



Homosexual Sex = Death from HIV Infection

TVC SPECIAL REPORT

IN JULY, 2002, THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION appointed a homosexual physician named Dr. Joseph F. O'Neill to be our nation's director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy. He replaced homosexual activist Scott Evertz, former head of the Wisconsin Log Cabin Republicans. Evertz was transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services to become HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson's chief AIDS advisor.

AIDS Czar Appointment Sends Wrong Message

By appointing a homosexual physician to head up our nation's AIDS policy efforts, the Bush Administration has sent the wrong message to his supporters and to those who are truly concerned about the spread of AIDS in our culture.

Homosexual sex is the primary transmission route of the AIDS virus in our society. According to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (with the National Institutes of Health), there are an estimated 40,000 new HIV infections each year in the United States. Seventy percent of these are men; 30% are women. Of those men who are infected, 60% of them are infected through homosexual sex; 25% through intravenous drug use; and 15% through heterosexual sex.

Researchers are alarmed at signs of a new epidemic sweeping through homosexual communities as younger homosexuals engage in high risk, unprotected anal intercourse.

The *San Francisco Chronicle*, for example, reported on January 24, 2001, that San Francisco health officials are seeing an upsurge in HIV infections. The rate of infections has risen from 1.04% in 1997 to 2.2% in 2001. A rate of 2.2% a year means that 22 of every 1,000 HIV-negative men will contract the virus. A quarter of the city's estimated 46,800 homosexual males are already infected. The rate of infection among homosexuals who also inject drugs is 4.6%—twice as high as non-drug abusers. In addition, researchers have discovered in a study of HIV-infected homosexuals in San Francisco that 9% report having had high risk anal sex with someone who was HIV-negative.

The *Sacramento Bee* reported on January 24, 2001, that part of the reason for the increase in HIV infections among homosexuals is due to the use of antiviral drugs that keep HIV-positive individuals alive longer, "making it possible for them to spread the virus to more people." In short, the drugs that have been developed to prolong life are having the effect of actually spreading the AIDS epidemic further.

Health officials in Seattle are also seeing a resurgence of unsafe sexual behaviors among homosexuals. They expect to see a new wave of infections as younger homosexuals discard "safe sex" messages. According to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, March 21, 2001, health officials say there are three reasons why homosexuals are becoming lax about "safe sex": Effective drug treatments have led homosexuals to believe that HIV is manageable or curable; homosexuals are suffering from "epidemic fatigue," and have given up safe sex measures; and many of them are continuing to engage in the use of drugs to increase sexual pleasure. Drug use is directly related to the practice of engaging in anonymous sex with multiple sex partners—partners whose HIV status is unknown.

Pro-Homosexual "Education" Has Failed

The AIDS epidemic is not going to be stopped by educational efforts aimed at destigmatizing homosexual intercourse among blacks or promoting condom use among teens and homosexuals. Such messages will only spread the epidemic. The condom message has been pushed for decades by pro-homosexual groups such as Planned Parenthood and AIDS organizations.

According to the pro-abortion newsletter, *Family Planning Perspectives*, a condom's effectiveness in preventing HIV infection can be as high as 96%, but can be as low as 60%. While a 60% protection rate may seem significant, this still means the person has a 40% chance of being infected with a virus that will kill him. In addition, according to an article published in the British journal *Lancet* (Jan. 31, 2000), "Increased condom use will increase the number of transmissions that result in condom failure [and could] reflect decisions of individuals to switch from inherently safer strategies of partner selection of fewer partners to the riskier strategy of developing or maintaining higher rates of partner change plus reliance on condoms." In short, condom use is likely to increase the spread of HIV infections, not slow down the epidemic.

Targeting teens for pro-homosexual messages is also likely to spur an epidemic of infections among this population. According to Focus on the Family's report, *Take Twelve: The Truth About Abstinence Education*, a 1998 study of the effects of condom distribution in a Los Angeles high school, showed the following:

- Males reported increasing their condom use from 37% to 50%, the percentage of girls who reported their partners used condoms did not increase significantly.
- More female teens increased their participation in high risk sexual activities.
- The percentage of males who engaged in sexual activity remained slightly higher than the national average.
- The number of male students who engaged in unhealthy and risky same-sex activities increased.

The promotion of homosexual sex and condom use among teens is inevitably going to increase infections among this group. In fact, according to Dr. Craig Wilson, an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Alabama, "The rate of HIV infection among younger adolescents in the U.S. is increasing 200 to 300 percent each year." (Associated Press report, March 7, 2001) Health officials have stated that an estimated 20,000 people between the ages of 13 and 24 are infected with HIV each year in the U.S. That's two people each hour who are doomed to die young.

The worst thing we can do is to promote homosexual sex among teenagers or to set up pro-homosexual groups on junior high or high school campuses. *We will only fuel the AIDS epidemic and condemn children to an early grave if we allow homosexual activists to recruit children on our nation's campuses.*

What Can You Do?

If your school has a pro-homosexual group on campus, work with other parents to get it banned as a public health hazard. *Homosexual sex equals death from HIV infection.* Children should not be exposed to a sexual behavior that can kill them. Distribute TVC materials to school officials to explain why you oppose the normalization of homosexuality among children. Download our special reports from the TVC web site to educate school officials and parents. Organize a group at church to educate church members on this issue. Contact your legislators and express your opposition to homosexual recruitment programs. Work to defeat pro-homosexual politicians! Work and pray to keep your community free from homosexual recruitment programs or political domination!

Traditional Values Coalition is an inter-denominational public policy organization comprising over 43,000 member churches. For more information on the work of TVC, call our Washington, DC office at 202-547-8570 or access our web site at: www.traditionalvalues.org. TVC, 139 C Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003.