

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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1. Bio	Phill Wilson 1p (partial)	9/1/91	P6/B6
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- P1** National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
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MAIL-IT REQUESTED: JULY 1, 1994

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CLIENT:  
LIBRARY: NEWS  
FILE: ALLNWS

YOUR SEARCH REQUEST AT THE TIME THIS MAIL-IT WAS REQUESTED:  
(PHIL) PRE/2 WILSON AND WILSON W/30 (AIDS PROJECT LOS ANGELES OR CALIFORNIA OR  
HIV OR AIDS) AND WILSON

NUMBER OF STORIES FOUND WITH YOUR REQUEST THROUGH:  
LEVEL 1... 33

LEVEL 1 PRINTED

THE SELECTED STORY NUMBERS:  
9,13

DISPLAY FORMAT: FULL

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LEVEL 1 - 9 OF 33 STORIES

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NPR

SHOW: MORNING EDITION

June 9, 1993, Wednesday

LENGTH: 1066 words

HEADLINE: AIDS Conference Questions Efficacy of AZT

DATELINE: BERLIN

BODY:

BOB EDWARDS, Host: Good morning. American planes are carrying U.N. reinforcements and tanks to Somalia today. I'm Bob Edwards. Today is Wednesday, June 9th, and this is NPR's Morning Edition.

A representative of the U.N. secretary general is in Liberia today to investigate the weekend massacre of civilians. The Russian parliament decides today if it will continue its opposition to Boris Yeltsin's constitutional assembly. Some former Warsaw Pact countries are participating in NATO exercises, which begin today. OPEC oil ministers are meeting today in Geneva. George Price is 92 today. And, today is the birthday of Marvin Kalb; he's 63 years old. The news is next.

[newscast]

[funding credits]

[Morning Edition theme song]

EDWARDS: This is Morning Edition; I am Bob Edwards. The hottest topic at this year's 9th International Conference on AIDS is a drug report called, The Concorde Study. It followed people infected with the AIDS-causing virus who had not yet become ill. The study showed that those who took the drug AZT as soon as they were diagnosed with HIV infection did not stay any healthier or live any longer than people who took AZT only after they started showing symptoms of AIDS. That seems to contradict previous studies which concluded that taking AZT early on was beneficial. From Berlin, NPR's Joe Palca reports the new results revive troubling questions.

JOE PALCA, Reporter: What would you do if your doctor told you you were infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS? You feel fine now, but you know that the devastating symptoms of AIDS await you. Do you start taking a drug that may only work for a year or so in the hopes of delaying the onset of the disease? Or, do you wait until you start getting the symptoms of AIDS, knowing that the drug will prolong your life? Researchers gathered here for the AIDS meeting are asking each other these questions, and there's no one right answer. Paul Voverding [sp?] from San Francisco General Hospital was one of the first to study AZT in people who had not yet developed the symptoms of AIDS.

PAUL VOVERDING, San Francisco General Hospital: What we would really like to be doing is starting therapy in everyone that's infected. You have a chronic,

National Public Radio, June 9, 1993

progressive, and fatal infection, we don't particularly wait to start treatment of infections. But, here, I think, the issue is the duration of the infection. It's a very chronic disease, and the drugs that we have just are not as effective as we'd like.

PALCA: Concorde set out to answer the question of whether to start AZT immediately or wait. Researchers in England and France carried out the three-year study. The study was actually named after the Concorde airplane, another French/British collaboration. According to Maxine Seligman [sp?], one of the lead investigators on the study, at first the Concorde results seemed to be agreeing with earlier studies of AZT that showed a benefit for using the drug at once. But, as they followed the 1,750 patients in the study, the initial positive results disappeared. Seligman says he believes that means the AZT's positive impact may be transient.

MAXINE SELIGMAN, 'Concorde' Investigator: The whole problem is if it is a transiently effective drug, you wish to save it for later, at a time where a patient become to be symptomatic [sic].

PALCA: Duke University's John Hamilton is beginning to think waiting is a good idea. First of all, the AIDS virus can become resistant to AZT. After a while, the drug just won't work against the virus. Then there's the AZT's toxic side effects that build up over time. And then there's money. When you add up all the related medical expenses, Hamilton says it costs upward of \$ 50,000 a year to give people AZT who are infected with HIV but haven't yet gotten sick.

JOHN HAMILTON, Duke University: All these might be fine if, in addition to that, one achieves some definite quality-of-life benefit. You know, it just made you feel better. The difficulty is, in the studies that have now been completed and published, these quality-of-life benefits were not observed.

PALCA: Also, most people on AZT experience some discomfort from the drug. Hamilton says nausea is quite common.

Mr. HAMILTON: Who cares whether you're sick at your stomach because of drug or disease, or you have a headache because of drug or disease. Now, that's a simple-minded approach, but the point is, still, sickness is sickness, and if you're sick, you don't have a good quality of life, and- so, the difficulty- one difficulty of instituting therapy so early is that you're taking the majority of patients who are asymptomatic and feeling well, and exposing them to the possibility of becoming sick, when they really didn't need to be.

PALCA: Hamilton says he'll give AZT to his asymptomatic patients who insist on it, but he says if it were he that was infected, he'd wait. But, that's what's causing all the discussion here. Others say they'd take AZT right away and hope that other drugs will work when AZT's effect wears off. Phil Wilson of the AIDS Project in Los Angeles says the debate here at the AIDS meeting is proof that AIDS researchers are out of touch with the people they're trying to help.

PHIL WILSON, Los Angeles AIDS Project: The fact that The Concorde Study caused so much discussion in and among health care providers surprised me, you know, and I wonder what planet they're on. For most people who are actively managing their own care, The Concorde Study was not news, you know? We already assumed, and knew, that AZT was not going to be a permanent answer.

National Public Radio, June 9, 1993

PALCA: The trouble is, right now there is no permanent answer, and people infected with the AIDS virus still face difficult choices about when to start treating their disease. In Berlin, I'm Joe Palca reporting.

