

Mrs Craghill

Copy to: Mr Davies ✓
Dr Prentice
Dr McIntyre

AIDS: HEALTH EDUCATION

Since you cast the fly with malice aforethought I tried to resist, but I simply had to respond.

Certainly, we should not prepare our own leaflet. So far as I know we have had no cases in Scotland and I am also sure the gay (or is it homosexual) community in Scotland know more about AIDS than the leaflet will tell them.

I should have thought that, apart from the blood donor element which has been dealt with, it might have been possible to provide a modest payment direct to the Terrence Higgins Trust to support their educational endeavours - a kind of GAY-ASH approach. However, DHSS seem to have gone well past the point of no return.

I doubt if comments are required in detail. This has some elements of the Well Women affair. I do think they should make up their minds about "gay" or "homosexual".

On page 2, the section on "others" needs cleaning up:

e.g. people from haiti - why not Haitians?
Africans from Central Africa (where else) - why not Central
Africans from countries such as Zaire?

The section on haemophiliacs is very odd - why not haemophiliacs who have received blood products from infected donors as for blood transfused patients?

On page 3, the last paragraph needs redrafting. I should leave out "or feel you may have been exposed to AIDS" and put in "especially in the known high risk groups, including homosexuals from areas of high prevalence in the USA".

On page 4, I would put in the words "at the STD clinic" after "a doctor" in line 10. I doubt if the common or garden GP would necessarily know anything about AIDS.

GRO-C

G A SCOTT
22 August 1984