: VII International Conference on AIDS in Africa, Yaounde, Cameroun; contact: Prof. L. Kapute, P.O. 155, Yaounde, Cameroon; phone:(237) 231443; fax: (237) 237304.

March 10-14, 1993: Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas USA; contact: SfAA, P.O.Box 24083, Oklahoma City, OK 73124 USA; (512)696-7509.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC UPDATE

The AIDS and Anthropology Bibliography update by Ralph Bolton and Gail Orozco is included with this issue. Please send your current publication list to: Dr. Ralph Bolton, Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711 USA; fax: (714) 621-8403; for inclusion in the next update. The next deadline is October 31st.

REAPPOINTMENT

The AARG Chair is pleased to announce that Moses B. Pounds has been reappointed as AARG Treasurer for a three-year term (1993-95).
