



AIDS & ANTHROPOLOGY

BULLETIN

The Newsletter of the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group

Vol.3(3) Oct.-Dec. 1991

AARG TO MEET IN CHICAGO

The American Anthropological Association annual meeting will be held in Chicago at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel on November 20-24, 1991 and, once again, AIDS sessions will take center stage at the conference. About 4,000 anthropologists are expected to attend. The AIDS and Anthropology Research Group (AARG) has scheduled the following activities:

1) Our semi-annual business meeting will be held on November 21st from 5:30-7:00 P.M. in the Wisconsin Room. This is an administrative meeting and all AARG members are encouraged to attend.

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AIDS SESSIONS AT THE 1991 AAA

The 1991 American Anthropological Association (AAA) annual meeting will be hosting several AIDS sessions in Chicago. AARG will hold its semi-annual meetings (see "AARG to Meet in Chicago" article above). The AAA Task Force on AIDS will meet at Loyola University on November 20th from 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. It will be chaired by Dr. Merrill Singer (Chair of the Task Force). The meeting is open to all Task Force members.

Dr. Stephen L. Eyre will chair an Invited Session on "Ethnicity, Gender and the Experience of AIDS," sponsored by the Society for Medical Anthropology and the Society for Cultural Anthropology. Papers will be presented by Drs. Michael C. Clatts, Judy A. Benjamin, Merrill Singer, Joyce Rivera-Beckman, Thomas S. Schorr, Laurie J. Price, Debra J. Kantor, Martin F. Manalansan IV,

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VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

All AARG members should vote now in our 1992 elections. Please complete and return the enclosed ballot form. Do not sign your name on the form itself, but print your name and address on the upper left hand corner of the envelope that you mail it in. Vote for only one candidate for Chair-Elect and for no more than three

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IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

To renew your AIDS and Anthropology Research Group membership for 1992, or to become a new member, use the form that is included in this mailing. Membership in AARG includes our quarterly AIDS & Anthropology Bulletin, our quarterly revised membership list with topical and geographical key words, your listing in the membership list, conference abstract supplements, bibliographic supplements, semi-annual roundtable discussions, semi-annual business meetings and

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CHICAGO (continued from page 1)

2) Our cash bar reception will immediately follow the business meeting from 7:00-8:00 P.M., again in the Wisconsin Room. All AARG members are cordially invited to attend and to bring guests.

3) Our informal discussion roundtable will be held on November 23rd from 12:00-1:30 P.M. in the Miami Room. This is an open-ended substantive meeting where AARG members have an opportunity to introduce themselves, to briefly describe their research activities or interests, and to discuss key issues in HIV-related anthropological research.

4) Our steering committee meeting will be held on November 21st from 12:00-1:00 P.M. in the Erie Room. This meeting is open to all AARG officers and steering committee members. All meetings will be chaired by Dr. Ralph Bolton (Chair, AARG).

POSITION WANTED

An M.A. Candidate in Medical Anthropology with all course work completed is seeking employment in an internship program for one or two years beginning May, 1992, for HIV/AIDS-related fieldwork among Hispanics/Latins in the United States or Latin America. Contact: Ms. Maria Cecilia Gilardi, P.O. Box 11531, Alexandria, VA 22312 USA.

CHAPTERS SOUGHT

Drs. Ralph Bolton and Norris G. Lang are co-editing a volume on AIDS in the Third World to be published by Studies in Third World Societies. The volume is intended for textbook use. Send chapters or ideas for chapters to Dr. Ralph Bolton, Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711 USA.

VOTE

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candidates for Steering Committee members. The Chair-Elect will serve in that position for 1992 (one-year term) and automatically become the Chair of AARG for 1993 (one-year term). The present Chair is Dr. Ralph Bolton and the Chair-Elect is Dr. Douglas A. Feldman.

The Steering Committee members serve for three year terms. Please consult the revised membership list for information about the various candidates. Mail your ballot no later than the November 15, 1991 deadline to: Ralph Bolton, Ph.D., Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, California 91711 USA. Your vote is important!

BIBLIOGRAPHIC UPDATE

The bibliographic update by Dr. Ralph Bolton and Ms. Gail Orazco is extensive this issue, and is being included as a seven page supplement.

TREASURER'S NOTE

Dr. Moses B. Pounds (AARG Treasurer) reports that AARG currently has \$1,673 in our bank account.

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Charlton Alexander Clay, and Stephen L. Eyre. Drs. Ralph Bolton and Nancy Scheper-Hughes will serve as discussants. It is scheduled on November 21 from 8:30-11:45 A.M.

