

The Newsletter of the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group

Vol.8 No.4 October 1996

# ARRAY OF AARG ACTIVITIES AT AAA MEETINGS

by Robert G. Carlson, AARG Chair (Wright State U)

The AIDS and Anthropology Research Group (AARG) will hold several events at the American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meetings in San Francisco (Nov. 20-24). Steering Committee members will meet on Thursday, November 21 (12:15-1:30 pm). The Open Business Meeting will be held Thursday evening, November 21 (6:15-7:30 pm). Judith Auerbach, Coordinating Chair, Office of AIDS Research, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Behavioral/Social Sciences, has agreed to speak briefly to AARG members at the Business Meeting and to chat informally with us at a Reception immediately following the Business Meeting (7:30-8:30 pm). An HIV/AIDS Support Group is scheduled for Saturday, November 23 (3:00-5:00).

The Business Meeting, Reception and Support Group are open to AARG members as well as all anthropologists who have an interest in AIDS. Please check the program for the location of these events.

We are asking all AARG members who are chairing sessions to announce these events during sessions and to have AARG membership forms available for people who may be interested in joining. To obtain membership forms, please contact: Robert G. Carlson, 143 Biological Sciences, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 45435. Phone: (513) 873-2156; E-mail: rcarlson@sirius.wright.edu [AIDS-related AAA sessions are listed on page 4.]

## PREVENTION RESEARCH ON DRUG USE AND HIV by Todd G. Pierce

conference entitled "Integrating Anthropological Approaches in Epidemiological and Prevention Research on Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS: Current Status and Future Prospects," was held September 24-25 in Washington, D.C. The conference, sponsored by NIDA and the Wenner Gren Foundation and hosted by the AAA, brought together some of the top anthropological researchers in the HIV/AIDS and drug research field. About 40 participants attended the conference. with 13 of the members presenting some of their current work. The conference presentapowerful tions were illustrated just how far we have come as anthropologists in the development of research in this area. Following are summaries of the papers presented.

Epnography? Ethnodemiology? Towards an Epidemiology of the Subject. Presented by Michael Agar, this paper discusses his [Continued page 8]

#### GRANT OPPORTUNITY

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) recently announced a program on Drug Use, Sexual Behaviors and HIV in Men. As stated in Program Announcement PA-96-074, the purpose is to support epidemiological and HIV prevention research on drug use, sexual risk behaviors and HIV in an especially high risk group: men who use drugs and have sex with men. Applications are due January 2, 1997. Contact: Richard Needle, PhD. MPH, Chief, Community Research Branch, Division of Epidemiology and Prevention Research, National Institute on Drug Abuse, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9A-42, Rockville, MD 20857; Phone (301) 443-6720; fax (301) 443-2636; e-mail: RN28E@NIH. GOV

#### JOIN AARG TODAY

The AIDS and Anthropology Research Group (AARG) is a special committee of the Society for Medical Anthropology, a unit of the American Anthropological Association (AAA). AAB, the official newsletter of AARG, is published quarterly. Annual dues are \$20 for professionals and \$5 for students. Anthropologists who are unemployed or living in developing countries can join for free. Send key words describing geographic and topical interests and check (if needed) to: Fred Bloom, CAIR, 1201 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202.

#### SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Submissions for the next issue of AAB are due January 15, 1996. We encourage all members, especially our colleagues working internationally, to contribute. Submissions can include AIDS-related conferences and events, grants awarded and available, positions available, publications, obituaries of anthropologists and/or AARG members, book reviews, commentaries and letters (at the discretion of the chair and editor), research reports and paper abstracts. Texts longer than half a page should be on disk or sent via e-mail. Contact: Michelle Renaud, PhD. Before Jan. 1 call (202) 861-6751 or use e-mail. After Jan 1., send text through e-mail (MELRenaud@aol.com) or to: 31 Herbert St., Alexandria, VA 22305 and write "please forward."

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## PAPER SUMMARY: THE PREVALENCE OF ADDITIONAL INJECTION-RELATED HIV RISK BEHAVIORS AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS

by
Stephen Koester, Robert E. Booth
and Yiming Zhang
(U of Colorado Health Sciences Center)

[Following is a summary of a paper published in the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes and Human Retrovirology 12:202-207, 1996 Lippincott-Raven Publishers, Philadelphia.]

