HIV-AIDS Awareness and Prevention

Updated 10-12-07

Finalized Script Deadline: Friday, October 5th, 2007
Translation Deadline: Monday, October 15th, 2007

Translators: Do not translate green highlights as they are merely reference to help clarify statements. Please contact Larry Bogoslaw with any questions. Good luck!

-1- (Street shots…. General…. Include all ages, diversity, both genders and “couple shots” all sexualities if possible.)

H-I-V AIDS is fast becoming the worst epidemic in human history. None of us are immune and there’s still no vaccine or cure for this disease. The good news is that HIV- AIDS is totally preventable if people learn the facts and protect themselves.

[44]

-2- (Shots of laboratory.. Clinic settings.. Testing areas... Shots of a virus graphic? Other ideas?)

Human Immunodeficiency Virus, or H-I-V, is the virus that causes AIDS.

HIV attacks the immune system and over time, compromises the body’s ability to fight germs that can make us sick. At that point, a doctor will determine if a person has AIDS.

A person can be infected with H-I-V and may not develop AIDS for years. However, once a person tests positive for the HIV virus, they will always be able to infect others. That’s why it’s important to get tested and know if you have HIV and can infect others.

Some people with AIDS die from complications caused by the disease but others learn how to manage living with HIV and extend their life with the help from an early diagnosis and medical treatments. HIV and AIDS are treatable but not curable.

[134]
To keep from getting infected with HIV, it’s important to know how the virus is spread.

The HIV infection cannot be spread causally from one person to another by shaking hands, hugging, kissing, coughing, sweating or passing tears when crying.

HIV cannot be spread by contact with objects such as drinking glasses, swimming pools, toilet seats and food.

HIV cannot be spread from other living things like animals, pets and insects.

HIV can spread from person to person during anal, vaginal or less commonly, oral sex.

Sharing needles while injecting drugs, steroids or vitamins or using contaminated needles to create tattoos or body piercing can spread HIV.

HIV can also be passed from an infected mother to her baby during pregnancy, childbirth or breastfeeding.

To keep from getting infected with HIV, know how to protect yourself.

Correctly using latex condoms during sex can help reduce the odds of becoming infected with HIV.

Abstinence, or showing your affection without engaging in sex, or being in a committed relationship with someone who has tested negative for HIV is the only sure way to prevent the sexual transmission of the HIV virus.

Use a clean syringe or needle any time you pierce your skin, b when receiving drugs, a tattoo or body piercing.
(shot of pregnant women)

And an infected pregnant woman can almost eliminate infecting her unborn child with early medical treatments and care during pregnancy and birth.

-7- (Shots of people living with AIDS.. Doctor and patient interaction at clinics.. HIV test “kit” Etc.)

Although the virus itself does not go away once you’re infected, H-I-V AIDS is not always a fatal disease.

Early diagnosis and treatment can prolong your life for years.

The HIV test is easy, affordable and confidential which means your results are not shared with anyone without your permission. Verifying insurance or citizenship are not required to take the test and results are kept private between you and your medical professional.

-8- (Shots of AIDS meds and HIV test “kit”?)

HIV is becoming a more manageable disease when diagnosed early and with treatment.

There are medicines to help manage the virus and to treat diseases that result from compromised immune systems. However, it’s important to know there are side effects from the medicines.

Counseling, peer-support groups and treatments are offered to those who test positive.

-9- (Street shots…. General…. Include all ages, diversity, both genders and “couple shots” all sexualities if possible.)

H-I-V AIDS is preventable and treatable.

The best way to care for yourself and your family is to know the facts, use condoms correctly, get tested and know where to get help.