



Fall 2004 Newsletter

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Ibis Represented at 25th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok



Katy Backes and Naomi Lince of Ibis attended the IAC in July 2004 in Bangkok, Thailand. The theme was "Access For All," and many of the sessions focused on the social and cultural aspects of HIV/AIDS, human rights debates, microbicides, and policy and programmatic issues. Naomi presented "Removing regulatory barriers to widespread use of the diaphragm." The full presentation is available at the Cervical Barrier Advancement Society website: www.cervicalbarriers.org.

The following are some of the highlights of the week: A moving presentation by Thai Senator Mechai Viravaidya calling for micro-grants and loans to support income generating projects for PLWAs and their communities. A recent Microbicide Alliance weekly digest reported that, "Mechai is known as "Mr. Condom" for his successful drive several years ago to persuade prostitutes in Bangkok's notorious red-light district to use condoms. In this "Cops and Rubbers" project he arranged for Bangkok policemen to hand out condoms to drivers stuck in the city's never-ending traffic jams."

The US President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) was heavily criticized for its emphasis on the ABC approach (abstinence, be faithful and use condoms) and intolerance of family planning programs which provide abortion services. Notably, US Global AIDS coordinator, Randall Tobias, was nearly booed off the stage by demonstrators. The US was also criticized, if subtly, for its failure to contribute meaningfully to the Global Fund.

Another "pleasant" surprise was a session hosted by Anne Philpott, formerly of the Female Health Company, which focused on her new venture, The Pleasure Project, and the role of pleasure in HIV/AIDS prevention dialogue (www.the-pleasure-project.org).

The conference closed with an appearance by Dionne Warwick, a surprise announcement by Helene Gayle that the Gates Foundation will contribute \$50 million to the Global Fund, and a moving presentation by Nelson Mandela! More information is available online at: www.aids2004.org.

What Women Want: Contraception Within Reach

On September 8, 2004 in Washington DC, Ibis will be co-hosting a reception entitled "What women want: contraception within reach" with The Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI), Pharmacy Access Partnership, and the Reproductive Health Technologies Project (RHTP). The reception coincides with the beginning of the annual conference of the Association for Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP) and the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association (NFPRHA).

The reception will include a presentation by Pharmacy Access Partnership of the results of a new survey of women's attitudes towards pharmacy access to hormonal contraception, information about the recently released report *The Unfinished Revolution in Contraception* by the Reproductive Health Technologies Project and the Alan Guttmacher Institute, and a discussion of the contraindications of hormonal contraception by Ibis Reproductive Health. Email kschaffer@ibisreproductivehealth.org for more information.

National Hip-Hop Political Convention

The National Hip-Hop Political Convention was a gathering of the hip-hop generation to vote on, adopt and endorse a political agenda. Held in Newark, NJ, June 16-18 2004, the convention was a success, and approximately 3,000 people representing 30 states attended. The Convention adopted a reproductive rights referendum into its national agenda, which will be used by activists to mobilize their communities.



Dr. Kim Price of Ibis put together and moderated a panel entitled "Sexual Freedom, Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights." Other panelists included Ebony Barley of NARAL Pro-choice Georgia, Loretta Ross of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective and Lorraine Cole of the National Black Women's Health Imperative. The panel was part of the gender track sponsored by the Women's Progressive Caucus of the convention.

More information about the convention can be found online at www.hiphopconvention.org.

National Roundtable for Women in Prison

Dr. Rachel Roth of Ibis co-facilitated a workshop on "Prenatal Care and Reproductive Rights" with Christy Hall at the 11th National Roundtable for Women in Prison in Atlanta, June 2004. Christy is a co-founder of the Birth Attendants, a group of doulas who volunteer with women incarcerated in Washington State. For more information, visit: <http://www.birthattendants.org/>

Ibis Staff News

Dr. Kim Price, Ibis Fellow, recently became a member of the Research and Policy Committee of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective (at their annual meeting held in Chicago July 9-10, 2004).

Recent Publications by Ibis

- Price, K. **Why Do Reproductive Rights Matter?** *National Hip-Hop Political Convention newsletter*. June 2004.
- Harrison T, Backes K. **Cervical Barrier Methods: Expanding Women's Options for HIV/STI Prevention.** *American Sexuality Magazine* 2004; 2(5).
- Roth, R. **Do Prisoners Have Abortion Rights?** *Feminist Studies* Summer 2004; 30(5).
- Roth R. **'No New Babies'? Gender Inequality and Reproductive Control in the Criminal Justice and Prison Systems.** *American University Journal on Gender, Social Policy, and the Law* Summer 2004; 12(3)

Upcoming Events

Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP) Annual Conference

September 8-11, 2004: Washington, DC

www.arhp.org/rh2004/index.cfm

Presentation and CBAS/Ibis exhibit table
(Ibis staff: Kelly Blanchard and Teresa Harrison)

Reproductive Health Priorities Conference

October 5-8, 2004: Sun City, South Africa

www.rhru.co.za

Abstract submission, CBAS/Ibis exhibit table
(Ibis staff: Teresa Harrison, Kelly Blanchard, Naomi Lince, Mantwa Lerobane and Chiweni Chimbwete)

United States Conference on AIDS

October 21-24, 2004: Philadelphia, PA

www.nmac.org/conferences/USCA2004

Poster presentation on cervical barriers as female-controlled HIV prevention methods
(Ibis staff: Katy Backes)

WHO's Global Forum for Health Research: Forum 8

November 16-20, 2004: Mexico City, Mexico

www.globalforumhealth.org

Poster presentation on female-controlled HIV/STI prevention (cervical barriers and microbicides) and participation as a discussant on a panel on sexual and reproductive health
(Ibis staff: Katy Backes)

The Ibis Store Has Winter Gear!

Check out our winter clothes and other custom made products at: www.cafepress.com/ibish.



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