[music]

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE-MDC: June 9, 1993

## LEVEL 1 - 13 OF 33 STORIES

Copyright 1991 The Washington Post  
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November 10, 1991, Sunday, Final Edition

SECTION: FIRST SECTION; PAGE A1

LENGTH: 1599 words

HEADLINE: An Epidemic the Public Might Finally Confront;>  
Johnson Could Help End Stigma of AIDS ✓

SERIES: Occasional

BYLINE: Malcolm Gladwell, Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

The world to which Earvin "Magic" Johnson now belongs -- the world of those / living and dying with the AIDS virus -- is a place fraught with uncertainty and contradiction. ✓

Ten years into the AIDS epidemic, scientists say they are optimistic about the prospects for finding an effective treatment. But they admit they still do not understand some of the most fundamental facts about why and how the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) causes AIDS. Educators say they know how to effectively teach AIDS prevention. But 40,000 Americans will become infected with HIV this year, and for lack of effort and resources, many experts openly refer to AIDS-prevention efforts as a failure.

AIDS activists and public health officials cannot agree among themselves about how to frame the issues posed by the disease to the public. And the public itself -- caught in the confusing middle -- has swung between extremes of fear and nonchalance, uncertain whether the epidemic is beginning or ending, unclear about who is or is not at risk and unsure whether to embrace or shun those with the virus.

"We have come so far in the past 10 years," said Peter Carpenter, a bioethicist at Stanford University. "We know how to intervene from a prevention standpoint, we know what the high-risk groups are, we know the kinds of things we can and should be doing. But the application of that knowledge has been incredibly unsuccessful. In terms of outcome, we've accomplished very little. . . . That is the reason for the frustration out there."

The confusion over AIDS begins with its vital statistics. The epidemic is now in what epidemiologists call a mature phase, meaning that most of the 1 million Americans who carry HIV were infected long ago and that the number of new infections every year -- which averaged more than 100,000 a year in the early 1980s -- is steadily dropping to the range of 40,000. Statistics also show the number of people reporting the symptoms that characterize AIDS -- now hovering around 190,000 -- has peaked as well.

But experts see scant reason for optimism in those numbers. The AIDS epidemic has been three distinct epidemics: the first among the gay community, the second in intravenous drug users and now one moving through heterosexuals. That it has peaked in the first two groups, public health experts stress, does not

The Washington Post, November 10, 1991

necessarily mean it has peaked among those in the third.

The cost of caring for AIDS patients, moreover, has just begun. This year the United States will spend \$ 5.8 billion caring for those with AIDS, and since the cost of AIDS care is rising dramatically as new drugs are developed and most of those infected have yet to become ill, that figure is expected to nearly double by 1994.

Even if the epidemic stabilizes at its present level, the numbers mask the extent of its impact. Public health experts use a statistic called years of potential life lost (YPLL) to compare different means of mortality. For example, the YPLL of someone who dies in an accident at age 50, but who otherwise could have been expected to live until 75, is 25 years.

AIDS killed 47,000 Americans last year -- ninth on the list of causes of death in the United States, behind cancer, stroke and diabetes, among others. But because it is a disease of the young, those 47,000 AIDS deaths represent 1.3 million lost years of life, a number roughly equal to the human cost of heart disease, which ranked first by killing 730,000 people.

The state of the scientific struggle against AIDS is just as mixed.

"I think anyone who makes any kind of strong prediction about when we will find a cure is either unaware of the difficulties or simply not being honest," said National Institutes of Health AIDS researcher Robert C. Gallo.

So far, researchers have developed two drugs, AZT and DDI, that can prolong the lives of AIDS patients by one or two years. They also have a growing arsenal of therapies to combat the infections that plague patients in the disease's latter stages. There are 10 vaccines involved in safety trials, and efficacy tests may begin with several years.

"I think you can characterize our mood as cautiously optimistic," said Anthony S. Fauci, who heads NIH's AIDS effort.

But Fauci and others are quick to point out what scientists do not know. When the virus enters the body, it typically is dormant for years before suddenly rising up and beginning the destruction that causes AIDS. No one knows why it remains dormant or what causes it to suddenly emerge -- two mysteries among many that scientists say must be solved before something even approximating a cure can be found.

Developing a vaccine may be even trickier. Vaccines work by giving the human immune system biological instructions about how best to defeat an invading disease. But in the case of HIV, no one knows precisely what those instructions should be because the virus itself is so good at camouflaging its intentions.

"It can go underground. It can change its spots," said David Rogers, a Cornell University researcher who is vice chairman of the National Commission on AIDS. "It lives so deep in the interior of our own genetic mechanism that it is hard to kill it without killing you."

All of this scientific uncertainty stands against a backdrop of rising frustration among HIV caseworkers and educators. Safe-sex messages, although successful among older gay men, have been far less effective among younger

The Washington Post, November 10, 1991

people, particularly in the inner city. A recent study in the District, for example, found that 1.3 percent of D.C. teenagers carry the virus, up from 0.4 percent in 1987. A larger national study of Job Corps recruits, who are drawn largely from the inner city, found that more than 1 percent of blacks tested positive for the HIV virus, and that between 1988 and 1990, the infection rate for women doubled.

"I think that as a society we haven't done even the smallest part of the work out there to prevent the spread of this virus," said Bill Bailey, AIDS policy officer at the American Psychological Association. "What we are dealing with is a historical and cultural climate that has placed the two primary vectors of spread of the virus in a no man's land. Even though we can talk about sex and drug use with a certain degree of openness now, there continues to be this historical drive to avoid discussions around these intimate behaviors."

What educators say they would like to see is for the stigma associated with AIDS to be stripped away and for the public to deal with it as calmly and rationally as it now deals with cancer or drinking and driving.

