

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - MONDAY, SEPT. 9, 1985

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. We'll be talking today about what is being described as the world's Number One health crisis. It's a medical condition known as AIDS. A - I - D - S stand for acquired immune deficiency syndrome and, in the simplest terms, it means that otherwise healthy people who acquires this condition lose the body's normal capabilities to respond to an illness through the immunity all of us are born with. You've seen the same headlines I have. This program was recorded on September 4, and this morning's papers had two headlines side by side. One said: "School Officials Unite to Bar Kids with AIDS." The other headline said: "Mayor Koch Drops Plan to Move AIDS Patients to Home for Aged."

There's fear throughout the land; indeed, throughout the world. Some of that fear -- perhaps much of it -- come from that old foe, ignorance.

Today we'll be talking with Dr. Ralph Johnston to bring light where there may be only heat -- to provide information that is necessary to understanding this important community problem. I hope you'll take the next few minutes to stay with us.

Ralph Johnston is a health educator in the School of Allied Health Professions at the State University of New York at Stony

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Brook. One of his roles is as AIDS education facilitator for the faculty and staff at Stony Brook. Dr. Johnston, let's get to the hard questions right away: Should children with AIDS be admitted to classrooms?

INTERVIEW RALPH JOHNSTON:

- What is AIDS?
- How is it acquired?
- How is it passed along?
- Review its history over the past four years:
 - Gay community, Haitian, hemophiliacs, heterosexuals
- Some current statistics
- Efforts to segregate, integrate (NYC examples)
- What signs to look for
- What to do if involved = directly or indirectly

14:00

I'll return in a moment to talk some more with Dr. Ralph Johnston about AIDS among school-age young people. Please stay with us.

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BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle and I'm at the State University of New York with Dr. Ralph Johnston, a health educator working in Stony Brook's School of Allied Health Professions under a state Health Department grant to develop a pilot program in AIDS education. We've been talking about AIDS and the problems that confront the faculty, administrations, student body and parents when a student with AIDS is enrolled and attending classes. What's going on at Stony Brook, Dr. Johnston? Are there any cases on campus?

INTERVIEW RALPH JOHNSTON:

- University Hospital patient care program
- University policy re faculty, staff and student body
- Training program
 - Custodial and maintenance staff
 - Health Services
 - Ambulance Corps
 - EROS, GALA
 - GALA
 - Counseling Center
 - Residential Life staff (including students)
 - Interfaith Center
 - InfoLine Tape
 - Program - Taking Care of Yourself - WUSB
- Final advice to listening audience

29:00

OUTRO