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CBS 60 MINUTES II
June 27, 2000

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: As a very young boy he suffered tremendously.

ED BRADLEY, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): In South Africa, one out of three mothers with HIV passes the disease on to her unborn baby. Each week there are 290 babies a year old or younger--die of AIDS. Many of them are buried alone unclaimed by parents who don't want the stigma of AIDS on their families.

GLENDA GRAY: Every time you walk into a hospital, date after date, admission after admission, it's another HIV infected person--in children. When you find a kid that's not HIV infected, it's a nice surprise.

BRADLEY: This is the story of death by denial, because while Africa's population is being decimated by the disease, with infection rates soaring each year, many here don't admit that HIV even exists.

DR. MARVELOUS MIHLOYE: Death is a daily thing. Since we've been sitting here, somebody is died of HIV/AIDS. It is so destructive, that the stars will not be able to be mended for generations to come.

RICHARD HOLBROOKE, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS: It threatens Africa. It threatens and south Asia, and anyone who thinks we can build a wall between Africa on the one hand and the United States on the other, is dreaming.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

DAN RATHER, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I'm Dan Rather.

BOB SIMON, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I'm Bob Simon.

CHARLIE ROSE, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I'm Charlie

Rose.

VICKI MABREY, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I'm Vicki

Mabrey.

SCOTT PELLEY, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I'm Scott

Pelley.

BRADLEY: I'm Ed Bradley.

'Death by Denial,' the story of a disease that has been allowed to run wild, tonight on 60 MINUTES II.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BRADLEY: It's easy to think that when it comes to AIDS, the worst is behind us. Fewer Americans are dying from it, more are living with it, and new drug treatments for those who can afford them hold out hope that the disease can be at least contained, maybe even cured.

But half a world away, it's a different story. Every minute, 11 people in the world are infected with HIV, and eight of those people live in sub-Saharan Africa. Right now, AIDS is killing 23 million Africans, and it shows no signs of stopping there. New strains of HIV and diseases brought on by HIV are showing up in Asia, Europe and America.

In the last five months, we have followed the story of AIDS in Africa, and traveled into some of the far reaches of that continent, where the disease has cut the deepest scars. What we found there was even more startling than we expected. It's a story of death and denial, starting with South Africa, where 1,600 people are infected with HIV every day.

Under President Thabo Mbeki, south Africa has one of the most progressive governments on the African continent. But instead of confronting this crisis head-on, President Mbeki has astounded even many of his own supporters by refusing to accept the fact that HIV causes

AIDS--a debate that the rest of the world settled years ago. His position has frustrated and outraged AIDS experts around the world.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PRESIDENT THABO MBEKI, SOUTH AFRICA: I don't quite see really why the people are so reluctant to have scientists confront one another.

BRADLEY (on camera): But I mean, are you prepared to say to the people in your country that HIV is the cause of AIDS?

MBEKI: No, you see we've asked scientists of all the different points of view with regard to this matter to get together and discuss this matter.

BRADLEY (voice-over): But the head of South Africa's premiere medical research institute, Dr. William Makhoba, says the president is wasting precious time on a foolish exercise.

DR. WILLIAM MAKGOBA: I'm 100 percent certain that HIV causes AIDS.

BRADLEY (on camera): So I can assume you've made your views known to the president?

MAKGOBA: I made them absolutely clear, and I also made him absolutely aware that if we as South Africans should embrace this theory, which is nonsense in my view, I think we will become the laughing stock of the world. We will lose our credibility, and may be accused of societal denial.

BRADLEY (voice-over): While the government in South Africa rehashes old scientific arguments, HIV rates here are increasing as fast as in any country on earth. In every commuter train, in every market, on every crowded sidewalk, one in five adults is going to die of AIDS. Most of them don't even know they have it. The ones that do are afraid to talk about it.

Mercy Makhamele is not.

MERCY MAKHALAMELE: I'm from a very strict family. I was married young, and my husband was like the first person I ever was with. I was pregnant with my second child, and I went to the hospital and I was asked for an HIV test. I felt, well, there's nothing wrong with me but I might as well do it because I'm pregnant. And the results came out positive.

BRADLEY (on camera): Did you assume your daughter would be positive too?

MAKHALAMELE: No, I prayed that she must not be. I prayed so hard. Every day I was praying, every day I was talking to her. You know, like, I would hold my tummy, and say, "You know what? In there, wherever you are, just fight it; fight it with anything that you have."

BRADLEY (voice-over): In South Africa, one out of three mothers with HIV passes the disease on to her baby. Each week 290 babies--a year old or younger--die of AIDS. Many of them are buried alone, unclaimed by parents who don't want the stigma of AIDS on their families. Mercy kept her own HIV status a secret while she was pregnant, but the morning she had her baby, the nurses read it on her chart.

MAKHALAMELE: I was left, Ed--I was left on the hospital bed after giving birth. You know the procedures are, if you have been cut when you give birth, immediately they need to clean you up and stitch. I was left like that from the time I gave birth until 7:00 in the evening.

BRADLEY (on camera): They didn't want to touch you because you were positive?

MAKHALAMELE: They called me names like they do to many other young women. We didn't send you to go out and sleep around. (UNINTELLIGIBLE). It was painful lying there, but I knew--I said thank God, my child is out. This is how far they could get with me--it's OK. I can suffer the consequences. It's fine.

BRADLEY: One in five South African adults is infected with HIV. In America, that would amount to 40 million people. And yet, almost no one in South Africa talks about it. Many of them don't dare to for fear of being cast out of their families, fired from their jobs or worse.