This urge to normalize AIDS is, in fact, a persistent theme among those fighting the disease. In the current debate over whether physicians infected with HIV should be allowed to continue practicing, for example, many activists have argued against restrictions. Public fears, they have said, are based on an irrational elevation of the risks posed by HIV above the risks routinely faced in the health-care setting. When AIDS activists fight discrimination against HIV patients in the workplace and tried unsuccessfully earlier this year to persuade the Bush administration to lift its ban on immigration of those carrying the virus, they argued the same thing: that it was wrong to treat AIDS differently than any other medical disability and that progress in coping with AIDS depends on stripping the disease of its particular stigma.

But these efforts have been only partially successful. One reason is that policymakers have argued that AIDS, as a communicable disease and an epidemic, legitimately demands certain exceptional responses. On an emotional level, it also continues to resonate within society in a way that other diseases do not.

"The reason we have such pronounced feelings about AIDS is that it deals with the basic elements of human existence -- sex and blood," said Larry Gostin, a professor health law at Harvard University.

Gostin argues that these visceral reactions to AIDS, even a decade into the epidemic, continue to drive discrimination against those with HIV. All that has happened, he says, is that the form of this prejudice has become more sophisticated.

In the early stages of the epidemic, he said, there were hundreds of lawsuits and human rights complaints centered around what he calls irrational discrimination, the prejudices of people who thought their children could get AIDS by going to school with someone infected with HIV or that they could get AIDS from someone in the workplace.

Now, he says, discrimination has shifted toward the health-care setting, where doctors are trying to unfairly test patients for HIV and patients want to test doctors for HIV.

The Washington Post, November 10, 1991

"We have digested the notion of zero risk, but people find it very hard to accept a small but unavoidable risk in the health-care setting," he said. "These are not irrational fears like before, because we know HIV can be transmitted this way, but they are fears that are blown out of proportion to the real risk."

What AIDS educators and activists say they hope to find in Magic Johnson is not so much a man who can speak to minorities and children -- the two groups that so far have been the most difficult to reach -- but someone who, through his celebrity and familiarity, can help speed this process of normalization.

"He is a man who is hero to millions of Americans," said Phil Wilson, AIDS coordinator for the city of Los Angeles. "He is a person who was literally in our living rooms once a week. He cannot be marginalized. At least for a moment, we are all affected by HIV."

GRAPHIC: ILLUSTRATION, AIDS IS THE FINAL STAGE IN A PROCESS THAT BEGINS WHEN A PERSON IS INFECTED WITH THE HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS, OR HIV, WHICH ATTACKS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM AND OTHER CELLS. THE VIRUS ENTERS CELLS WHEN ITS COAT PROTEIN (PROTRUDING FORMS IN THE SCHEMATIC) LOCKS ONTO RECEPTORS IN CELL MEMBRANES AND IS PULLED INSIDE. THE VIRUS'S GENES (WAVY LINES) COMMAND INFECTED CELLS TO MAKE NEW COPIES OF IT. TWP

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

MAIL-IT REQUESTED: JULY 1, 1994

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CLIENT: CLIFF  
LIBRARY: NEWS  
FILE: ALLNWS

YOUR SEARCH REQUEST AT THE TIME THIS MAIL-IT WAS REQUESTED:  
(PHIL) PRE/2 WILSON AND WILSON W/30 (AIDS PROJECT LOS ANGELES OR CALIFORNIA )  
AND WILSON

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## LEVEL 1 - 17 STORIES

- Not HM*  
 1. Publishers Weekly, May 2, 1994, Vol. 241 ; No. 18 ; Pg. 57; ISSN: 0000-0019  
 102495 words, ABA at LA: the most complete listing of exhibitors, offers,  
 events; 1994 American Booksellers Association convention; Los Angeles,  
 California; includes related articles on Los Angeles and on the convention  
 schedule and booth assignments; Cover Story, Mutter, John ; Theroux, Peter ;  
 McCullough, Bob ; Simon, Carey ; Solomon, Charlene Marmer ; Jones, Margaret ;  
 Riegert, Ray ; Kinsella, Bridget ; Parisi, Joy ; Sanborn, Margaret ; Zinsser,  
 John
- Not HM*  
 2. Billboard, April 2, 1994, ARTISTS & MUSIC; The Beat; Pg. 12, 874 words,  
 Carnegie Hall Set For Benefit, Folk Festival; Brian Wilson's Poignant Return To  
 The Stage, by Melinda Newman
- ✓ 3. Los Angeles Times, November 21, 1993, Sunday, Valley Edition, Metro; Part  
 B; Page 14; Column 1, 624 words, WHAT RISKS DOES AIDS POSE TO FUNERAL HOME?;  
 DIRECTOR'S POLICY ONLY SPREADS IGNORANCE OF THE DISEASE
- Not HM*  
 4. The San Diego Union-Tribune, August 6, 1993, Friday, NEWS Ed.  
 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Pg. A-29, 667 words, Late switch costs state migrant funds, DORI  
 MEINERT Copley News Service
5. The San Diego Union-Tribune, August 6, 1993, Friday, NEWS; Ed.  
 1,2,3,4,5,6,7; Pg. A-29, 519 words, Late switch costs state migrant funds, DORI  
 MEINERT Copley News Service
6. USA TODAY, August 5, 1993, Thursday, FINAL EDITION, MONEY; Pg. 1B, 1194  
 words, Family leave act hits home // Law called a critical first step, Mimi  
 Hall; Blair S. Walker
7. STATE & LOCAL NEWS: Budget Deficit. CALIFORNIA FACES MAJOR REDUCTIONS IN CITY  
 SAFETY, WELFARE SERVICES., Vol. 31, No. 1521; Pg. 871, June 28, 1993, 1991 words  
 Government Employee Relations Report, Copyright 1993 The Bureau of National  
 Affairs, Inc.
8. Los Angeles Times, February 21, 1993, Sunday, Home Edition, Part A; Page 3;  
 Column 6; Metro Desk, 856 words, DEMOCRATS SET SIGHTS ON WINNING WILSON'S JOB;  
 ELECTIONS: GETTING AN EARLY START ON 1994, THE PARTY HOLDS THREE "NO RE-PETE  
 MOBILIZATION" RALLIES., By BILL STALL, TIMES POLITICAL WRITER
9. ABC NEWS, WORLD NEWS TONIGHT WITH PETER JENNINGS, OCTOBER 1, 1991, 4033  
 words
10. Orange County Business Journal, June 11, 1990, Vol 13; No 3; Sec 1; pg 5,  
 934 words, Mortgage Franchiser AmeriMac Goes Nationwide, Tony Cox, Santa Clara;  
 CA; US; Pacific
11. GANNETT NEWS SERVICE, May 30, 1990, Wednesday, 564 words, BLIND FAST-FOOD  
 WORKER ASTOUNDS HIMSELF WITH SKILL, MICHAEL FITZGERALD, STOCKTON, CALIF.
12. United Press International, April 29, 1985, Monday, BC cycle, Sports News,  
 California, 117 words, California League Roundup
13. Forbes, June 4, 1984, TECHNOLOGY; Pg. 198, 1262 words, Move over, Frank  
 Perdue, By Marika Cole