This study assesses the prevalence of injection-related behaviors that may facilitate HIV transmission even when syringes are not directly shared. Subjects who selfreported practicing these "indirect sharing" behaviors are described, the prevalence of these behaviors is compared with the direct sharing of syringes and variables independently associated with indirect sharing are determined. Injection-related risks were assessed among 585 injection drug users (IDUs) in Denver, Colorado. Respondents were classified into three groups based on their self-reported injection behaviors: IDUs who directly and indirectly share syringes, IDUs who indirectly share only and IDUs who neither directly nor indirectly share. Indirect sharing was twice as prevalent as direct sharing. IDUs who injected heroin or speedballs were less safe in their injection behavior than those who did not. Drug treatment did not protect against injection-related risk behaviors; however, exposure to community HIV prevention efforts was protective. Indirect sharing behaviors are common, yet their link to HIV transmission remains unrecognized by many IDUs. IDUs must be informed about these additional risk behaviors.

## CALL FOR PAPERS: AIDS AND BEHAVIOR AMONG HIV POSITIVE PERSONS

The first volume of AIDS and Behavior will appear in 1997 and will feature papers that make original contributions to the AIDS behavioral literature. There will be a special section on continued sexual risk behavior among HIV seropositive persons. The section will likely appear in the first volume and will include empirical studies that further the understanding of continued risk behavior among HIV seropositive persons and that provide contributing to development of interventions for this important population. It is also hoped that the section will be balanced with respect to populations (gay, bisexual, heterosexual, men, women. adolescents, injection drug users, etc.). Papers will be peer reviewed. Contact: Seth . C. Kalichman, PhD, Psychology Department, Georgia State U, University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: (404) 651-0995; fax: (404) 651-1612.

### AAA SESSIONS ON AIDS ISSUES

During the AAA Meetings in San Francisco (Nov. 20-24) there will be several sessions (many featuring AARG members) on AIDS and AIDS-related issues. Following are those in the *Preliminary Program* published in the *Anthropology Newsletter* September 1996 (AARG events are listed here for easy reference here but are described on page 1):

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- \*AIDS and Women's Health (12:00-1:45 pm)
- \*Living With HIV (12:00-3:45 pm)
- \*TB and HIV/AIDS among African Americans, Haitian Americans and Mexican Americans: Co-Infection and the Interface of Basic and Applied Research (4:00-5:45 pm)
- \*The Mapping of Sexual Behaviors and Desires: An Intercourse between Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches (6:00-7:15 pm)
- \*Sex and Drug: Use Obscuring Identities (8:00-9:45 pm)

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- -AARG Steering Committee Meeting (12:15-1:30 pm)
- -AARG Open Business Meeting (6:15-7:30 pm)
- -AARG Reception (7:30-8:30 pm)

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- \* Anthropological Collaborations in AIDS Research (8:00-9:45 am)
- \* Critical Perspectives on Deviance and Drug Use (8:00-11:45 am)
- A Retrospective Accounting of Critical Perspectives in the Anthropology of Health and Medicine (1:45-5:30 pm)

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- \*Anthropology and Homosexuality: A Critical Retrospective (8:00-11:45 am)
- \*Alternative Medicine and Health Care Policy (8:00-11:45 am)
- \*Emerging Issues in the Anthropology of Substance Use and HIV: Pushing Back the Frontier (1:45-3:30 pm)
- -AARG Support Group (3:00-5:00 pm)

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

\*Snort It, Pop It, Slam It, Smoke It: Man, Woman (8:00-9:45 am)

## REQUEST FOR ROVING REPORTERS AT AAA

The January AARG Bulletin would greatly benefit from articles highlighting papers, sessions and other AAA activities related to AIDS and If interested, anthropology. contact the editor (information page 2) before the Meetings to organize coverage or after the Meetings if ideas come to you while there. Contributors will have by-lines and are encouraged to write about their own work as well as that of others. Texts may be one paragraph to two pages in length. No peer review!

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Community Health Program of Jackson State University and the Division of STD/HIV of the Mississippi State Department of Health seek an applied behavioral/social scientist for a full-time research position in STD/HIV prevention. The position involves substantial fieldwork with communities affected by syphilis. The ideal candidate should demonstrate experience in STD/HIV prevention, possess a PhD, have formal training in applied behavioral or social science and public health and be familiar with quantitative and qualitative research methods and public health communication methods. Salary is in the mid-40's. For information, contact: Carol Langley, MD, MPH, Mississippi State Department of Health, Ellis Avenue Clinic, 1221-A Ellis Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209. Phone: (601) 354-6958; fax: (601) 354-6672.

The University of Miami Psychiatry Department is seeking a Research Assistant Professor/Research Scientist for a research project involving injection drug users. The position requires fluency in English and Spanish, locating and recruiting qualified participants for the study, ethnographic observations and interviews and analysis and publication of ethnographic data. Candidates must have knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods and skill in managing and analyzing qualitative data. The incumbent will contribute to authorship of publications and presentations. A PhD in social sciences is preferred, although candidates with ABD or an MA and extensive field experience will be considered. Contact: Bryan Page (305) 324-2723.

