

## AIDS: THE SILENT KILLER

The Community Resource Development Program of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service feels **AIDS — ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME** — is one of the most serious public health problems to confront residents of the Commonwealth in this decade.

Since **AIDS** was first identified in the United States in 1979, thousands of people have contracted the disease and died. At the present rate the disease is spreading, projections from the Centers for Disease Control indicate that more than 270,000 people will be diagnosed with **AIDS** by the end of 1991; 179,000 of those will die.

**AIDS** has created an epidemic not so much of illness as of fear. Most people know little about this disease except that it is mysterious, and that it seems to be spread by members of two groups — homosexuals and intravenous drug users.

**THE SILENT KILLER** is a program designed to untie the complex knot of fears many people feel when faced with life and death issues. By documenting facts, dispelling misconceptions with accurate information, clarifying how **AIDS** spreads and how its transmission can be prevented, **THE SILENT KILLER** realistically confronts the frightening issues surrounding **AIDS**. The program also offers guidelines for law enforcement personnel, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters and others who are likely to be exposed to **AIDS** infected carriers.



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**Suggested Uses:**

To provide select audiences with accurate, current knowledge about **AIDS**. To discuss how **AIDS** spreads and is transmitted. To provide an educational program to serve as an introduction piece for audience discussion.

**Recommended For:**

Community and corporate drug prevention and rehabilitation programs. Substance abuse prevention programs and health classes, in schools, colleges, and universities.  
4-H youth programs.

**Producers:**

Syndistar, Inc.  
648 Hickory Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70123  
Phone: 1-800-841-9532

**CONCLUSION**

The Community Resource Development (CRD) Program of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, as a part of its crime prevention programming effort, purchased from Syndistar, Inc., and is making available **AIDS: THE SILENT KILLER**. The CRD staff recognized that **AIDS** research in many areas is still preliminary. The epidemic of fear and misinformation, however, must be countered with current factual information.

Detailed questions concerning any form of crime prevention should be directed to your local police or sheriff's department. Consult your local Extension office for additional crime prevention resources made available by the CRD programs.



Community Resource  
Development

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