## LEVEL 1 - 17 STORIES

- NOT HIM
14. United Press International, May 11, 1981, Monday, BC cycle, Sports News, California, 160 words, STANFORD, Stanford
15. United Press International, May 11, 1981, Monday, BC cycle, Sports News, California, 160 words, STANFORD, Stanford
16. United Press International, May 9, 1981, Saturday, BC cycle, Sports News, California, 129 words, STANFORD, Stanford
17. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, April 20, 1981, Monday, Midwestern Edition, Pg. 1, 761 words, Lobster farms claw their way to profits, By Timothy Appel, Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor, Boston

MAIL-IT REQUESTED: JULY 1, 1994

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LEVEL 1 - 3 OF 17 STORIES

Copyright 1993 The Times Mirror Company  
Los Angeles Times

November 21, 1993, Sunday, Valley Edition

SECTION: Metro; Part B; Page 14; Column 1

LENGTH: 624 words

HEADLINE: WHAT RISKS DOES AIDS POSE TO FUNERAL HOME?;  
DIRECTOR'S POLICY ONLY SPREADS IGNORANCE OF THE DISEASE

BODY:

The Mumaw Funeral home in Lancaster refuses to accept the bodies of people who have died of AIDS-related illnesses. Its director, Jim Mumaw, puts it this way: "I do not wish to become one of the small percentage of persons in my profession who will die from an accidental infection of the HIV virus." HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus, which has been identified as a primary cause of AIDS or the acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Mumaw also reasoned that he was in a unique position "as a single parent of two small children."

State regulators are looking into a complaint against the funeral home and say that there are no specific statutes to guide funeral parlors in how to handle AIDS-infected bodies. They are also reviewing whether civil rights or other general statutes may apply. That is not our focus here. Another question arises: What are the dangers here? They appear to be negligible.

Since 1981, when the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began tracking AIDS fatalities, about 204,400 adults and children have died from the disease.

That represents quite a few contacts between deceased AIDS victims and morticians, funeral parlor workers, and the like. To date, there are no documented cases of such employees contracting HIV from their work.

According to the CDC, there are only three possible cases in which an embalmer may have acquired the virus through his work. They are considered possible cases, the CDC says, because the three individuals have not indicated any other potential mode of transmission such as intravenous drug use, blood transfusions, or unprotected sexual contact with someone with the virus. Authorities do not know when these people contracted the virus, or how, or from whom. Even if all three were determined to have definitely contracted the virus in connection with their work, and that is a stretch, they represent a probability of one chance in 68,133.

To Phil Wilson, director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles, Mumaw's fears are "absurd. One gets exposed from infected blood that enters one's bloodstream. You contract the virus by being sexually active with an infected person in a way in which their bodily fluids enter yours, or from sharing a needle used in intravenous drug use. I would hope that neither would be very possible in an embalming situation. This is just silly bigotry."

Los Angeles Times, November 21, 1993

A similar view came from Dr. Michael Gottlieb, the Sherman Oaks physician who is credited with the identification of AIDS as a new disease. About 95% of Gottlieb's patients are infected with HIV.

"If he did sustain a sharp needle injury from something used to embalm, there might be a risk, but this type of risk has been managed very effectively for 14 years," Gottlieb said. "He (Mumaw) must be aware of this. There has been much progress and understanding about this disease and the way it is contracted and the ways in which you can protect yourself. Where has this guy been?"

In fact, the CDC has published very specific AIDS guidelines for health care and public safety workers. These are the "universal blood and body-fluid precautions." Those that apply here are easily stated, such as the use of protective masks, eye wear or face shields, lab coats, gloves and waterproof aprons. Obtaining those guidelines is as simple as calling the CDC's Office of Public Affairs at 404-639-3286.

Every day in this nation, doctors and nurses and assistants, lab technicians, and scientists and researchers deal intimately with this disease in an effort to find a cure, to prolong life, and to make life a little easier for its victims. The Mumaw Funeral Home's fears do not contribute to progress on that front. They only contribute to ignorance.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE-MDC: November 22, 1993