Some of the papers at "Reciprocity and Poverty: Street Ethnography in the 90's," to be chaired by Drs. Nancy L. Nelson and Michael G. Robertson, will be AIDS-related. Papers will be presented by Drs. Kathy Gladden, Nancy L. Nelson, M. Rory Bolger, Stacy M. Rowe, Michael G. Robertson, Molly Schucat, Douglas S. Goldsmith, Theresa Mason, D. Scott Wilson, John E. Kreniske, and Charles S. Williams. The session is scheduled for November 21 from 1:45-5:00 P.M.

Dr. Michele Schedlin will chair "Drug Use and Abuse in the Age of AIDS." Papers will be presented by Drs. Marlene D. De Rios, John Bryan Page, Brenda R. Schwab, Jeanette Hassin-Brack, Juan F. Gamella, Nancy Swanson, and Margaret R. Weeks. The session is scheduled for November 22 from 8:00-9:45 A.M.

Drs. Candice Bradley and W. Penn Handwerker will chair "The Political Economy of Sexual Behavior, AIDS and Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases." Papers will be presented by Drs. W. Penn Handwerker, Rose C. Jones, Debra A. Schumann, Michelle Lewis, Candice Bradley, and Susan C.M. Scrimshaw. Dr. Martha Ward will be the discussant. The session will be held on November 22 from 10:00-11:45 A.M.

Some of the papers at "Beyond the Lavender Lexicon: Cultural Perspectives on Gay and Lesbian Language," to be chaired by Dr. William L. Leap, may be AIDS-related. Papers will be presented by Drs. William L. Leap, Rudolf Gaudio, Ralph Bolton, Terry Tafoya, Jason A. Cromwell, and Jill L. Wittmer. The discussants will be Drs. Eileen M. Jackson and Norris G. Lang. The session is set for November 22 from 10:45 A.M. - 1:15 P.M.

Drs. Brooke Schoepf, Christine Obbo, and Paul Nchoji Nkwi will chair "Representing AIDS in Africa: Racism, Sexism and Global
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RENEW

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cash bar receptions, and periodic regional AARG discussion meetings. AARG is a special committee of the Society for Medical Anthropology, which is a unit of the American Anthropological Association. Use the enclosed form to make any changes in your membership listing, or to add or modify any key words.

Please send the completed form with your check or money order for \$15 payable to "AARG" to: AARG, c/o Moses B. Pounds, Ph.D., Treasurer, 5224 Even Star Place, Columbia, Maryland 21044-1832 USA no later than January 31, 1992.

Membership is free for anthropologists residing in developing countries, unemployed anthropologists, or graduate students actively involved in AIDS research or programs. The AAB is sent without charge to selected policy makers in order to keep them informed of the HIV-related research and activities of anthropologists.

Inequality" on November 22 from 2:15-5:15 P.M. Papers will be presented by Drs. Garland E. Allen, Engundu V. Walu, Katele Kalumba, Cheikh I. Niang, and Beth Maina Ahlberg.

Some of the papers at "Addicts, Prostitutes, Teen Mothers: Going Beyond the Social and Biomedical Labels," an Invited Session sponsored by the Society for Medical Anthropology, to be chaired by Drs. Susan C. M. Scrimshaw and Kirsten D. White, may be AIDS-related. Papers will be presented by Drs. Michele G. Schedlin, Lisa J. Massersmith, Barbara O. De Zalduondo, Kirsten D. White, Marilyn Poland, Pamela I. Erickson, Sherry Deren, Jodi L. Olson, and Adelaida R. Del Castillo. The discussants will be Drs. W. Penn Handwerker and Carl Kendall, and the session will take place on November 23 from 8:00-11:30 A.M.

Dr. Douglas A. Feldman will chair "The Social Impacts of AIDS: Current Perspectives" on November 24 from 8:00-11:15 A.M. Papers will be presented by Drs. Norris G. Lang, Janet W. McGrath, Ron Stall, Ruth P. Wilson, David L. Strug, Linda A. Valleroy, and Robert G. Carlson. The discussants will be Drs. M. Margaret Clark and Susan C. M. Scrimshaw. For further details about the annual meeting, contact the American Anthropological Association, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; (202) 232-8800.

SANTA FE, 1992

The 21st annual meeting of the Society for Cross-Cultural Research will be meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico on February 26-March 1, 1992, and HIV-related sessions are being planned. For more information, contact: Dr. Ralph Bolton, Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711 USA. The deadline for proposals and abstracts is December 1, 1991.