Nearly everyone here knows the story of Gugu Dlamini. In 1998, she admitted publicly she was HIV positive. Three weeks later, she was stoned to death by a group of young men who said she'd brought shame to her community. For Mercy, it was eight months before she could work up the courage to tell her husband, Sam, that she was HIV positive.

MAKHALAMELE: This was the result of his reaction.

BRADLEY (on camera): He beat you up?

MAKHALAMELE: He beat me up and said when he was not around I was sleeping around, and I said, ``No,' ' and then there was the boiling water and oh.

BRADLEY: He threw boiling water on you?

MAKHALAMELE: You see there was a stove, and then he pushed me close to the stove and I burnt my arm. And I had my baby on my back. I went to work the next morning with a bandage on and smiled, pretended nothing has happened. And then he came and he said, ``You must come and pack your clothes and leave. I cannot stay with you any more.' ' So while he was saying this--he was not saying it silently. Remember, he doesn't think that he's got HIV. This is a person that wants to get rid of this AIDS monster in his house. So when he spoke, my colleagues heard the story and they phoned my boss and at 3:00 I was dismissed from work.

BRADLEY (voice-over): In fact, Mercy's husband did have HIV That's how she got it. Sam died of AIDS in 1994.

MAKHALAMELE: I'm very angry, Ed. You know, I'm so angry--I'm so angry and I don't know where to take this anger to. But I think I'm angry with the fact that all these things happened to me and to probably 80 percent of the people that are HIV positive in this country. And really, nothing is changing.

BRADLEY: For South Africa, 1994 was a thrilling year: Apartheid fell, Nelson Mandela triumphed, and Africans from other countries began to pour across the nation's borders for work, for trade, or just for the glittering promise of living in Mandela's South Africa.

But south Africa opened up just when the most deadly plague in history was heading down the African continent. For years, the AIDS virus has wound its way along trade and trucking routes and spread through the nation's mining camps.

Men from all over Africa come to work in these camps, where many of them have sex with prostitutes several times a week, and few of them use condoms. And when these men return home, they often infect their wives and girlfriends with HIV. Now, more people in South Africa are infected with HIV than in any other country in the world. And by all accounts, the government's efforts to stop the epidemic have been too little, too late.

(on camera): You said that you have to respond urgently, and correctly. And I don't understand how you act urgently, if your response to this epidemic is to spend time discussing the point of view that has been discredited by the overwhelming majority of the scientific community. That doesn't sound like a sense of urgency to me.

MBEKI: No, no, no, you see I didn't say let us stop this campaigns until this discussion has taken place. The campaigns continue.

BRADLEY: But there's a government study that says that 95 percent of all south Africans have now heard about the disease, but yet they have not changed the behavior that spreads the disease.

MBEKI: It's really a matter of keeping at it.

BRADLEY: And if the message is not getting through? I mean, if they're hearing it but not changing their behavior, then what do you do?

MBEKI: I don't know. You can't beat them to change their behavior.

DR. ERIC GOMAERE: There's definitely a prevention campaign, but it's a total failure. It's time to say it's a total failure. The name of the patient there...

BRADLEY (voice-over): Dr. Eric Gomaere is a Belgian physician who works for the Nobel-Prize-winning group, Doctors Without Borders. Gomaere says the clearest sign that South Africa's AIDS policy has failed is that so few people there are even willing to find out their own HIV status. Only one out of 100 HIV-positive South Africans knows it.

GOMAERE: Why do they know? Because there's no reason for them to go for testing. In fact, all what they will gain by going for testing is suddenly to learn that they are positive, that they will die in probably less than five years, and this without appropriate care, without any type of counseling--people of course do not go for testing. I would not go myself.

BRADLEY: But in 1994, researchers made a discovery that for the first time gave women around the world a powerful incentive to take an HIV test. They discovered that the drug AZT could stop the transmission of HIV from pregnant women to their babies. In South Africa alone, international health organizations say that AZT could save up to 50,000 babies a year.

But once again, President Mbeki has baffled the world's AIDS experts by refusing to provide AZT to pregnant women, even after the drug's manufacturer, Glaxo-Wellcome, offered to lower its price in South Africa by 75 percent. Mbeki says AZT is toxic, and his country does not have the resources to dispense it safely.

MBEKI: The public health system does not have the capacity to carry out the kind of medical supervision that is required. You might very well be expediting people's deaths.

GOMAERE: That's probably the most stupid argument I heard about AZT--that AZT is toxic. Of course AZT is toxic, but AIDS is even more toxic.

BRADLEY: In this poor township near Cape Town, virtually no one was ever tested for HIV until last year. Then Dr. Gomaere's clinic offered free AZT to HIV-infected mothers. In one year, more than 5,000 of the township's 7,000 pregnant women have come there for testing, knowing they would get AZT if they tested positive.

GOMAERE: they come here to prevent the transmission to their child, because if they can save their child, they're ready to go for it.

BRADLEY: In all of South Africa, there are just three public clinics that offer AZT to expectant mothers, and none of them have the support of the South African government. One of those clinics is in the country's largest hospital in Johannesburg. Mandy Motahoong came here for an HIV test just a week before she was due to have a child. We went with her.

MANDY MOTAHOONG, PREGNANT MOTHER: I decided to get tested. I was concerned about the baby. They took my blood, and then she said, "Mandy, I'm so sorry. You're HIV positive." I said, "Are you sure?" Then I started crying, and I cried a lot. And when I stopped, that's when I thought about the baby, and I asked her what is going to happen to the baby. And then she told me there are some pills that can protect the baby from getting infected.