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## LEVEL 1 - 33 STORIES

1. Publishers Weekly, May 2, 1994, Vol. 241 ; No. 18 ; Pg. 57; ISSN: 0000-0019  
102495 words, ABA at LA: the most complete listing of exhibitors, offers, events; 1994 American Booksellers Association convention; Los Angeles, California; includes related articles on Los Angeles and on the convention schedule and booth assignments; Cover Story, Mutter, John ; Theroux, Peter ; McCullough, Bob ; Simon, Carey ; Solomon, Charlene Marmer ; Jones, Margaret ; Riegert, Ray ; Kinsella, Bridget ; Parisi, Joy ; Sanborn, Margaret ; Zinsser, John
2. Billboard, April 2, 1994, ARTISTS & MUSIC; The Beat; Pg. 12, 874 words, Carnegie Hall Set For Benefit, Folk Festival; Brian Wilson's Poignant Return To The Stage, by Melinda Newman
3. Los Angeles Times, November 21, 1993, Sunday, Valley Edition, Metro; Part B; Page 14; Column 1, 624 words, WHAT RISKS DOES AIDS POSE TO FUNERAL HOME?; DIRECTOR'S POLICY ONLY SPREADS IGNORANCE OF THE DISEASE
4. The Associated Press, August 29, 1993, Sunday, PM cycle, Washington Dateline, 517 words, March on Washington Included Everyone, Seemed to Grab Few, By NITA LELYVELD, Associated Press Writer, WASHINGTON
5. The San Diego Union-Tribune, August 6, 1993, Friday, NEWS Ed. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Pg. A-29, 667 words, Late switch costs state migrant funds, DORI MEINERT Copley News Service
6. The San Diego Union-Tribune, August 6, 1993, Friday, NEWS; Ed. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7; Pg. A-29, 519 words, Late switch costs state migrant funds, DORI MEINERT Copley News Service
7. USA TODAY, August 5, 1993, Thursday, FINAL EDITION, MONEY; Pg. 1B, 1194 words, Family leave act hits home // Law called a critical first step, Mimi Hall; Blair S. Walker
8. STATE & LOCAL NEWS: Budget Deficit. CALIFORNIA FACES MAJOR REDUCTIONS IN CITY SAFETY, WELFARE SERVICES., Vol. 31, No. 1521; Pg. 871, June 28, 1993, 1991 words Government Employee Relations Report, Copyright 1993 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.
9. NPR, MORNING EDITION, June 9, 1993, Wednesday, 1066 words, AIDS Conference Questions Efficacy of AZT, BERLIN
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Johnson Could Help End Stigma of AIDS, Malcolm Gladwell, Washington Post Staff Writer

NO  
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NO  
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17. United Press International, October 16, 1990, Tuesday, BC cycle, Domestic News, 500 words, City Council adopts landmark AIDS policy, BY ANNETTE HADDAD, LOS ANGELES

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NOT  
HIM

21. Orange County Business Journal, June 11, 1990, Vol 13; No 3; Sec 1; pg 5, 934 words, Mortgage Franchiser AmeriMac Goes Nationwide, Tony Cox, Santa Clara; CA; US; Pacific

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NO  
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NOT  
HIM

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- ADT  
HAM
28. Forbes, June 4, 1984, TECHNOLOGY; Pg. 198, 1262 words, Move over, Frank Perdue, By Marika Cole
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## LEVEL 1 - 1 OF 1 CASE

Joe Silva, d/b/a Joe's Paving, Appellant v. (Phil Wilson, d/b/a Sealrite'  
Asphalt Maintenance Company, /Appellee/

No. 13328

Court of Appeals of Texas, Third District, Austin

617 S.W.2d 320

May 20, 1981

PRIOR HISTORY:

From the District Court of Travis County, 126th Judicial District

COUNSEL: Elvis G. Schulze, Austin, for appellant.

NOT HIM

No brief for appellee.

OPINIONBY: POWERS

OPINION: [\*321] Appellant, Joe Silva, seeks review by petition for writ of error directed at a summary judgment rendered against him in a suit by appellee, Phil Wilson, bringing actions for breach of contract and for violation of the /Deceptive Trade Practices Act (DTPA). Appellant appeared and answered the /actions with a general denial?

Appellee then filed a motion for summary judgment premised upon the general allegation that there existed no genuine issue as to any material fact and that he was entitled to judgment as a matter of law, based upon the pleadings and his affidavit which accompanied the motion for summary judgment. The failure of appellee to state specific grounds for such judgment was not challenge by appellant. The defect was therefore waived. See Carter v. Gerald, 577 S.W.2d 797 (Tex.Civ.App. Austin 1979, writ ref'd n.r.e.).

Appellant did not respond to the motion for summary judgment and did not appear at the hearing of the motion. The trial court rendered judgment in accordance with the motion, trebling appellee's "actual damages" of \$ 5,640 and entering judgment for \$ 16,920 together with costs of court.

With regard to the action for breach of contract, appellee's affidavit merely repeats in substance the allegations in his petition. Appellee alleges the parties made a contract obligating appellant to do "certain construction work" related to a tennis court; that the contract price was \$ 7,000, \$ 4,500 of which had been paid to appellant; that appellant never completed the work required by the contract and that any work done was "substandard, defective, and substantially below specifications"; that appellant never remedied these defects though appellee requested him to do so; and that appellee suffered damages in the amount of \$ 5,640 "for lab tests and remedial actions for repairs and rebuilding the tennis court." If the contract was written, no sworn copy was before the court.

There were no statements in appellee's affidavit concerning the action for violation of the DTPA. The only matter before the court relative to violations of the DTPA was appellee's petition which averred generally that appellant's

617 S.W.2d 320, \*321

conduct violated "the Deceptive Trade Practices-Consumer Protection Act, Texas Business and Commerce Code, Section 17.41, et seq., specifically including, but not limited to, Sections 17.46(b)(5), (7) and Section 17.50(a)(2)." Neither the motion for summary judgment nor the accompanying affidavit sets forth the particular elements of an action under these statutory provisions.

Summary judgments in cases such as this are to be granted only if the record establishes a right thereto as a matter of law and that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact. *Gonzales County Savings & Loan Ass'n v. Freeman*, 534 S.W.2d 903 (Tex.1976). *Tex.R.Civ.P. 166-A*. It is well established that pleadings, even though sworn, do not constitute summary judgment "evidence." *City of Houston v. Clear Creek Basin Authority*, 589 S.W.2d 671 (Tex.1979); *Hidalgo v. Surety Savings & Loan Ass'n*, 462 S.W.2d 540 (Tex.1971). The movant must establish his right to summary judgment by conclusively proving all essential elements of his cause of action as a matter of law. The non-movant's failure to respond to the motion cannot supply, by default, the "proof" necessary to establish the movant's right to the summary judgment. *City of Houston v. Clear Creek Basin Authority*, supra.