The Society for Applied Anthropology annual meeting will be held at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee on March 25-29, 1992. Abstracts are due October 31, 1991. AARG will be holding its semi-annual meetings at the conference. If you are planning an AIDS session and would like to have AARG consider sponsoring it, contact Dr. Ralph Bolton (Chair, AARG) no later than October 15th. His address is: Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711 USA, phone: (714) 621-8000 (x2228), bitnet: RBOLTON@POMONA.CLAREMONT.EDU, fax: (714) 621-8403. Information about the SFAA conference may be obtained by contacting Dr. Linda A. Bennett, 1992 Program Chair, Department of Anthropology, Memphis State University, Memphis, TN 38152 USA, phone: (901) 278-8252 or (901) 678-2958/2080, fax: (901) 678-2069.

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The AIDS & Anthropology Bulletin needs to hear from you. Write, call, or fax us with material that should be included in our bulletin. We are also looking for short (200 -
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TRAINING PROGRAM

Emory University School of Public Health is seeking applications from sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, and related disciplines for a two-year post-doctoral program funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. The second cohort of six trainees will begin on July 1, 1992, with CDC's three-week Epidemic Intelligence Service course. Trainees will then be enrolled approximately half-time in Emory's School of Public Health earning the MPH degree, while working half-time with interdisciplinary groups (including social/behavioral scientists) at CDC on aspects of AIDS/HIV.

A flexible academic program at Emory and varied research opportunities at CDC allow the program to meet individual career needs and interests. All academic costs are paid by the program. Trainee stipends range from \$18,600-32,300 depending upon experience after the doctoral degree. An application consists of: 1) a letter indicating how this program will further the applicant's professional career; 2) a current c.v.; 3) sample(s) of written or published work; and 4) three supporting letters. Send all materials by January 7, 1992 to: Richard Levinson, Ph.D., Program Director, Emory University School of Public Health, 1599 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329 USA; phone: (404) 727-8742, fax: (404) 727-8744. Applications from women and minorities are encouraged.

CONFERENCES

October 6-9, 1991: "International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research - Ninth," Banff, Alberta, Canada; contact: Conference Secretariat, International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research, Department of Medicine, Health Sciences Centre-GC430, 700 William Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 0Z3 Canada.

October 7-11, 1991: "Planning and Evaluation for HIV Prevention Programs," Baltimore, MD,

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NEED TO HEAR

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400 word) preliminary research reports or review summaries. Send your material or suggestions to: Douglas A. Feldman, Ph.D. Editor, AAE Department of Epidemiology and Public Health University of Miami School of Medicine (R-669), P.O.B. 016069 Miami, FL 33101 USA (305) 547-6559 Fax: (305) 547-5544.

The deadline for our next issue (January-March 1992) is November 30, 1991.

RESEARCH REPORT

by Stephen L. Eyre, Ph.D.
University of California,
San Francisco

In an ongoing ethnographic study conducted in the Castro District of San Francisco, I have sought to investigate beliefs, behaviors, and roles which assist persons with HIV in coping with their illness. I term these beliefs, behaviors, and roles self-help orientations. The major goals of this study have been to describe the predominant self-help orientations of the HIV-seropositive gay community, to determine whether, and if so - how,

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CONFERENCES (continued from page 5)

USA; contact: Harriette Lowery, Baltimore Health Department, STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, 303 East Fayette Street, Fifth Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 USA; (301) 396-4448, fax:(301) 625-0688.

October 7-11, 1991: "Planning and Evaluating HIV/STD Prevention Programs," Denver, CO, USA; contact: Patrick J. Barnett, Colorado Department of Health, Denver STD Prevention/Training Center, 4210 East 11th Avenue, Denver, CO 80220 USA; (303) 331-8311.

October 23, November 20, and December 4, 1991: "The Psychosocial Implications of HIV Infection and AIDS," Denver, CO, USA; contact: see directly above.

October 24-27, 1991: "Women and HIV - First Western Regional Conference," San Diego, CA, USA; contact: Gladys Michaels, Western Regional AIDS Education Project, Comprehensive Health Center, 6601 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114 USA; (619) 264-1200.

October 29-31, 1991: "National AIDS Demonstration Research Project National Meeting - Third Annual," Washington, D.C., USA; contact: National AIDS Demonstration Research Project, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10-46, Rockville, MD 20857 USA; (301) 443-3783.

November 10-14, 1991: "American Public Health Association - 119th Annual Meeting," Atlanta, GA, USA; contact: APHA, 1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 USA; (202) 799-5600.

November 19-22, 1991: "Planning and Evaluating HIV Prevention Programs," San Francisco, CA, USA; contact: Keir Mathis, San Francisco Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention/Training Center, 1372 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 USA; (415) 554-9620.

November 20-24, 1991: "American Anthropological Association - 90th Annual Meeting," Chicago, IL, USA; contact: AAA, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

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RESEARCH

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these orientations actually assist individuals in coping with illness, and to determine how these orientations are socially transmitted. Over a two-year period, I have observed a variety of self-help movements using techniques of participant observation and person-centered ethnography. Twenty-one subjects have been interviewed on a weekly basis over three-month periods, and subsequently followed and re-interviewed four times a year to provide cognitive data for the study.