BRADLEY: But AZT doesn't work for all expectant mothers. It's only effective about half the time. Not long after her first visit to the clinic, Mandy gave birth to a baby daughter, just days after

she told the baby's father, Michael that she was HIV Positive.

MOTAHOONG: He thought maybe I was joking. I held his hand, and I said, ``Really, I am.''

MICHAEL: We're both crying. I thought the world was coming all over me, like it was falling on top of me.

MOTAHOONG: He cried and just comforted me, and said, ``We'll get through this.''

BRADLEY: They named their daughter Lucky. Then they had to wait six weeks, wondering if lucky would grow up healthy, or waste away from AIDS and die as a child. Finally, it was time for Mandy and Michael to take their daughter back to the clinic for an HIV test.

MANDY: I'm scared, I really am. But somehow I hope she is negative. I wish it could come true.

GRAY: OK, so we're going to talk about the results. It's been a long, long wait for you guys. OK. I'm sure today has been the hardest day in your life, but I've got good results for you. Lucky's negative. So, Lucky--it's a good name.

BRADLEY: But in South Africa, Mandy's story is the exception. According to Mandy's doctor, Glenda Gray, for every mother and infant who get AZT, nearly 1,000 more don't get it.

GRAY: Every time you walk into a hospital, bed after bed, admission after admission, it's another HIV infected person. In children, when you do -MORE-a ward round and you find a kid who's not HIV infected, it's a nice surprise.

BRADLEY: Mercy Makhalamele's baby died in 1995, when she was two-and-a-half years old.

MAKHALAMELE: That's her. Look at her. This precious thing that you just want to save, secure and give--even thinking, ``Where do you get more love that will heal her?''. Yeah, yeah.

BRADLEY: After her daughter and husband died, Mercy defied the AIDS stigma, and spoke out publicly about the disease that her government had been so quiet about.

MAKHALAMELE: We are all confronted by AIDS. And how is it affecting us? It is killing us in silence.

BRADLEY: Now she is one of south Africa's most prominent AIDS activists.

(on camera): You know what's surprising is that as much pain as this causes you still, that you're so open in talking to people. I mean, you go up and talk to people and tell them that you're HIV positive.

MAKHALAMELE: I cannot keep quiet. It's just--my whole family was shattered. This thing has taken everything that I ever wanted to have as a young woman. Now the thought of that, thinking of all the young women and men in this country, just drives me nuts to think South Africa has fought so much to get to where we are today. Why should we lose all these opportunities for our young African men and women because of this disease? Somebody has got to do something. It's not animals that are dying in Africa--it's people.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BRADLEY: If the government of South Africa has failed to deal effectively with the AIDS epidemic, then the government of Zimbabwe has virtually ignored it. The president of Zimbabwe is Robert Mugabe, the man who recently urged his supporters to invade white-owned farms. Mugabe has also spent millions of dollars to send thousands of men to fight in the Congo. But from what we could see, he has paid almost no attention to the AIDS epidemic that will decimate the next generation of his citizens. To be in Zimbabwe today is like being in a house on fire, while the landlord watches the flames and pretends not to see them.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MIHLOYE: Death is a daily thing. Since we have been sitting here, someone has died of HIV/AIDS.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Dr. Marvelous Mihloye is a professor at the University of Zimbabwe. For the last eight years she has tracked the number of AIDS cases in her country.

MIHLOYE: If you get to a graveyard, you will see people here under a tent, another group under a tent, and you have to ask where you should go, whether these are the ones you should get to or not.

BRADLEY (on camera): Because there's so many people...

MIHLOYE: Because there's so many and now there are burials from Monday through Sunday, even during holidays. We are talking of infection rates of approximately 25 percent among the adult population. And in certain areas, they're as high as 45 percent, which means one in two of expecting mothers test positive. And that is...

BRADLEY: Almost half-expectant mothers?

MIHLOYE: Yes.

BRADLEY: How has all of this affected you personally, I mean, to be around it so much?

MIHLOYE: I sympathize, but I'm no longer as moved as I used to be. I have adapted to it.

BRADLEY: You lost a brother?

MIHLOYE: I lost a brother. I couldn't help him. It is such a helpless situation that you just feel it is better somebody's dead.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Zimbabwe's President Mugabe says that he is well aware of his country's AIDS crisis, and he's doing everything he can to stop it. We spoke to Mugabe's minister of health, Dr. Timothy Stamps, who says that Zimbabwe's government has been fighting the AIDS epidemic for 12 years.

DR. TIMOTHY STAMPS: I myself go around talking to senior students in the schools about HIV, and they ask me some very piercing, very searching questions about HIV. So it's a myth if you think there's no programs going on.

BRADLEY (on camera): So there has been a program policy in place since 1988 to educate people about HIV and about AIDS?

STAMPS: Exactly. Yes.

BRADLEY: Yet since that program, policy has been in place, the rate of infection increases every year.

STAMPS: That is what you say, but you won't tell me where you got your information.

BRADLEY: You said it could be as high as 25 percent. The World Health Organization says one in every four adults in Zimbabwe is likely to die from AIDS. That's what the World Health Organization says.

STAMPS: But people don't die on a regular basis.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Actually, they do.

(on camera): How often do you do this?

PHYLISS TAGAREERA: Usually daily.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Every day Phyliss Tagareera is a nurse for Mashambanzo, a privately funded AIDS hospice combs the streets of Zimbabwe's capital city, Harare, for AIDS patients who are dying there alone.

TAGAREERA: This is her home. She has been to the hospital; she didn't have money, so she is just sitting here.