[\*322] Appellee's affidavit does not indicate any of the following: whether the contract was written or oral; the relevant "specifications" in the contract or how appellant failed to comply with them; the elements of damages; and the pertinent measure of damages used to arrive at the \$ 5,640 figure claimed by appellee, or the reasonable costs incurred by appellee in his own effort to complete the work contracted for by appellant. All of these matters are raised by appellee's petition. With respect to the statutory action under DTPA, the affidavit does not set forth any facts from which one may draw the conclusion that appellee was a "consumer" entitled to bring such an action, nor that appellant committed any act in violation of DTPA.

The pleadings, the affidavit, and the other matters permitted to be considered by the court under *Tex.R.Civ.P. 166-A(c)* do not show that appellee was entitled to judgment as a matter of law. The trial court, therefore, erred in granting appellee's motion for summary judgment.

We reverse the judgment of the trial court and remand the cause.

*cc to  
- Rhoads  
- S. W.*

*Re Phil Wilson*

THE WEXLER

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Name: **Phill Wilson**  
Address: **Community Development Department**



Telephone:

CAREER RELATED EXPERIENCE

Firm: City of Los Angeles  
Title: AIDS Coordinator  
Start Date: November, 1990  
Description: -responsible for implementation, monitoring; supervising the AIDS policy for the City Los Angeles  
-directs City's AIDS Residential Program  
-directs City's AIDS Education Program  
-responsible for community outreach to group and organizations

Firm: National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together  
Title: Director of Education and Training  
Start Date: October, 1988  
Description: -responsible for designing safer sex risk reduction curriculum for Gay and bisexual men of color  
-created training manuals for facilitators and train the trainers  
-coordinated national training program targeting 22 cities  
-responsible for community outreach to group and organizations  
-developed education and safer sex guidelines policies

Firm: Minority AIDS Project  
Title: Deputy Director  
Start Date: May, 1988  
Description: -responsible for programs and systems  
-chief health educator  
-head of Speaker's Bureau  
-responsible for community outreach to group and organizations

Firm: Stop AIDS Project  
 Title: Director of Outreach  
 Start Date: October, 1986  
 Description: -responsible for recruitment to AIDS Prevent  
 and Education seminars  
 -editor and chief writer of Project newsletter  
 -head of Speaker's Bureau  
 -responsible for community outreach to gro  
 and organizations

Firm: Black is More Than Beautiful, Inc.  
 Title: President and Founder  
 Start Date: September, 1983  
 Description: -principal owner of business  
 -responsible for all aspects of business  
 including sales, product development,  
 accounting, personnel, executive overview  
 -hired, trained and supervised 5 employees,  
 70 outside sales representatives  
 -3 years intensive business experience as  
 entrepreneur

Firm: AT&T Information Systems  
 Title: Account Executive, Industry Specialist  
 Start Date: January, 1982  
 Description: -responsible for designing, developing, &  
 coordinating implementation of market plan  
 penetrate new territories for AT&T following  
 deregulation  
 -designed voice/data networks for major  
 corporations  
 -responsible for account base billing \$3  
 million

Firm: Illinois Bell Telephone Company  
 Title: Account Executive  
 Start Date: April, 1980  
 Description: -certified as a professional account executive  
 in the media field  
 -responsible for account base billing  
 million  
 -account base and growth management, market  
 development through business problem solving  
 for voice, network and data

EDUCATION

School: Illinois Wesleyan University  
Degrees: Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1976;  
Bachelor of Arts, 1977

HONORS:

Honorary Chairperson, 1988 Being A1  
Candlelight March  
AT&T Achievers Club, 1981 & 1982  
Illinois Bell Quarterly Recognition  
outstanding sales effort (four consecut  
quarters)  
Blue Key - National Honor Fraternity

ACTIVITIES:

AIDS Prevention Team, Founder  
Blacks Living with AIDS and HIV disease  
Founder  
National Organization of Black County Officials  
Convener of 1988 and 1989 National Black C  
and Lesbian  
Conference and Health Institute  
National Minority AIDS Council  
Assemblyman Terry Friedman's Task force on AI  
Kaiser Permanente AIDS Prevention Advise  
Board  
Minority AIDS Project, founder of Speake  
Bureau  
South Central AIDS Hospice Committee, Boar  
Member  
Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Committee  
AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Board of Director  
Black & White Men Together, Co-Chair  
National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadersh  
Foundation, Co-Chairman  
Operation PUSH Trade Bureau, 1983-86  
Gift Association of America, 1983-86  
-American Booksellers Association, 1983-85  
Acacia Fraternity - National Board o  
Directors, 1976-78

REFERENCES:

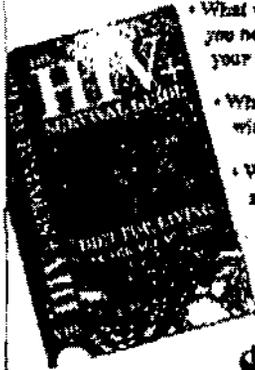
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Bio  
Phill Wilson  
September 1, 1991

Phill Wilson is the AIDS Coordinator for the City of Los Angeles. He is the Co-Chair and founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Los Angeles CARE HIV Health Services Planning Council. Mr. Wilson has worked with Stop AIDS Los Angeles, Minority AIDS Project and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. He has also served on the Boards of the National Association of Black and White People Together, the National AIDS Network, the South Central AIDS Hospice Committee and the California LIFE Lobby. Mr. Wilson is also one of the founders of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

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# Speaking the Truth

APLA's Phill Wilson walks the walk

**C**hatting with Phill Wilson the other day over lunch—Wilson, is the gay, HIV positive director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the country's second largest AIDS service organization.

"I don't know the Phill Wilson people talk about," he says, sipping his tea. "To me, I'm still the skinny black kid from Chicago."

The Phill Wilson people talk about is a compassionate man and a passionate activist. And that's the Phill Wilson who is handsomely perched across from me now. He speaks like a man comfortable in his own skin, comfortable speaking eloquently on the numerous universal truths that, in his assessment, are being blatantly ignored. Why do I have to speak for all African-American gay men? he seems to be asking no one in particular. Why is his voice such a lonely one in the black community?