## CDC NATIONAL AIDS CLEARINGHOUSE DATABASE NOW SEARCHABLE ON THE WEB

The CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse Resources and Services Database can now be searched directly through the World Wide Web. The database provides descriptions of more than 19,000 organizations that provide HIV/AIDS-related services, including case management, counseling and testing, prevention, education and outreach, health care, support services, housing assistance and legal counseling.

To search the Resources and Services Database online, go to National AIDS the CDC site Clearinghouse web (http://www.edcnac.org) and choose the "databases" option or go directly to: http://www. edenae.org/naedb. html. Online help text is provided to assist in finding the specific information you need. Phone: (800) 458-5231.

## ABSTRACTS SOUGHT: HIV/AIDS AND CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is planning a special edition of Child Welfare. its journal of policy, practice and programs, on HIV/AIDS and Children, Youth and Family: Lessons Learned. CWLA is soliciting scholarly articles for the edition, which is scheduled for March/April 1998. If interested, submit a brief abstract by November 15, 1996. Some authors of abstracts will be invited to submit papers, which will be due March 1, 1997. Bruce abstracts to: Send Hershfield, Director, HIV/AIDS Initiatives, CWLA, 440 First St., NW, Ste. 310, Washington, DC 20001.

#### RESEARCH NEWS

#### NONULCERATIVE STDs APPEAR TO INCREASE HIV RISK

Nonulcerative sexually transmitted diseases appear to increase the likelihood of HIV transmission, according to Dr. Thomas Quinn, who spoke at the recent conference of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. For years, epidemiologists have reported strong correlations between ulcerative STDs, including syphilis and genital herpes, and increased HIV transmission. But new research suggests that nonulcerative STDs like chlamydia, gonorrhea and trichomoniasis also increase HIV transmissibility in people who are already HIV positive and susceptibility in those who are HIV negative. [From STD News 13(4), September 1996.]

#### AIDS VACCINE TEST UNDERWAY IN UGANDA

An AIDS vaccine, ALVAC-HIV, will be tested on 50 volunteers in Uganda by giving them four injections of the vaccine. If successful, scientists from the Joint Clinical Research Center in Uganda will give the vaccine to 100 high-risk candidates. They will then try a large-scale trial of 1,000 patients. Contact: CDC (404) 639-3286. [From AIDS/STD News Report, October 4, 1996.]

#### FDA APPROVES URINE TEST FOR HIV

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the first urine test for HIV. It should boost detection of the virus in developing nations and where blood testing is inconvenient, such as in prisons and the military. The test "holds particularly important promise for developing countries...where access to specially trained health professionals and clean needles for drawing blood is not always available," said Dr. Luc Montagnier. The urine test, made by Calypte Biomedical Corp., Berkeley, CA, will be made available to doctors in public health clinics, hospitals and private practices. [From AIDS Weekly Plus, August 19, 1996.]

## HIV IMMUNITY IN SOME WESTERN EUROPEAN DESCENDANTS

According to a study from the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center published on August 9, 1996 in the journal Cell, some persons of Western European descent lack a gene in their bodies needed to make a protein, the CKR-5 receptor. HIV must enter through this receptor to inject its genetic material into the cell. While only about one percent of people of Western European heritage lack the gene, this discovery could have possible ramifications for the development of future drugs. HIV/AIDS [From-Update. September 1996.]

## HIV AMONG MIGRANT FARM WORKERS

The HIV rate among the 4.2 million migrant farm workers in the U.S. jumped by 10% from 1987 to 1992. The situation may worsen if current welfare reform laws deny public health care to legal and illegal immigrants. While infected workers travel far for treatment, their doctors often are under-qualified in AIDS. Contact: Stephen Raffanti, Vanderbilt Medical Center (615) 322-7311.

[From AIDS/STD News Report, October 4, 1996.]

#### MORE RESEARCH NEWS

#### CONTRACEPTIVE CREAM MAY FIGHT STDs

Researchers are working on two all-natural creams that protect females against sexually transmitted diseases. Magainin Pharmaceuticals officials say the creams are made from animal substances, including steroids found in sharks. The National Institutes of Health support the project as part of their commitment to develop female microbicides to slow the rate of HIV among women.

Many AIDS activists say the number of HIV-infected women in the U.S. increased from 3,700 to 14,000 in the last two years because of the lack of female-controlled protection devices. Activists criticize the federal government for its slow response to the problem. Currently, they say, women must rely on men wearing condoms as their primary means of STD protection. In response, Health Secretary Donna Shalala promises \$100 million in grants over the next four years to develop STD protection for women. Contact: NIH (301) 496-5133; Magainin (610) 941-4020.