BRADLEY (on camera): Because she didn't have any money?

TAGAREERA: Yes. She didn't have any money.

BRADLEY: So she has no one to look after her?

TAGAREERA: No.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Juliet Mulowze started to get

ill in January, and by this spring she was unable to care for herself. Eventually, one of her relatives contacted Phyliss' organization to come pick her up.

(on camera): Do you think she'll live?

TAGAREERA: Yes, she might.

BRADLEY: She can't even stand up...

TAGAREERA: Yes, she can't stand up. As you can see she had no food, nobody to care for her.

BRADLEY (voice-over): There are people even less fortunate than Juliet. Mashambanzo has only 22 beds, reserved for people who are dying of AIDS.

(on camera): So you'll be able to give her food?

TAGAREERA: Yes and the love she needs.

BRADLEY: ... the kind of care that she can't get here and that she can't get anywhere else.

TAGAREERA: Yes.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Each week, the nurses visit dozens of patients in their homes, but there are thousands more they can't get to at all. Every day, Frank Guni receives news of hundreds of AIDS deaths from around Zimbabwe. Four years ago, Guni founded a national organization for people like himself, who are living with the disease.

FRANK GUNI: The government of Zimbabwe has done absolutely nothing, and we had to come up together and form our own association to support ourselves.

BRADLEY: Every week, Guni visits villages like this one, 100 miles outside the capital city of Harare. About 3,000 people live here, but according to Guni, many of them are dying young, of diseases brought on by AIDS. Meanwhile, the government seems to have forgotten about this entire district, which has no funding for AIDS counselors or testing. And nobody at the nearest clinic knows how to treat AIDS patients.

Jane Chazuza (ph) doesn't know for sure whether she has HIV because she has never been tested. But she says lately, she feels too ill to work in her fields. And she has some of the same symptoms that her husband had when he died of AIDS three years ago.

GUNI: Jane here is saying when the husband dies, the wife automatically follows; and if there are young children, they also follow suit. She's saying that the AIDS disease is wiping whole families in most sectors of the local community here.

She has not had visitor from the clinic or from the hospital. No one has ever set their foot here to check on Jane.

BRADLEY (on camera): If President Mugabe or Dr. Stamps were to say, "We are doing everything possible for a poor country to do," what would you say?

GUNI: I would say, "Can you tell us anything that you have done?"

BRADLEY (voice-over): One of the few programs in Zimbabwe that does address the AIDS epidemic is run not by the government, but by former prostitutes. The Gwero Women's AIDS Prevention Association gives poor women a way to support themselves and their children without turning to prostitution. And then it sends them back out into the beer gardens to pass out condoms, and talk to people about the threat of HIV.

Brenda Niamvunga stopped working as a prostitute in 1998. Last year, she discovered she was HIV positive.

(on camera): Were you concerned about HIV? Concerned about AIDS?

NIAMVUNGA: No, no. I wanted money for food.

BRADLEY: But you knew that there was a risk?

NIAMVUNGA: I knew, but what can you do? You tell me. I'd end up sleeping on the streets. I needed money for food. I needed

money for rent.

BRADLEY: When you meet these women in the beer halls, places where you go to talk to them, what do they know about HIV? What do they know about AIDS?

NIAMVUNGA: Women are a bit more educated on HIV and AIDS now. It's the men--the men. They know about HIV, but they don't want to take it seriously. They don't want to be realistic. They don't accept it.

BRADLEY: This seems to be a success story, what you've done here. Does the government support it?

NIAMVUNGA: No.

BRADLEY: There's no government programs?

NIAMVUNGA: No.

BRADLEY: There's no places you can go?

NIAMVUNGA: No.

BRADLEY: There's no medicine from the government. No money from the government.

NIAMVUNGA: No.

BRADLEY: No instruction from the government.

NIAMVUNGA: Nothing.

STAMPS: The resources required are vast, and we simply do not have that sort of money.

BRADLEY: Are you satisfied with the amount of money that the government is spending on this problem?

STAMPS: No, of course not.

BRADLEY: Is there more money available?

STAMPS: No, there isn't.

BRADLEY (voice-over): But there is money available to fight a war hundreds of miles from Zimbabwe's border. According to U.S. intelligence sources, Mugabe's government spends about a million U.S. dollars every day to keep 12,000 troops to the diamond-rich Congo to help prop up the government there. In exchange, the Congo has granted Zimbabwe diamond concessions, which have enriched some of Mugabe's closest friends, and reportedly the president himself.

(on camera): Let me ask you about the money that this government is spending on troops in the Congo. Spending more there than they are on AIDS in this country?

STAMPS: What has that got to do with the price of eggs? The Americans spent millions of dollars on bombing Kosovo.

BRADLEY: We're not talking about Kosovo; we're talking about AIDS in Zimbabwe. Is what's happening in the Congo more of a threat than the number of people dying in the country?

STAMPS: It is a threat to the country.

BRADLEY: How many people from Zimbabwe are dying in the Congo?

STAMPS: I do not know.

BRADLEY: How many people from Zimbabwe are dying in this country of AIDS?

STAMPS: Statistics in Africa are notoriously unreliable.

BRADLEY: Well, you tell me.

STAMPS: They are notoriously unreliable. I don't have access to all the money that you do to go and check on everybody.

BRADLEY: So I'm going to ask you a simple question, doctor: are people dying in your country of AIDS?

STAMPS: They are.

BRADLEY: And are people dying in your country because of what's happening in the Congo?

STAMPS: They could well do. If the Congo blew up, that would be a thousand times worse.

