

The 'AIDS lobby': Who stands in the way of stopping the epidemic

by Patricia Salisbury

A powerful combination of politicians, including congressmen long associated with pro-homosexual and pro-drug positions and with the deindustrialization genocide policies of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, has emerged to argue that the key issue involved in the deadly AIDS pandemic threatening our nation is civil liberties for AIDS victims. To bolster their case, they cite the incorrect claims of the Atlanta Center for Disease Control (CDC), that AIDS is mainly a sexually transmitted disease, limited to certain high-risk populations, such as homosexuals, drug users, and hemophiliacs. Under cover of this argument, this lobby is opposing every traditional medical measure which could combat and defeat the epidemic.

They have already forced the admission of children with AIDS into the nation's schools, despite the protests of thousands of parents; they have passed legislation declaring sanitary procedures against the spread of AIDS a crime, turned the "treatment" of AIDS victims over to the euthanasia ("right-to-die") lobby, and spread lies and disinformation about the causes and character of the disease.

It is clear that the AIDS lobby does not represent the majority of U.S. citizens. A national survey by Louis Harris found that 42% of American adults say they are worried that someone close to them might be exposed to AIDS in the future. Twelve percent fear that a family member might have already been exposed to AIDS. A 75% majority believes that this is a very serious problem for the nation. Eighty-one percent believe that AIDS "can spread widely through the non-homosexual part of the population."

In short, the majority of the U.S. population will support the necessary medical and economic measures to eradicate the disease. But *the "AIDS lobby" as a political force must be identified and defeated.* We list below the most prominent and active members of this lobby, and call on citizens to force all public officials to make their positions known on this issue immediately, and to retire them from political life if they are members of the AIDS lobby.

State Rep. Art Agnos of California has passed through the state legislature a bill preventing a blood test developed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which detects the presence of the AIDS virus, from being used by prospective

employers or insurers. The bill prohibits the screening of potential AIDS carriers, except in the case of blood donors. The bill was signed into law by Republican Gov. George Dukmejian.

Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, a member of the Trilateral Commission, signed into law on Aug. 14 the first city ordinance providing for penalties against those who discriminate against persons with AIDS or AIDS-related conditions, in housing, employment, public services, and accommodations, thereby making it illegal in the city of Los Angeles to take the most elementary measures to stop the spread of the disease, even as a matter of private initiative on the part of restaurant owners and others.

Bradley and the city council passed this legislation despite the known deterioration of public health in Los Angeles. The increase in the rate of tuberculosis in the area has led city health officials to declare that all children enrolling in the city school system in September must be tested for TB. Dr. Shirley Fannin, Los Angeles County Public Health Programs Director, testified in favor of the passage of the ordinance.

Also testifying in favor of the ordinance was Dr. Neil Schram, appointed by Bradley to chair the Los Angeles City/County AIDS Task Force. Schram was an associate of Nazi doctors Robert Nedjl and Neil Barber of Kaiser Permanente Medical Hospital, during the period of their trial for "mercy-killing" of patient Clarence Herbert, in the fall of 1982.

Governor Mario Cuomo of New York: Despite a statement that he would be "scared to death" if his 15-year-old son were in a classroom with an AIDS classmate or teacher, Cuomo has permitted the chairman of his State Advisory Panel on AIDS to lobby against measures to counter the AIDS epidemic. The panel was set up in response to the Pentagon's decision to screen all American military recruits for AIDS, beginning Oct. 1.

Bishop Paul Moore, Episcopal Bishop of New York and chairman of Cuomo's panel, denounced the decision and said that the military



screening test would spread "panic" about the disease and would be "an invasion of privacy." Timothy Sweeny, executive director of the LAMBDA legal defense and education fund (the homosexual ACLU), which is considering suing the Pentagon for the blood screen requirement, characterizes Moore as "a real champion of the civil rights of AIDS victims. . . . We've worked very closely with Moore. He is very strong defender of gay and AIDS civil rights."

Mayor Dianne Feinstein of San Francisco, responding to her politically influential homosexual constituency, has taken no measures whatsoever to deal with what may be the worst AIDS situation in the country, and is instead supplying funds to counterculture kook groups throughout the Bay area. The result has been to turn control of the AIDS pandemic over to the "right to die" lobby. With city funding, Shanti, a death-worshipping cult, created by the psychotic "death professionals" Elizabeth Kubler-Ross and Stephen Levine, apostle of Baba Ram Dass, is now handling well over 80% of AIDS victims in San Francisco. San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, pandering to the "gay" vote, refused to shut down San Francisco's notorious homosexual bathhouses, despite acknowledgment that they are documented sites for the spread of AIDS. The Associated Press has reported that victims of the disease are being allowed to engage in sexual activities at San Francisco General Hospital. Nurses report that AIDS patients "have sex on the wards . . . and AIDS patients were allowed to have overnight visitors." A July 25 nurses' memo called for an approach that "acknowledges the patients' sexual needs" and "arranges for private place and time for sex" in the hospital.

Mayor Ed Koch of New York is leading the fight to maintain children with AIDS in the schools. The actions of his committee of "medical experts" to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a sick child can attend school, has resulted in a potentially precedent-setting lawsuit, involving experts from throughout the country and the admission of one child with AIDS into public school in Queens.



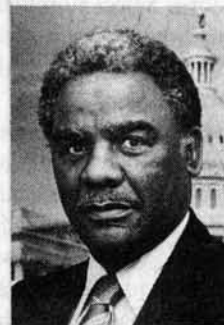
Mayor Koch has backed the announcement of New York City Schools Chancellor Quinones, that teachers with AIDS who are healthy enough to keep teaching should be permitted to do so. Koch has also used the AIDS plague as a foot in the door to heroin decriminalization, announcing that he is weighing a proposal from his health commissioner, to repeal the state law requiring a doctor's prescription to buy hypodermic needles and syringes. The commissioner also proposed that drug abuse treatment centers serve as "arrest-free

zones" for addicts, where they would be able to trade in their dirty needles and syringes for sterile equipment.

