

Student Congress Passes AIDS Resolution

On December 2, 1987, the UNC Student Congress passed RSA-69-103, "A Resolution Alerting the University Community to the Nature and Hazards of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Epidemic". Here is how it reads:

WHEREAS, The AIDS epidemic has become one of the most serious health concerns facing our society today;

WHEREAS, College students, as members of a more sexually active age group than the population as a whole may be at greater than average risk of contracting this disease unless they practice measures such as abstinence and "safe sex" procedures to protect themselves;

WHEREAS, Education of individuals as to which types of behavior place sexually active persons at risk is essential to stem the further progress of AIDS;

WHEREAS, One high-risk group has been erroneously singled out as the cause of this epidemic by some persons on campus;

WHEREAS, Such characterization is exemplified by the "Stop AIDS" T-shirts being worn by some members of the student body;

WHEREAS, Further, the problem of this epidemic has not been afforded the gravity which it commands by individuals such as those responsible for the "Deacs have AIDS" float in the 1987 Homecoming parade;

WHEREAS, Such stereotypification and trivialization of this hazard endangers the student body as a whole by tranquilizing and misinforming groups currently at lower but still significant risk, and

WHEREAS, In addition, such acts have proven to be offensive and injurious to many in the University community, including persons with AIDS and their relatives and friends;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Student Congress of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill that:

Article I The Student Congress of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill deplores the above mentioned acts and condemns them and any similar behavior as inappropriate and dangerous.

Article II The Student Congress of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill encourages the University community to become informed about AIDS and to adopt behavior that will minimize its spread.

Article III The Student Congress of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill urges University-recognized organizations

to promote as actively as possible the goal of a University community which is accurately and thoroughly informed about AIDS.

(Signed) Rob Friedman
Speaker of the Student Congress

(Signed) Brian Bailey
President of the Student Body

The Carolina Gay & Lesbian

LAMBDA

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