MIHLOYE: We are losing people in thousands on a weekly basis. There is no war that I know of which kills people in that many numbers. HIV/AIDS is killing more people in Zimbabwe than most wars have killed in this world.

BRADLEY: Do you have an AIDS epidemic in this country?

STAMPS: We do.

BRADLEY: Then are you treating it as such?

STAMPS: We are.

BRADLEY: Why do people who live here say that that whatever programs do exist are ineffective?

STAMPS: Because they do not want to get involved.

BRADLEY: But these are people who are involved.

STAMPS: Maybe they want more handouts from government--I don't know.

BRADLEY: I've talked to women who've tested positive. I've talked to men who've tested positive. I've talked to doctors and health workers who deal with them. They tell me not much is going on.

STAMPS: That's different. You said ``nothing,''
before.

BRADLEY: In some cases nothing.

STAMPS: I agree. I agree there's not enough.

BRADLEY: In some cases, not much.

STAMPS: I agree. I agree there's not enough. But you don't help by saying that the little that we have been doing is nothing.

BRADLEY: There are people who live here who say there are no programs available to them. That's nothing.

STAMPS: OK. Tell me them, and I will give them the programs.

GUNI: She thinks that's kind of reckless talk, because she has not seen any government official in any part of these villages. They might as well not come because they wouldn't make any difference. Even if they would come; they would come with nothing.

MIHLOYE: The biggest problem in our country has been denial at all levels. People normally jump into a country when there's a war and they want to help because--well, people are dying. There's genocide. This is tantamount to genocide. It is so destructive that the scars will not be able to be mended for generations to come.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BRADLEY: Recently, President Mugabe's government has opened nine centers around Zimbabwe where people can be tested for HIV. We'll be back in a moment from a country that also has troops in the Congo, and a very different story to tell about AIDS.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BRADLEY: It's easy to get discouraged by what's happening in Africa, but there is some good news to report. It's happening in Uganda, under a Democratically-elected President named Yoweri Museveni, who had the foresight 14 years ago to confront the AIDS epidemic.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

Although Uganda is one of the poorest countries in the world, since 1993, the rate of new HIV infections here has declined by 50 percent, even while the infection rate continues to soar in other, wealthier, countries. The first time I visited this lush and beautiful country in the early 80s, it was an adventure just getting from the airport to the capital, Kampala, 30 minutes away. Gangs of thieves many of them soldiers or police roamed the highways, often robbing and killing travelers. All that stopped when President Museveni came to power in 1986.

(on camera): How did you end that? I saw so many police on the road, before. Now, I see none. No road blocks.

PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI, UGANDA: No. We just did it by shooting the bad ones and reintegrating the good ones.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Museveni also applied a no-nonsense approach to the new disease that surfaced in Uganda in the 1980s.

MUSEVENI: I had sent some soldiers for training in Cuba. Fidel Castro took me aside and told me that out of the 60, 18 had AIDS.

BRADLEY (on camera): So you realized that if you had that percentage of your soldiers--almost a third of your soldiers who went there, that you had a big problem in this country. How did you decide to attack it?

MUSEVENI: The traditional African way.

BRADLEY: Which is?

MUSEVENI: Which is that when a lion comes to the village, you make an alarm, you make the loudest alarm, and everyone hears that there is a danger in the village and everyone wakes up and takes position. So that's what I did. When I go to a public rally, I don't only talk about the politics, I talk about AIDS also.

You, young children, don't run around with any man or any woman. If you do, you're going to get AIDS. The only thing you should do is get married, but don't get married to anybody unless you've tested his or her blood. I knew that a lot of our people would die if I did not shout loudest. It would have been a catastrophe.

HOLBROOKE: Changing sexual practices is extraordinarily difficult for people. People don't like to talk about. Museveni in Uganda has been an exception.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Richard Holbrooke is the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

HOLBROOKE: He's been very matter-of-fact about it in Uganda. It's very clear-cut. They explain how it's transmitted. They explain how to avoid it. They haven't solved the problem, but they're dealing with it.

BRADLEY (on camera): He talks about it all the time?

HOLBROOKE: He talks about it all the time.

BRADLEY: You openly advocated the use of condoms. Was that offensive to some people in this country? I mean, there are a lot of Catholics in this country...

MUSEVENI: Yeah, some--some priests and those bishops tried to say something about that, but we ignored them because they had no solution.

BRADLEY (voice-over): The condom message is everywhere--you can't even escape it at a soccer match. And judging by the steep decline in new HIV infections here, the message seems to be working. Still, Uganda has nearly a million citizens--one-tenth of the country's population--living with and dying from HIV/AIDS.

(on camera): You've done a splendid job in this country in reducing the rate of infection by prevention. But now you still have so many people with the virus, with AIDS, who need to be treated. Treatment costs a lot more. How do you pay for it?

MUSEVENI: Each one struggles to get money to pay for himself.

BRADLEY: And if he or she can't pay?

MUSEVENI: They die. There's nothing you can do about it.

DR. PETER MUGENYI: What we have here is...

BRADLEY (voice-over): Dr. Peter Mugenyi is a national leader in the war against AIDS. Drugs that extend life indefinitely in the west, he says, are out of reach in Africa.

MUGENYI: All the modern drugs are here, but patients

have to pay for them.

BRADLEY (on camera): They have to pay for them.

MUGENYI: Yes.

BRADLEY (voice-over): In bed after bed, Dr. Mugenyi showed us patient after patient who couldn't afford drugs either to fight the virus or the diseases it brings. This man had arrived at the hospital two weeks earlier.

