

People Are Dying Needlessly, But From What?

Irony of ironies: While many people are convinced the U.S. government ordered scientists at Ft. Detrick, Md. to create a virus to kill black people, black people are being killed by the millions (without this alleged killer virus) with common diseases that are blamed on the so-called AIDS virus, HIV.

While we look for the AIDS epidemic in the United States that is not coming (unless a majority of us become legal and illegal drug addicts, and infect the rest who are not), we watch scores of Africans dying right before our eyes every day on television - allegedly from HIV infections, the so-called AIDS virus that causes AIDS (a group of 26 separate diseases).

On my TV series, Tony Brown's Journal on PBS, between June 4 and 10, you'll see a film and studio report ("The Myth of AIDS in Africa") proving the mass genocide of black people by withholding medical care for basic diseases and blaming the cause of death from this neglect of inexpensive medications on the phantom called AIDS.

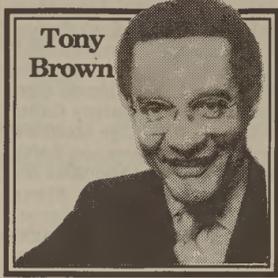
Then to cover their tracks, the world's medical commu-

nity and the United Nations promotes the myth that Africans, men and women in equal numbers, are dying because they are sexually depraved. Besides, no one has ever scientifically proved that the so-called AIDS virus causes AIDS.

And if this mythical AIDS virus caused AIDS in Africa, how would anyone know? For the most part, no one would know because testing for the misnamed "AIDS virus" (actually an HIV infection) is too expensive in Uganda, for example, where an electrician makes only \$2 a month in U.S. equivalency.

"Africa is not in the grip of an AIDS epidemic, and false assertions that the continent is being devastated by HIV are leading to a tragic diversion of resources from genuine medical needs." That's the opinion of a growing body of experts, according to an article in The Sunday Times of London.

Instead, Africans are dying from untreated diseases such as malaria, TB and meningitis that are diagnosed as AIDS. No treatment is justified, the international scientists say, because of the un-



founded theory that these diseases are AIDS and there is no cure - therefore, why bother. Let them die.

Besides, international funds are only forthcoming for AIDS and HIV working in Africa. If you are dying of malaria, for example, you can get a free condom, but no medicine for malaria; the same applies to a variety of other common easily-treated diseases.

Africa's so-called AIDS epidemic is also used as a warning that widespread "heterosexual AIDS" will soon come to America and Europe.

But Celia Farber, writing in Spin magazine and Dr. Harvey Blaly, a molecular biologist who worked with tropical diseases in West Africa

for many years, explained on Tony Brown's Journal that the facts do not substantiate anything near an AIDS epidemic, although death is widespread and pervasive because of poverty-related causes.

Farber blames the problem on "terror-including AIDS propaganda from the West," such as the statement in 1986 in Lancet, a medical journal, that 60% of all children in Uganda were infected with HIV, the virus that America's organized medical establishment says causes AIDS. The real figure, Farber writes, is now recognized as 5% to 7% - not the 60% previously announced.

AIDS media reporting in America begins with the theory that AIDS originated in Africa. A recent issue of Newsweek magazine placed the origin of HIV, the alleged cause of AIDS, in Africa before 1960. A photograph in Newsweek made the point that Africans somehow got HIV from primates.

It then spread, Newsweek theorizes, across Africa from 1960 to 1975 when blood transfusions made other countries such as the United States susceptible. Another

Newsweek picture, a moving truck filled with Africans, conveys that theory.

If AIDS came from Africa, it means that Americans did nothing to start it themselves. Forget what Americans were doing to themselves and one another with massive chemical injury from drugs and promiscuous sex between 1960 and the early '80s when AIDS made its debut here.

Secondly, to make the African-AIDS theory work, you must ignore what the scientific world has reported from Africa: What's called AIDS in Africa bears only a passing resemblance to AIDS in North America.

Make no mistake about it, there is a serious health problem in Africa - and a lot of people are dying needlessly - but from what?

The fear of AIDS, Farber found, may be one of the real killers - along with poverty, poor hygiene and malnutrition - that create disease that go untreated because the funds are earmarked for condom distribution and HIV education.

Now that's a conspiracy!

TONY BROWN is a nationally-syndicated columnist.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Your opinions are important to The Post and Charlotte. What are your feelings about issues like health care, education or crime? Write **The Charlotte Post** P.O. Box 30144 Charlotte, N.C. 28230 or FAX (704) 342-2160. We edit for brevity, grammar and clarity when applicable. Please leave a daytime phone number and your name. All correspondence becomes property of The Charlotte Post.