#### 1995 AND 1996 PUBLICATIONS

Anthropologie et Sida: Bilan et Perspectives (Anthropology and AIDS, Assessment and Scope). Jean Benoist and Alice Desclaux. In French. Paris: Editions Karthala. 1996.

Experiencing HIV. Barry Adam and Alan Sears. A binational study based on a series of interviews with HIV positive people on the effects of HIV on personal, family and work relationships. Columbia University Press. 1996.

Journal of HIV/AIDS Prevention & Education for Adolescents & Children. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press. Contact: Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-1580. 1997. [Note: to review a copy of the journal for the AARG newsletter, contact the AARG editor. Information page 2.]

Managing Herpes: How to Live and Love with a Chronic STD. Charles Ebel. American Social Health Association Research Triangle Park, NC. 1996.

Medical Anthropology: Contemporary Theory and Method, Revised Edition. Edited by Carolyn F. Sargent and Thomas M. Johnson. Westport: Praeger. 1996.

Social Aspects of AIDS Series. Edited by Peter Aggleton. Forthcoming books include: AIDS as a Gender Issue; Crossing Borders: Migration. Ethnicity and AIDS; Sexual Interactions and HIV Risk: New Conceptual Perspectives European Research; Bisexualities and AIDS: International Perspectives: AIDS: Safety, Sexuality and Risk: Sexual Behaviour and AIDS in the Developing World: Last Served? Gendering the HIV Pandemic; and Innovation: Challenge Methodological Advances in Social Research on HIV/AIDS: and Power and Community: Organizational and Responses to AIDS, Bristol, PA: Taylor & Francis. 1996.

Women at the Crossroads: A Prostitute Community's Response to AIDS in Urban Senegal. Michelle Lewis Renaud. New York: Gordon and Breach Publishers. 1996.

#### CONFERENCES AND ACTIVITIES

November 4-8: Social Sciences and AIDS in Africa: Review and Prospects. Saly Portudal, Senegal. Contact: CODESRIA B.P. 3304 Dakar, Senegal; (221) 25.98.21; fax (221) 24.12.89; e-mail BECKER@ORSTOM-ISD.

November 17-21: 124th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA). New York. Call: (202) 789-5646; fax on demand (202) 274-4577.

November 20-24: Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA). San Francisco. Contact: AAA, 4350 North Fairfax Dr., Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203-1621; phone (703) 528-1902.

December 9-12: National STD Prevention Conference. Tampa. Call: (800) 232-5265.

March 18-21, 1997: 9th National AIDS Update Conference. San Francisco. Contact: Cliff Morrison, Program Director, 655 Corbett Ave., Suite 406, San Francisco, CA 94114.

March 4-9, 1997: Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA). Seattle. Contact: Ed Liebow; phone (206) 528-3311.

June 28-July 3, 1997. Twelfth International Conference on AIDS. Geneva, Switzerland. Contact: phone (011) 46-8-612-69-00; fax (011) 46-8-612-62-96; e-mail: aids98@ congrex. se; World Wide Web home page: http://www.ias.se

#### HIV/AIDS PREVENTION FOR TEENS VIDEO CONFERENCE

A satellite video conference will be held **Thursday**, **December 12**, 1996 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST. The conference, produced by the Massachusetts Corporation for Educational Telecommunications (MCET) through a

cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is aimed at teachers of students in grades 6-12. health educators, community leaders. counselors and administrators. Participants will overview of receive an and HIV/AIDS education guidance in targeting prevention strategies for youth. For information, call (800) 556-4376. The registration deadline is Tuesday, November 5, 1996.

## RESEARCH ON DRUG USE AND HIV [From pg. 1]

work on the Community Epidemiology Workgroup and the return of epidemiology to ideas of the host and environment. He also reveals how meaning and context can be derived from the traditional focus of ethnography and complex cultural processual theory.

TheMoral Economy Heroin Addicts: Homeless Confronting Ethnography, HIV, and Everyday Violence in San Francisco Shooting Encampments. This paper, presented by Philippe Bougois, calls for the rethinking of public health from an individual health risk behavior perspective to how power and everyday violence structure the transmission of HIV. His critique illustrates how data and [Continued next page]

### RESEARCH ON DRUG USE AND HIV [From pg. 8]

understanding can be improved through classical ethnographic field work and greater theoretical sophistication in the areas of power, violence and extreme social marginalization.