MUGENYI: He has cryptococcal meningitis. It's one of the commonest reasons why we admit patients here. It's an opportunistic infection. All of these diseases come because of very poor immunity.

BRADLEY (on camera): If they were in the United States, would these diseases be a factor?

MUGENYI: If they were in the United States and treatment is started early, these diseases would not come.

BRADLEY: So why can't they be treated here?

MUGENYI: Its only because of cost.

BRADLEY: The cost.

MUGENYI: Yes, the cost of the drugs involved.

BRADLEY: And what would that cost today, to give him the drugs--other patients the drugs that they need?

MUGENYI: \$600 U.S. per month.

BRADLEY: \$600 U.S. per month.

MUGENYI: Yes.

BRADLEY: And a man like this--how much would he make a month?

MUGENYI: Maybe five, ten dollars per month.

BRADLEY: Five or ten dollars per month?

MUGENYI: Yes.

BRADLEY: He makes?

MUGENYI: That's right.

BRADLEY: So that's impossible.

MUGENYI: yes, it's impossible. It's a clear illustration of how we as doctors are frustrated by this state of affairs. We have here drugs; they work wonders; they are highly effective, but we can't access them because of cost. They have to be paid for.

BRADLEY: What about by government?

MUGENYI: If the attempted to put money on this kind of disease they will bankrupt over the state coffers (ph) and still not solve the problem.

BRADLEY: Because he can't afford the drugs--what's his future?

MUGENYI: His future is bleak.

BRADLEY (voice-over): Even after pooling their resources, his family didn't have the money for treatments. They decided to take him home to die.

MUGENYI: We give them the facts as they are. We give them the cost: \$600 (UNINTELLGIBLE). It will cover anti-retrovirals, but it is every month. Then you watch their chins drop. You watch great disappointment. If he doesn't get these drugs, his long-term prospects are not good.

BRADLEY: Three months ago, the Ugandan government sent Dr. Mugenyi To Geneva to help the United Nations pressure the drug companies to make prices affordable for the 23 million Africans infected with HIV.

MUGENYI: It is immoral. It is unethical to have drugs that are effective and sit by while millions of people are dying.

HOLBROOKE: It's an absolutely appalling situation...

BRADLEY: Ambassador Holbrooke says the drug companies are not doing their part to solve the African AIDS crisis.

HOLBROOKE: They only develop vaccines for baldness

or whatever, and they'd rather cure--it's been said that they'd rather treat a bald American than a dying African.

BRADLEY (on camera): But they would argue that we have a responsibility to our shareholders. We're not in the charity business.

HOLBROOKE: Anybody who goes through the crisis on AIDS in Africa and South Asia and elsewhere today and doesn't do something about it who could have will look back on his or her career later and they will be ashamed of themselves.

BRADLEY: And what would you say to those shareholders? What are the consequences?

HOLBROOKE: These great pharmaceutical companies, powerful and rich with global reaches are not going to go under into bankruptcy if they do a couple of things which are really seriously good for the benefit of people all over the world.

BRADLEY (voice-over): And yet, he says, cheap drugs by themselves won't solve the problem.

HOLBROOKE: Even if the pharmaceutical companies gave away the drugs you'll still have an educational problem; you'll still have a testing problem, and you'd still have a delivery system problem.

BRADLEY: As we could see for ourselves, there are places in Africa where there are no doctors and no clinics. In those places, it would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to get sophisticated drug treatments to those suffering from AIDS.

HOLBROOKE: So while I think the pharmaceutical companies behave badly, I don't think we should think there's any single magic bullet solution to this problem.

BRADLEY: We requested interviews with five major manufacturers of AIDS drugs: Pfizer, Glaxo-Wellcome, Merck, Bristol-Myers-Squibb, Boehringer-Ingelheim, and Hoffman-La Roche--as well as their Washington-based lobby, Pharma. None agreed to be interviewed.

Pharma did send us a letter which reads in part, ``Health systems can only operate if there are adequate infrastructures and adequate resources devoted to healthcare.'' In many parts of Africa those resources exist right now. There are clinics, hospitals, and health workers who are ready now to relieve suffering and extend hundreds of thousands of lives, if only they could afford the drugs.

In Africa, where 23 million people are infected with HIV, less than one-tenth of one percent are getting these drugs. On my last day in Uganda, we met an 11-year-old who is one of those lucky few.

(on camera): What's your name?

MOLLY: Molly.

BRADLEY: Molly.

(voice-over): Four months before we met molly, she was at death's door, suffering from advanced AIDS, and abandoned by her family. Then a British couple met her at this AIDS clinic and offered to pay for those life-extending medications.

BRADLEY: How do you feel today?

MOLLY: Good.

BRADLEY: Come here. I can't hear you over there.

MOLLY: I'm happy.

BRADLEY: You're happy? What makes you happy?

MOLLY: I get something to eat. I get medicine.

That's what makes me happy.

BRADLEY: That makes you happy.

BRADLEY: Do you have friends here?

MOLLY: Yes.

BRADLEY: Tell me about your friends.

MOLLY: Natasha.

BRADLEY: Natasha is your best friend?

(voice-over): Natasha can't afford the drugs that keep Molly alive. After we left, she was hospitalized with complications from AIDS, and doctors tell us her prognosis is bleak. Molly is doing fine.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BRADLEY: What we saw in Africa is more than a tragedy, it is a warning. If the epidemic continues on its current path, 100 years from now 100 million people around the world will have been infected with HIV. No country, no city, no person can be quarantined from this virus. As we have seen tonight, where governments failed to confront the AIDS epidemic decisively, the burden of fighting it has often fallen on those who themselves have the virus--people like Mercy Makhramele and Frank Guni, who try as they might, are no match for this deadly virus.

