AIDS IN PRISON

A FORUM FOR EDUCATION AND ACTION

Just being in prison is bad enough. Inequalities in our society lead to misery and crime. Jails and prisons become the racist catch-alls for the people our government wants to hide away. The rate of imprisonment for Black and Latin people in the US is higher than in South Africa. Prison is not designed to rehabilitate or even to punish -- it is just a holding tank for "undesirables."

Havings AIDS in prison is worse. Our society would be just as glad if all drug users and gay people died, and prison is where that attitude is most obvious. PWAs in prison are treated exactly like inmates of the Nazi concentration camps -- made to wear pink uniforms in Alabama, made to write PWA on their foreheads in Cook County Jail, quarantined and left to die alone in federal prisons.

In this forum gay and lesbian AIDS activists and people working for prisoners' rights come together with Black and Puerto Rican community health workers to find ways to support PWAs in prison.

Program

- *Opening Talk by Dr. Robert Cohen,* a leading expert on prison and jail health. He has testified on behalf of prisoners in a dozen different states. He is currently the expert witness for prisoners in Alabama who are suing over mandatory testing and quarantining. This is the first such suit and its impact will shape AIDS in prison policies across the country.
- *Video by and about New York prisoners with AIDS*
- *Panel Discussion: VIDA/SIDA, ACT-UP Chicago, Lydia Watts (AIDS Health Educator, Women's Division, Cook County Jail)*

Wellington Church, 615 W. Wellington Avenue
Sunday, January 29, 1988 3:00 pm

Sponsored by:
ACT-UP Chicago, VIDA/SIDA and Committee to End the Marion Lockdown

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