



Fun Facts to Know and Tell

Did you know . . .

- The theory that HIV came from African green monkeys was started by laboratory contamination? [1]
- None of the *simian immunodeficiency viruses* found in African primates actually cause immunodeficiency?
- The current theory that HIV originated in a rare chimpanzee is based on questionable viral evidence derived from a single animal (Marilyn) who had lived in the United States since infancy?

Did you know . . .

- What are believed to be the first African AIDS cases occurring as far back as 1959, were probably patients with genetic forms of immunodeficiency, not HIV infection?
- The world's first medically documented cases of AIDS occurred in New York City in 1979?
- Early in the AIDS epidemic, the United States was recognized as the epicenter of the global HIV/AIDS epidemic? As reported by Danish physicians in 1985: “[The] high rate of travel of Danish homosexuals to the USA might explain the high rate of AIDS in Denmark which is at present the highest reported for citizens in a European country.” [2]
- The first AIDS cases in Denmark, West Germany, England, France, Haiti, and South Africa were all gay men who caught AIDS by having sex with American gay men?
- Early in the AIDS epidemic, American blood products (Factor VIII for hemophiliacs) were known to import HIV into Denmark, France, and South Africa?

Did you know . . .

- Although doctors and scientists originally theorized that AIDS originated in Haiti, AIDS was actually brought to Haiti by American gay male tourists?
- Impoverished Haitian men would sell themselves to American gay male tourists for as little as \$10 USD a night; many of them heterosexuals who later transmitted HIV to their wives and girlfriends?





Health Alert Communications

Communication in Life Sciences

- Although doctors and scientists theorized that HIV came to Haiti from Africa, researchers failed to find any Haitian AIDS patient who had sex with an African?
- In 1987, the country with the world's highest AIDS rate *per capita* was Bermuda?

Did you know . . .

- The first Africans diagnosed with AIDS were two white gay men in South Africa who caught AIDS in New York City? (They were flight attendants who flew the Johannesburg-New York City route.)
- The first black Africans diagnosed with AIDS were residents of Belgium?
- These first black Africans with AIDS in Belgium were diagnosed 4 years after the first AIDS cases in New York City?
- The first black African AIDS patients living in Central Africa (Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo) caught AIDS from European sexual partners?
- If it were true that 25% of adults in Botswana, Africa actually had HIV infection, then the men would average 200 – 800 different sexual partners per year while the women would average 220 – 2400 different sexual partners per year? [3]
- The famous British sailor from Manchester, England who reportedly died from AIDS in 1959 which he supposedly had caught in Africa had never been to Africa and didn't have AIDS, rather his tissue samples had been contaminated with HIV in the testing laboratory?
- All the familiar HIV/AIDS numbers that you hear about Africa, such as 30 million infected and 2.9 million die each year, are actually estimates generated by computers in Geneva, Switzerland (not actual reported cases nor actual death counts)?
- After counting death certificates, South Africa reported 13,521 HIV/AIDS deaths in 2007; meanwhile the UNAIDS estimated and reported 350,000 HIV/AIDS deaths in South Africa for 2007?

References:

- [1] See the explanatory video complete with references: [The Fallacy of HIV's African Origin, Video](#)
- [2] Gerstoft J, Nielsen JO, Dickmeiss E, Ronne T, Platz P, Mathiesen L. The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in Denmark. A report from the Copenhagen study group of AIDS on the first 20 Danish patients. *Acta Med Scand.* 1985;217(2):213-224
- [3] See the explanatory video complete with references [The Implausibility of African HIV AIDS Statistics, Video](#)

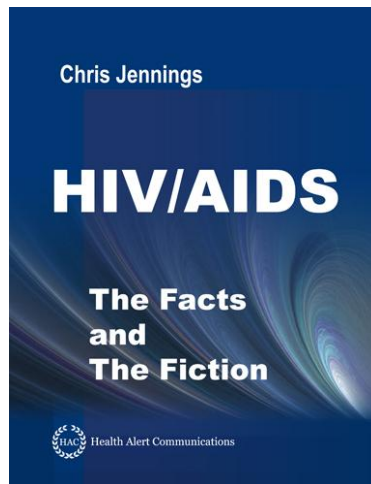


HIV/AIDS – The Fact and The Fiction

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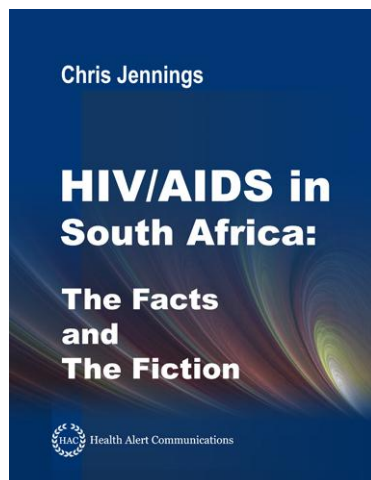
HIV/AIDS in South Africa – The Fact and The Fiction

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