But now, finally, they may be getting some powerful help. Five pharmaceutical companies are currently negotiating with the U.N. and with some African countries to drop the prices on HIV drugs there. If these negotiations succeed, then children like Natasha may be able to grow up, and women like Mercy may be able to grow old.

I'm Ed Bradley. We'll be back next week with another edition of 60 MINUTES II.

END

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Elizabeth J. Potter (CN=Elizabeth J. Potter/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JUL-2000 12:47:35.00

SUBJECT: Gore's Record

TO: Charles W. Burson (CN=Charles W. Burson/OU=OVP/O=EOP@EOP [OVP])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lisa M. Brown (CN=Lisa M. Brown/OU=OVP/O=EOP@EOP [OVP])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Monica M. Dixon (CN=Monica M. Dixon/OU=OVP/O=EOP@EOP [OVP])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I think we should be prepared to respond to this...I can draft some Q and A for your review if you want.

----- Forwarded by Elizabeth J. Potter/WHO/EOP on
07/26/2000 12:45 PM -----

Kevin Ivers

07/26/2000 12:38:07 PM

Record Type: Record

To: lgbt-politics@egroups.com

cc:

Subject: [lgbt-politics] Gore's Record

Doug:

This was sent to me by a Nader supporter, and I thought it would fit in with the frenzy of "exposes" flying on here lately. Hope it's helpful to people.

-- Kevin Ivers

For those who think our salvation will come from on high, read and weep...

* According to the Washington Blade, when he was a congressman, Gore "voted against the interests of Gays on five of five measures, including his 1981 vote to overturn a [Washington] D.C. act that would have repealed the District's laws prohibiting sodomy." (1)

* In 1981 he voted for a measure known as the "McDonald Amendment," which essentially forbade LGBT people from using the Legal Services Corporation, a federal program offering legal help to those too poor to afford private attorneys. (2)

* As a member of the Senate, in August 1986 Gore voted for a Jesse Helms amendment forcing the District of Columbia to overturn its law prohibiting health, life and disability insurance corporations from using the new HIV test to reject applicants for insurance. (3)

* In June 1987 Gore voted for a Helms amendment requiring HIV testing for immigrants, effectively prohibiting HIV+ people from settling here. (4)

* In August 1988 he voted for another Helms amendment, this to the "Fair Housing Bill." The amendment prohibited the bill's anti-discrimination section from protecting "an individual solely because that individual is a transvestite." (5)

* In September 1989, Gore and most of the Senate voted against a tabling amendment which would have killed another amendment which played on the "homosexuals as child predators" myth: "None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to produce or distribute materials directed at the teaching of school children and which promote or encourage homosexuality or use words stating that homosexuality is 'normal,' 'natural,' or 'healthy.'" (6)

* In February 1990, in a move said to pre-empt a Jesse Helms amendment to the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, Gore and the rest of the Senate voted 96-0 for an amendment which lauded "family values" in terms any homophobe would appreciate: "Congress finds that: 1) The American family is the foundation of American society; 2) Federal policy should encourage the well-being, financial security, and health of the American family; and 3) Schools should not de-emphasize the critical value of American family life. (B) Nothing in this act shall be construed, nor shall any funds appropriated to carry out the purpose of the acts be used, to promote or encourage homosexuality." (7)

* In March 1990 he voted for a Kennedy amendment which gutted the Washington, DC gay rights law. Big Brothers of America had been taken to court for violating the anti-discrimination ordinance for refusing admittance of gay volunteers. When the DC Office of Human Rights sided against Big Brothers, the Senate--by a 97 to 1 vote--forced DC to allow anti-gay discrimination. (8)

* During the anti-gay, pro-censorship hysteria surrounding a Robert Maplethorpe exhibit in September 1989, Gore joined his fellow Senators in unanimously approving a Jesse Helms bill attacking the National Endowment for the Arts for its funding for the exhibit. Gay weekly from Gore's home state of Tennessee summed up the matter quite well: "Even our own Tennessee Senators, Jim Sasser and Albert Gore, Jr., did nothing to try to stop the vicious North Carolinian's bigoted, dangerous foolishness. It calls for no federal funding for any art exhibit which includes works that might be offensive on moral or religious grounds. So much for the 'liberal' Democratic party." (9)

Add to that the better known history of the present administration: Don't Ask Don't Tell; Defense of Marriage Act; Ignoring the President's own AIDS Commission recommendations; opposition to low cost AIDS drugs for Africa.

Then there are the many "non"-LGBT issues: the ending of welfare as we know it (something Reagan & George the 1st only dreamed about); the huge increase in federal crimes punishable by the death penalty, etc.

With the partial exception of the Civil War presidency of Lincoln (for specific historical reasons), no oppressed group has ever won its rights by electing a President. We've won them by fighting from the grass-roots IN SPITE of whoever was in office. That goes for the Richard Nixon's of the world as well as the FDR's, JFK's, etc.

Sources & Notes:

(1) July 8, 1988 Washington Blade.

(2) "No funds may be used 1) to provide legal assistance to promote, defend, or protect homosexuality?" read the amendment. November 6, 1987 Washington Blade, June 11, 1981 Congressional Record hereafter CR), p. S 12245, and June 18, 1981 CR, pp. S 12950 and 12956.