Athletes Deserve Money

By Al Montgomery
SPECIAL TO THE POST

Athletes need to wake up. Several days ago an article came out about Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski

stating he will receive \$1 million and stock for his players to wear a certain brand of sneakers.

I think this is a disgrace and a shame for coaches to receive all

these fringe benefits when an athlete can't even get a "fat burger" without being penalized by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Maybe athletes don't realize that the people who make up the NCAA are coaches and college presidents, and they make the rules to benefit their own greed.

Sure it's great for athletes to get the exposure for being on TV and possibly making it on to the professional level, but think about this: how many of you make it to the pros? I dare say 85% of the basketball players don't go anywhere after college. Yet, during your college stay you fill up arenas night after night, making colleges rich. But you can't get a "fat burger" without being penalized.

An article appeared in Sports Illustrated several years ago about Georgetown's basketball program during Patrick Ewing's stay. While Ewing was at Georgetown, they spent \$60,000 to pay for Ewing to go to school, but made \$12 million during his four years there. Wake up athletes. You are being used by colleges. Organize yourself and demand that they give you something other than paying your bills for four years. You have the upper hand, use it. Without you, the schools would not make the big bucks they are making. Demand some of it because once you complete the four years, you are history and most of them couldn't care less what happens to you. So take advantage of it while you are there.

Some suggestions. Have a fund set up for you that includes the following:

- Air fare home in case of an emergency;
 - Monthly spending allowance;
 - Clothing allowance;
 - Housing allowance.
- These are just a few items that should be considered. It can be done because they make the rules and as long as you sit back and say nothing, they will continue to hold you back and give you nothing.

I realize a lot of people are going to be upset, but someone needs to say something because you are being used. This statement is being directed primarily to Division I schools. They can afford it.

AL MONTGOMERY of Charlotte is a Charlotte-Mecklenburg teacher and former college athlete at N.C. Central University in Durham.

LETTERS TO THE POST

Thanks For Coverage Of Alzheimer's Symposium

The writer is Chair of Advocates for Older Adults, Junior League of Charlotte Inc.

Thank you so much for helping to educate the public on Alzheimer's Disease by including the third annual Alzheimer's Educational Symposium in your article. We had a very successful event, with 200 professional and family caregivers in attendance. Your assistance was critical to our publicity efforts.

Again, thank you for your support.
MARGARET A. PLETINGER
Charlotte

'93 Top Seniors Edition Deserves A Thumbs-Up

The writer is president of the Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Spelman College.

On behalf of the Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Spelman College, I would like to compliment The Post for the outstanding publication of the 1993 Top Seniors of the Year.

The African American young men and women who were featured are indeed future leaders of tomorrow. In addition, the publication was an opportunity for national and local alumnae and alumni associations to review the outstanding Top Seniors interested in attending their affiliated institutions of higher learning. The Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Spelman College was honored to have four outstanding young women mention Spelman College as one of their choices for educational advancement.

Best wishes to The Post for continued success! Thank you again for your dedication and commitment to youth and the overall African American community.
MICHELLE THOMAS
Charlotte

Church Leaders Need To Be Involved In Children's Issues

"Were it not for the tireless efforts on some head-ragged angels in my church - Sunday School teachers, pastors, missionaries, ushers, and one deacon in particular - I doubt whether the children in my neighborhood, including myself, would have grown up believing in themselves."

Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems, from the introduction of "Prophetic Voices."



Marian Edelman

Amen! As the aunt, grand-daughter daughter and sister of Baptist ministers, I, too, am a child of the black church. Just like Rev. Dr. Weems and so many other black people, the church was my extended family, leadership trainer, confidence builder, religious educator and summer recreation outlet.

The church taught me that I was accountable to and supported by far more people than my parents. I still resent the deacon who told my parents on me before I got home of a place he thought they wouldn't approve of. But the chidings were greatly exceeded by church members celebrating my and other children's achievements. They took us seriously and tried to buffer us against, immunize us from, and prepare us for the challenges of the outside segregated world.

Today, as black children and families face one of the worst crisis since slavery and we organize the Black Community Crusade for Children to overcome these crises, the black church, clergy and people of faith play a more important role than ever.

In "Prophetic Voices: Black Preachers Speak on Behalf of Children," 21 of the nation's most noted black clergy share their thoughts on the many ways that we can save our children. While their views and voices are very different - representing 13 Christian denominations - they are all fueled by eloquence, passion and vision.