Theoretical Foundations for Interdisciplinary Research in the Study of Injection-related HIV Risk: Applications of Ethnography in Public Health. In this paper, Michael Clatts discusses the importance of a perspective in research on the ecology (both micro physical and macro environment) of high-risk injection practices. Through discussing local contexts of HIV risk and the range of variability within a community, Clatts illustrates how applicability and generalizability of findings can better influence prevention policy recommendations to other neighborhoods and cities.

Margaret Conners' paper, Bridging the Gap Between the Street and Drug Recovery For Women at Risk of HIV Infection, discusses structural and gender inequality of risk among drug using women, health prevention models and outreach, and proposes a new interdisciplinary model that links drug recovery outreach to HIV prevention efforts. This model strives for the recognition of "ambivalence as a dimension of addiction," and addresses how outreach can be used when this perspective is utilized.

State-Sponsored Violence in New York City and Indigenous Attempts to Contain it: The Mediating Role of the Third Crown (Sgt. At Arms) of the Latin Kings. Presented by Andy Hamid, this paper looks at the role of gangs in response to deteriorating social conditions and how they have tried to internally "police" the violence in their own communities. Specifically, Hamid addresses the subject of the Sgt. At Arms role in the Latin Kings and how this office is used in the arbitration of disputes and authorization of force.

The Role of Ethnography in Disease Prevention: Sex, Drugs, and HIV. J. Raul Magana discusses the

HIVrelationship between: infected. heroin-addicted prostitutes and a group of undocumented workers Orange County, California, with a focus on the sexual behavior "becoming milk known as brothers" (multiple men having sex with one prostitute in succession). Magana addresses the importance of ethnography in looking at the ethnosexuality of certain risk groups and examines how these data can be useful in intervention programs.

Lenore Manderson presented Researching Risk: Perspectives fromHIV/AIDS-Related Research in Australia and Southeast Asia. This paper discusses the merit multidisciplinary research health intervention and research collaboration with communities in order to identify risk and develop, deliver and monitor interventions. Manderson summarizes her theoretical and methodological developments and how they were applied to help build community support and involvement.

Ethical Dilemmas in Anthropological and Epidemiological Approaches to Prevention Research on Drug Use and HIV/AIDS. Presented by Patricia Marshall, this paper explores ethical principles underlying research with human [Continued next page]

## RESEARCH ON DRUG USE AND HIV [From pg. 9]

subjects and their application to anthropological prevention studies of drug use and HIV risk. Marshall highlights issues of respect, confidentiality, power and authority and deception in the field. Marshall also makes suggestions for resolving ethical conflicts in field research.

Bryan Page presented Anthropology and Middle Level Theory in Interaction with Biomedical Disciplines: HIV and Related Problems, in which he highlights some advances in theoretical developments and critiques the lack of theory building within the discipline. He illustrates the production of theories through prevention research, such as network, acculturation and health systems theories, that help us better understand the spread, prevention and health management of HIV.

Toward a Critical Biocultural Model of Drug Abuse and Health Risk. In this paper, Merrill Singer explores four attributes of anthropology in an effort to construct a "critical bio-cultural" approach for the study of health among inner city drug users. Through examining human health in its inter-related bio-environmental and socio-cultural contexts, he outlines the social patterns and processes that promote risk; the configuration of local meanings and emotions invested by people in acts, objects, meanings and locations; and a holistic approach that explains how power, exchange, labor, mobility and disease cross-cut social boundaries.

Claire Sterk explores gender-specific aspects of HIV risk taking among women and the methodological issues in combining anthropological and epidemiological strategies in her paper, Women, Drugs, and HIV: Linking Ethnography and Epidemiology. Sterk addresses issues in the collection of ethnographic and epidemiological data and how they apply to research with female drug users. Sterk also illustrates how issues of power and reciprocity are intricate factors within such data collection.

The Relevance of Epidemiologic Medical Theory to Anthropology, by James Trostle, recounts the history collaboration between the two disciplines and highlights several theoretical areas that have been within helpful very. research. anthropological -Theories surrounding risk. management. measurement, research design and prevention discussed. Trostle recognizes the differences in how each of the disciplines handles such theories while appreciating the creative conflict that such collaboration has produced.

Mid-range Anthropological Theory and HIV Prevention Research: Multidisciplinary Cross-Cultural AIDS Prevention Models, by Robert Trotter. the presents contributions of anthropological approaches within the context of The National AIDS Prevention Program<sup>\*</sup> and the NIDA cooperative agreement. He specifically looks at contributions to the monitoring of the epidemiological characteristics of HIV and drug-related risk taking behaviors, the testing of new approaches to outreach-based intervention and models for culturally appropriate HIV intervention.