(3) October 2, 1987 Blade. In October 1987, with his eyes on a presidential run, Gore voted against a virtually identical amendment. When DC's anti-insurance discrimination law passed, the insurance industry launched a boycott of the city, with 42 out of the 50 largest insurance companies refusing to write new policies in the city, according to a study by two Howard University professors. January 30, 1987 Blade.

(4) The Helms amendment passed the Senate, 96-0, with not a single liberal Democrat voting against or even absenting themselves from the vote.

(5) The vote was 89-2, with only Senators Cranston and Weicker voting against it. August 1, 1988 CR, p. S 10471 and August 5, 1988 Blade.

(6) September 21, 1989 CR, p. S 11617.

(7) February 8, 1990, CR, pp. 12858-61. The federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, so often represented as the greatest thing since sliced bread by LGBT leaders, contains this interesting phrase: "Nothing in this section creates a cause of action or a right to bring on action, including an action based on discrimination due to sexual orientation." (Section [b] [3]).

(8) Kennedy's amendment read in part: "Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to bar any organization or entity from denying, restricting, abridging or conditioning the participation of any adult homosexual, bisexual or heterosexual person in any voluntary program or activity that educates, coaches, or trains any minor or holds out an adult as a role model, mentor or companion to a minor, if the parent or guardian of said minor objects to the participation of such person based on the person's sexual orientation." March 1, 1990 CR, p. S 1887.

(9) September 1-7, 1989 Dare (a Tennessee LGBT publication). Gore, along

with the vast majority of the Senate, voted the exact opposite against later, similar Helms amendments--once censorship went out of fashion again.

--

Log Cabin Republicans
(202) 347-5306 phone
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Kevin Ivers
Director of Public Affairs
<http://www.lcr.org>

To Submit a Newsclipping or Press Release, send it to the moderator at:
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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Elizabeth J. Potter (CN=Elizabeth J. Potter/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JUL-2000 14:37:10.00

SUBJECT: [lgbt-politics] Gore's Gay Record (fwd)

TO: Philip G. Dufour (CN=Philip G. Dufour/OU=OVP/O=EOP@EOP [OVP])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I forwarded to monica, lisa and charles...i think we need to draft some response...

we need to be ready

----- Forwarded by Elizabeth J. Potter/WHO/EOP on
07/26/2000 02:36 PM -----

Eva Young

07/26/2000 12:10:30 PM

Record Type: Record

To: queerpolitics@abacus.oxy.edu
cc: lgbt-politics@egroups.com
Subject: [lgbt-politics] Gore's Gay Record (fwd)

The material cites Washington Blade articles. It would be interesting to hear what Gore afficiados have to say about these. The voting record cites are from the same period folks are citing for Cheney. I don't know who the initial author of this is.

Eva
Eva Young
Mpls., MN

----- Forwarded message -----
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2000 12:01:20 EDT
From: RLTAFA@aol.com

This was sent to me from an unknown source, but makes some excellent points.
RT

Certainly Dick Cheney stinks,
but what about Gore? (the implied alternative)
sent from Thayer1917

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Don't Tell; Defense of Marriage Act; Ignoring the President's own AIDS Commission recommendations; opposition to low cost AIDS drugs for Africa.

Then there are the many "non"-LGBT issues: the ending of welfare as we know it (something Reagan & George the 1st only dreamed about); the huge increase in federal crimes punishable by the death penalty, etc.

With the partial exception of the Civil War presidency of Lincoln (for specific historical reasons), no oppressed group has ever won its rights by electing a President. We've won them by fighting from the grass-roots IN SPITE of whoever was in office. That goes for the Richard Nixon's of the world as well as the FDR's, JFK's, etc.

Sources & Notes:

(1) July 8, 1988 Washington Blade.

(2) "No funds???many be used 1) to provide legal assistance to promote, defend, or protect homosexuality???" read the amendment. November 6, 1987 Washington Blade, June 11, 1981 Congressional Record hereafter CR), p. S 12245, and June 18, 1981 CR, pp. S 12950 and 12956.

(3) October 2, 1987 Blade. In October 1987, with his eyes on a presidential run, Gore voted against a virtually identical amendment. When DC's anti-insurance discrimination law passed, the insurance industry launched a boycott of the city, with 42 out of the 50 largest insurance companies refusing to write new policies in the city, according to a study by two Howard University professors. January 30, 1987 Blade.

(4) The Helms amendment passed the Senate, 96-0, with not a single liberal Democrat voting against or even absenting themselves from the vote.

(5) The vote was 89-2, with only Senators Cranston and Weicker voting against it. August 1, 1988 CR, p. S 10471 and August 5, 1988 Blade.

(6) September 21, 1989 CR, p. S 11617.

(7) February 8, 1990, CR, pp. 12858-61. The federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, so often represented as the greatest thing since sliced bread by LGBT leaders, contains this interesting phrase: "Nothing in this section creates a cause of action or a right to bring on action, including an action based on discrimination due to sexual orientation." (Section [b] [3]).

(8) Kennedy's amendment read in part: "Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to bar any organization or entity from denying, restricting, abridging or conditioning the participation of any adult homosexual,

bisexual
or heterosexual person in any voluntary program or activity that educates,
coaches, or trains any minor or holds out an adult as a role model, mentor
or
companion to a minor, if the parent or guardian of said minor objects to
the
participation of such person based on the person's sexual orientation."
March 1, 1990 CR, p. S 1887.

(9) September 1-7, 1989 Dare (a Tennessee LGBT publication). Gore, along
with the vast majority of the Senate, voted the exact opposite against
later,
similar Helms amendments--once censorship went out of fashion again.

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