The four orientations studied--selected on the basis of estimated prevalence--find their social context in four self-help movements: 1) the HIV-oriented holistic healing movement, 2) the HIV-oriented 12 Step recovery movement, 3) the AIDS activist movement (e.g., ACT-UP), and 4) the HIV treatment advocacy movement (e.g., Project Inform). Although I studied each self-help movement separately, the actual self-help orientations of HIV seropositive persons are rarely exclusive. Individuals switch from one orientation to another or adopt two or three simultaneously.

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20009 USA; (202) 232-8800.

December 2-4, 1991: "International Conference on AIDS in Africa - Sixth," Dakar, Senegal; contact: Scientific Secretariat, Laboratoire de Bacteriologie-Virologie (HALD), Avenue Pasteur, B.P. 3001, Dakar, Senegal; (221) 21.64.20, fax: (221) 21.64.42.

February 26-March 1, 1992: "Society for Cross-Cultural Research - 21st Annual Meeting," Santa Fe, NM, USA; contact: Ralph Bolton, Department of Anthropology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711 USA; (714) 621-8000 x2228, fax: (714) 621-8403.

March 25-29, 1992: "Society for Applied Anthropology - Annual Meeting," Memphis, TN, USA; contact: Linda Bennett, Department of Anthropology, Memphis State University, Memphis, TN 38152; (901) 678-2958.

December 2-6, 1992: "American Anthropological Association - 91st Annual Meeting," San Francisco, CA, USA; contact: see November 20-24, 1991 contact information above.

FLORENCE CONFERENCE: AIDS AND ANTHROPOLOGY

by Dr. Janet W. McGrath
Case Western Reserve University

(The following is an abridged version of an article published in AIDS & Society 2(4):8-9, July-August, 1991. Printed with permission of the publisher).

The VII International Conference on AIDS had a markedly reduced number of papers by, and of interest to, anthropologists. McCombie et al. and Rwabukwali et al. from Uganda report on sociodemographic factors that affect risk factors and predict AIDS knowledge and practice. In Malawi, Dallabetta et al. show that high socioeconomic status is associated with decreased STDs, but not HIV because it only affects STD treatment, not risk behaviors. In another paper, McCombie et al.

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As my definition suggests, self-help orientations have a cognitive, a behavioral, and a social component. The cognitive component consists of attitudes and beliefs. The behavioral component consists of health-related behaviors which are often derived from attitudes and beliefs. The social component consists of role-governed social interactions. For example, an HIV holistic belief taken from Louise Hay is that AIDS is caused by a strong belief that one is not "good enough." An HIV holistic behavior derived from this belief is the daily ritual of giving love to oneself in the mirror. An HIV holistic role would be to organize a support group based on holistic principles.

The components of an HIV self-help orientation are learned and taught to others: they are cultural. Shared HIV-related beliefs and participation in an interlocking set of roles define the boundaries of many social networks of HIV seropositive gay men. Based upon my experience, I would argue that there is a need for more anthropologists to integrate person-centered methods with more standard ethnographic and epidemiologic techniques

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AARG

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AIDS & Anthropology Bulletin

Editor: Dr. Douglas A. Feldman
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report on changes in condom use among Ugandan women. Mehryar et al. presented an overview of the work from Demographic Health Surveys and KAPB studies across Africa on the acceptability of condom use. They report that condoms are viewed as related to contraception and protection from other STDs and that, overall, significant barriers to condom use still exist. Wilson et al. used ethnographic research to demonstrate that "HIV risks are deeply rooted in the nature of trucking work" in Zimbabwe and stress the importance of peer educators.

Curiously, there were significantly fewer papers than in the past reporting on research

on AIDS in gay men. Perhaps this is a reaction to early reports of behavior change in gay communities - suggesting (incorrectly) that anthropologists' work is finished in that area. Hickson et al. addressed the issue of "relapse" from safe sex among gay men. They argue that the concept of relapse is inappropriate because the changes are not related to knowledge or attitudes regarding AIDS, but rather appear to be related to having a regular relationship. This suggests that re-examination of the role of relationship formation among gay men may be valuable.

Maxine Ankrah, in a plenary keynote, highlighted the tendency in AIDS research to individualize AIDS, leaving out family and community. She reminded the conferees of the importance of working together to preserve community and family structures in light of the epidemic.

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 as they study AIDS. Cultural dimensions of both the coping and the risk-taking behavior of individuals affected by HIV-related illness remain poorly understood, although these have important implications for both treatment and prevention.