Wilson answers these questions with nothing short of heroic honesty.

"When you're engaged in a major war, which I think we are, you have an obligation to make strategic choices to end the war as soon as possible," Wilson says. "Sometimes the choices you make are not the most personally satisfying."

Most important to Wilson, perhaps, is the whole issue of race in the AIDS arena. "When you look at much of the safer sex information directed at gay men, much of the language and imagery is focused on white men and my own experience as a black gay man is that if I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."

Wilson is no less critical when talking on the African-American community for its record on AIDS. In a tone perhaps muted by his legendary diplomacy, Wilson laments the years of silence by the leadership of the black community and complains that "even now when you look at AIDS prevention campaigns in African-American communities, you'll see that their priorities are not gay men and that often the agencies involved are hostile places for gays. In fact, when you look at the rates of HIV infection among black women, much of that goes back to the failure to educate black bisexual men."

How is it possible, Wilson logically asks that after 18 years of what is clearly the most devastating health crisis of this century that the black community in this country could remain outside a state of emergency?

"For a lot of African-Americans, life is about bad things happening to you; but there's a dawning awareness," says

Wilson. "People are starting to realize that the virus won't be ignored."

The inner city's reaction to AIDS remains a challenge Wilson gladly takes on himself. "I can't say it [the reaction] hasn't been an obstacle but I can say it's not been an obstacle I've ever noticed," Wilson says. "When I speak to kids in the inner city the truth is that I am from them, and nothing is going to change that. I won't let anyone take my culture or legacy away from me. I won't ever entertain that possibility."

Parting shots?

"I'm a PWA today and by the time we have the AIDS infrastructure we have to have, I'll probably be dead," says Wilson. "But for right now I'm doing what I'm doing and living my life as I see it." —DAVID BLANTON

*"If I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."*

LEXIS/NEXIS RESEARCH  
WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL

CANDIDATE: Phil Wilson

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

RESEARCHER: Cliff

DATE: 7/1/94

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August 16, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL RASCO

FROM: KEITH BOYKIN *KB*

SUBJECT: ENCLOSED ARTICLES ON PHILL WILSON

Thought you might want to see these articles. Phill is said to be a candidate for the position of National AIDS Policy Coordinator.

# GOING HOME

## With the Visible Man

Is Phill Wilson just another "suit" or the ultimate pointperson crossing racial and sexual divides in America?

ERIC K. WASHINGTON reads between the lines.

**A**N ENCOUNTER with Phill Wilson from 1986 still resonates for Torie Osborn. Both—barely acquainted yet—were collaborating to thwart a California initiative by Lyndon LaRouche's camp to quarantine people with AIDS. She and Wilson were lobbying black churches for support. Osborn, at the time the Southern California Campaign Coordinator for No On 64, had arranged a meeting with a particular local reverend. "This guy was not comfortable," she recalls of the minister seated in her office, noting that "every bone in his body" reflected his struggle with the subject of homosexuality. "Phill walks in, sits down. He looked the reverend directly in the eye and he said, 'Let's just talk about this.' He says, 'When a young black man goes to jail because he's stolen a car, or he's become a drug dealer in our community, there is one place he can always go. He can always go home again. No matter if he's become a thief, if he's strayed from the path, his mama will take him home again.' Then he said, 'Let me tell you what happens if he comes out as gay: He can't go home again.' And I saw tears come in the reverend's eyes. In that moment this guy got it. And I just watched Phill, you know, just walk this guy right through his homophobia and out the other side."

Phill Wilson is the proverbial "people person." He is most persuasive when given an opportunity to insinuate his entire personality into a private encounter, meeting, or audience. His slow, dark, percolating voice assures empathy and sincerity; his eyes convey attentiveness and goodwill, inviting trust. If his eloquent public speaking sometimes transcribes like a picnic plate, heaped with mixed metaphors, inspirational quotes, and bromidic garnishes, it's only because it lacks the full ingredients of Wilson's live persona.

He is also the embodiment of American culture-clash. As an African-American gay man, he is part of

*Eric K. Washington is the New York editor of BLK, a national African-American lesbian and gay news magazine, and has contributed to The Village Voice, Metropolis, Elle Decor, and Transition.*

ATE Visiting his  
hometown of Chicago.

that so-called "intersection" adjoining race and sexuality. When Wilson speaks of the need for African-American lesbians and gay men to "go home," the meaning is clear. But for a white-collar, middle-class, African-American gay man with AIDS, where is home located? Phill Wilson appears to be a man in the middle of a tangled crossroads.

Although more eminent on the West Coast, Wilson's name has been moving in ever-widening circles. During the past 10 years he has either founded, co-founded, or received kudos for being the principal emissary from one grass-roots group after another, most based in Los Angeles, where he lives. One of those groups in particular, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, will convene an estimated 1,000 people in Secaucus, New Jersey, in February for its seventh annual conference, for which Wilson is the principal fund-raiser. In 1990 Wilson emerged on a more public rung when then Mayor Tom Bradley appointed him the Los Angeles City AIDS Coordinator, a position his late lover, Chris Brownlie, helped to create. And early last year, when President Clinton invited gay and lesbian leaders for a White House tête-à-tête, the contingent designated Wilson as one of its spokespeople. Today he is the director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles, the country's second largest AIDS service organization.

Last April Wilson addressed the legions of lesbians and gay men gathered in the capital city, returning to D.C. in August to speak at the 30th anniversary of Martin Luther King's March on Washington. The latter occasion he recalls respectfully but frankly as "the most disorganized event of my entire life." The sun and heat were merciless, and the rally at the Lincoln Memorial late in starting. Most of the thousands choking the steps of the monument were eager to disperse. The organizers were anxious to wrap things up. But at the suggestion that his speech be chopped, Phill Wilson refused to call it a day. He stuck it out and had his turn at the podium. "It bothered me, as a person living with AIDS," he says now, "to think that . . . they're going to let this person sit in the sun all day, and then not let him speak?"