As Rev. Allegra Hoots, BCCC religious coordinator and editor of "Prophetic Voices" explains: "The diversity reflected in the preachers' styles and theology highlight the richness of the Christian tradition as experienced in the context of the African American community."

"Prophetic Voices" is a book that all of us can enjoy and gain inspiration from. It weaves biblical text, vivid imagery and heartfelt personal conviction into a symphony

of messages that speak directly to the heart.

Most importantly, it reminds us of how far our priorities have strayed from where they should be.

As Rev. Peter John Gomes of The Memorial Church at Harvard University writes:

"Children are not in any way expendable. They are God's choicest vessels, his greatest treasures, and ours as well. The greatest responsibility we have is the care and nurture of our children: no other responsibility exceeds this one. And yet we know to our great sadness that children are an endangered species. It is not that there are too few of them. It is not that we do not take care of the children and do not regard them as assets. To some, they are merely the result of sexual carelessness. To others, they are a burden, an inconvenience. We must recover the sense of urgency that says that children are the only real treasure we produce."

I want to thank each of the authors whose works make up "Prophetic Voices." Each has attained noteworthy achievements and made significant contributions to the community. They are extremely busy people who have sacrificed in order to contribute to the work of the Black Community Crusade for Children. I thank them, not only for the wisdom of the words they have chosen to share through this book, but for living out their faith by percept and example.

The black church must be the moral locomotive for the BCCC and affirm the sanctity and preciousness of each child before God and the world. It needs to offer positive alternative messages and opportunities to counter those who tell our children they are not worth much and who hawk violence and money as the measures of success. The black church must show black children they are valued by fighting not only for their souls, but for their health care, food, housing and safety. And we as individuals must do the same.

To order "Prophetic Voices: Black Preachers Speak on Behalf of Children," call 202/662-3652. To find out more about the Black Community Crusade for Children, call 1-800-ASK-BCCC.

Marian Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund, a national voice for children, and a leader of the Black Community Crusade for Children.

Parental Discipline Is Becoming A Lost Art In America

My blood boils when I am in the supermarket and hear a mother say, "Come on now, Johnny!" and the child replies, "No! No!" Often these mothers attempt to pull this disagreeable child along behind them.

My daughter rises watching teenagers carrying this parental disrespect to the next level. "Come, let's leave now," says a parent. The child continues his or her actions as if the parent never existed. I just want to scream watching these hapless parents looking for ways to mask their embarrassment.

Finally, there are kids who get into continual shouting matches with their parents. These parents can't wait to get these monsters out of their homes.

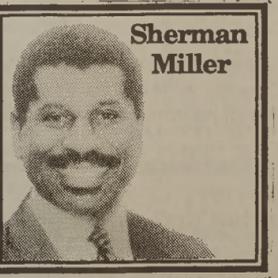
These tales all point out the Yuppie parents disease that now plagues the United States of America. A Caucasian Minnesota baby boomer mother offers some insights on America's

parental style that deserves pondering. She contends that are suffering from "terminal adolescence."

This mother believes "Yuppies of the late '60s and early '70s still want to be kids." She says they have a laissez-faire attitude, take great pride in their liberalism, and have forgotten about the importance of discipline when dealing with children.

This Minnesota mother charges they are "afraid to say 'no' to their children. She summed up her feelings on the scourge of baby boomer liberalism by saying, "They give their children everything, but they give them nothing!"

A supermarket chat with three Af-



Sherman Miller

rican-American fathers in their late 40s and early 50s in Wilmington, Del. revealed a similar feeling. These gents felt that modern parents have gotten out of the business of disciplining children and each father had a war story to share on how his parents never tolerated any foolishness.

One chap said his mother once took him back to a con-cerned adult to challenge something he purportedly had done wrong. He felt good watching her defend his case. When he got home she smacked his head and proceeded to tan his hide. He recounted having been perplexed saying, "I thought she was on my side."

On the question of harsh parental discipline viewed by today's standards, all of these African American fathers agreed that their parents would have been in court or jail for child abuse. Yet African American becoming without a criminal record are becoming an endangered species.

I asked, "Have you gentlemen ever been to jail?" "No!" replied each father.

Parental discipline is a lost art that needs reincarnation in mainstream America where it will evolve into the national mind-set. Furthermore, mainstream parental caring will stem a great deal of crime because it rekindles respect for authority and other people's rights.

I hope America develops disdain for the current national psyche expressed by out Minnesota psyche in her closing comments: "We want to be forever young! We want everything now!"

SHERMAN MILLER is a syndicated columnist.