Joan Specter, city councilwoman from Philadelphia, wife of liberal U.S. senator from Pennsylvania Arlen Specter, is pushing a resolution on AIDS designed to preempt the popular revolt against the AIDS lobby beginning in New York from spreading to Philadelphia. Her resolution, introduced into the Philadelphia City Council, mandates that the state adopt guidelines on a policy toward AIDS victims. Specter has demanded that the incompetent guidelines of the Atlanta CDC should shape the policies of local and state governments, and has announced that she is already contacting both city and state health officials and the Philadelphia Board of Education to get them moving in this direction.

Lisa Greenberg, the spokeswoman for Specter's office on AIDS, has specifically rejected, in discussion with reporters, the notion of a connection between AIDS and economic breakdown, despite the abundant evidence in the cases of Africa and Belle Glade, Florida. "We've taken a look at both," says Greenberg. "Belle Glade is an isolated situation, very few medical people who are familiar with AIDS think it's significant." On Africa, where whole populations are victims of the AIDS pandemic, Greenberg said: "I don't want to make any value judgments, but you have to realize that there are very different religious and cultural values in most of Africa. Sodomy is for many Africans a common religious and cultural ritual."

Mayor Harold Washington of Chicago, the son of a minister and a former U.S. congressman, on June 26, 1983, joined Jane Byrne in participating in the "Gay and Lesbian Pride Week" parade, in which floats sported banner with slogans like, "Be proud, be strong, with a lesbian you can't go wrong!" and "Guys will be dolls!" The latter float featured transvestites dressed in women's dressés, kissing and fondling one another.



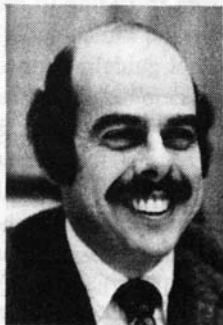
Washington was elected with a strong homosexual vote, backed by the pro-drug, pro-pornography Playboy Foundation. One of his election staff directors was an executive member of the board of directors of the Playboy Foundation. Because he is courting the homosexual vote, speaking at as many homosexual functions, outings, and forums as he can find, to open his administration to the homosexual population, he has been silent on the issue of the need to quarantine AIDS victims for research and treatment. Rumors have it that William Ware, the former chief of staff of the Washington administration, died this year of AIDS. He was silently but swiftly dispatched to New York's Sloan Kettering Hospital,

for "pneumonia complications" this spring, where he died. His body was cremated within hours.

Washington also suffered a serious embarrassment, when it was brought to light that Clarence McClain, a top official in his new administration, had been brought up on charges of being a "pimp," for the procurement of "young men." The scandal became so intense that McClain abruptly left the administration.

Representative Henry Waxman

(D-Calif.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, one of the committees with primary responsibility and control over funding for AIDS research, intends, according to his staff, to introduce a bill which will prevent disclosure of the identities of those who test positive for AIDS in blood tests or in other medical research to anyone, including health authorities. On David Brinkley's "This Week" television show, Waxman endorsed the Atlanta CDC guidelines, ensuring that no amount of spending on research or treatment will stem the AIDS pandemic.



Representative Ted Weiss (pronounced "Vice") (D-N.Y.) has introduced a bill repeatedly since at least 1980, which amends the civil rights acts which were meant to guarantee basic political rights and freedoms, to include "affectional or sexual orientation." Weiss, who is a member of the congressional Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, and who has been using the committee as a vehicle to promote the "civil rights of AIDS victims," has been organizing increasing numbers of co-sponsors for his homosexual civil rights amendment. The bill (HR 230) would lead to the forced accommodation of society to the very life-style that has already killed 7,000 and infected up to one million in the United States alone. Sixty-Six Congressmen, including Rep. Gerry Studds of Massachusetts, censured by the Congress for seducing a male page, are on record in support of this legislation. Weiss is characterized by spokesmen for LAMBDA as "terrific on the issue of civil rights of AIDS victims."

Mayor Kathy Whitmire of Houston refers all questions on AIDS to city health director Dr. James Haughton. Whitmire's office said AIDS is becoming too political. Dr. Haughton has opposed mass blood screenings, and specifically termed the screening plan adopted by the U.S. military a violation of civil rights. "There are typhoid carriers in this city; we don't force *them* to take a blood test." He said blood tests would "stigmatize people with labels that don't mean anything," and maintained that the only people at risk, outside of the high-risk population of homosexuals and drug addicts, are dental personnel. Mayor Whitmire has been very

close to the Gay Rights lobby since her first election campaign in 1981. In 1983, after she won re-election, Whitmire made a tour of six homosexual bars, on a Saturday night, got up on stage, and thanked the crowd for their support in getting her re-elected. Houston has the third-highest rate of AIDS in the country.

Mayor Andy Young of Atlanta, former Carter administration ambassador to the United Nations, addressed an audience that included some AIDS victims at the annual meeting of a group called AID Atlanta in September. He declared that AIDS is a terrible disease but that no one should panic in response to the crisis. The AID Atlanta group, composed primarily of homosexuals, is opposing any quarantine of AIDS victims. Young's speech echoed the line of the influential *Atlanta Constitution*, which has editorially urged people to "Keep a cool head on the AIDS debate" and has praised a decision by the Bibb County School Board to table a proposal to bar students with AIDS from attending schools.



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