**W**ILSON STARTED CUTTING HIS TEETH in gay activism with the "raps" in Los Angeles in the early '80s, which he and his lover, Chris Brownlie, co-facilitated. These discussion groups were the best-attended functions of Black and White Men Together (BWMT), according to Charles Stewart, chief deputy of California state senator Diane Watson and BWMT's first national chairman, in 1982. Wilson eventually became co-chair of the L.A. chapter, then sat on the national board. Stewart, a close friend of Wilson's, says they shared a view that "the best function of BWMT was its ability to groom black leadership to participate both in the gay community at large and in the black community." Problems ensued, however, after Wilson started the AIDS Prevention Team—a grant-funded, independently run group. Its auspicious success reputedly threw BWMT into a crisis of reassessment. "The tail began to wag the dog," Stewart says of the AIDS Prevention Team, perhaps making apparent the crossed purposes of what he calls the "club versus organization" mentality of BWMT/LA's leadership.

By the time he left BWMT in 1988, Wilson's consuming interest was AIDS. (Both he and Chris knew they were infected by then.) Convinced that the impact of the disease on



## Although more eminent on the West Coast, Wilson's name has been moving in ever-widening circles. During the past 10 years he has either founded, co-founded, or received kudos for being the principal emissary from one grass-roots group after another, most based in Los Angeles, where he lives.

African-American gay men would never be dealt with by either the larger people of color community or the majority white gay community, he had already founded the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum (BGLLF) the year before. The impetus for starting BGLLF, Wilson says, came from being "overwhelmed" at a Centers for Disease Control conference on "AIDS in the minority community," he says, that "almost completely ignored gay and bisexual men."

But AIDS was not exactly BGLLF's original purpose. Rather, Wilson says, it was "for black gays and lesbians to have a chance to come together and talk to each other." He concedes that today much more than talking is needed. "But in 1987 it was a major step to get a large number of us in the same place at the same time."

BGLLF enlarged itself with the annual National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference and Institute. Wilson says he has always opposed the conference becoming "just a policy or issue conference." Says Wilson, "From the very beginning I was committed to the conference being a skills conference," offering a litany of "how tos" that include organizing, applying for non-profit status, negotiating with government, fund-raising, and putting systems in place to do business.

Conference themes change each year—this year's theme will be "Black Gays and Lesbians: From Silence to Celebration . . . Beyond the 28 Days," a reference to the pigeonholing of February as Black History Month—but the most emphatic theme is always to facilitate the process for black lesbians and gay men to come out in their respective communities. "We must remind them [families and friends] every step of the way that not all of us are straight," Wilson



ast, Wilson's name has been moving in years he has either founded, co-founded, or ary from one grass-roots group after another.

says. "Some of us are gay and lesbian." This imperative is one of Wilson's most constant themes when he addresses gatherings of African-American lesbians and gay men: *We need to go home.*

Which is "absolutely" different for blacks than for whites, Wilson asserts, because "you cannot take any of this out of the context of racism." Explains Wilson, "For us, *home* means a sanctuary from a world that, on racism alone, can destroy us. You go downtown and they call you a nigger. And you go back home and your mother knows how it feels. You don't have to teach her. She knows how it feels. Your sister, your brother, they know how it feels. There's a sanctuary, there's a safe space.

"When I go downtown and I get called a faggot, even if my mother and my father and my sister and brother are supportive, I still have to spend time teaching them how it feels. The other tragedy is that in some cases I risk being called a faggot right there in my own home."

In fact Wilson isn't speaking personally. He has never had to deal so harshly with coming out. He praises his family back in Chicago—who assemble his press clippings and watch him on C-SPAN—for their support. But it's still a gradual process. "I am the firstborn son of that generation of black Southerners that moved to the north after the Korean war," says Wilson of his parents in Chicago. His father owned an auto repair business (now a trucking business) and his mother was a banker. He has a sister and two brothers. "Though I didn't have a clue that I was gay," he admits, "I probably had a lot of 'best little boy' syndrome."

As the eldest son Wilson has always been conscious of his parents' expectations of him. Like most African-Ameri-



**AT LARGE:** Clockwise from top left, with Tarie Osborn at the White House; marching in L.A. for Gay Pride; working at AIDS Project Los Angeles; meeting with Clinton AIDS policy coordinator Kristine Gebbie and Bishop Carl Bean.

can kids of the '60s, he was shown a clear and constant picture of what was required familiarly, in the community, and, ultimately, politically to "uplift the race." It was the age of Martin Luther King, when he and other black leaders were convincing black families that their lofty yearnings were indeed quite basic. As part of the black civil rights movement in Chicago, Wilson was involved in such programs as Operation PUSH, Operation Breadbasket, and the Black Expos. College was an unquestioned assumption.

His good high-school grades allowed him to graduate early. At Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Wilson took degrees in theater and Spanish to fulfill a liberal arts requirement for law school only to discover that "I just didn't like law professors, I didn't like lawyers, I didn't like law students." He pursued other interests.

Wilson even made a dutiful attempt toward marriage to his "college sweetheart," with whom he'd been living for some time. But in 1980, after hearing a radio interview with the publisher of *Blueboy*, something clicked. Then an advertisement the magazine ran for a "gay health club and sauna" intrigued him, having no clue, he says, of what a bathhouse was. Intending to visit, chat, and ask questions, he called first to inquire, "Are people friendly?" A man chuckled on the other end. "Well, that depends on you, honey."

Wilson went. Given the steam room and showers, he says, "it didn't seem so weird to observe men walking around in towels." But he was real slow, he admits. "I actually put on gym shorts, a T-shirt, gym shoes, and worked out," he says, before he realized no one else was doing likewise. Not until he had declined an invitation to the room of a solicitous betoweled stranger did Wilson catch on. He chided himself. When the next guy asked him to his room, he decided, he would go. "The next guy was Chris," Wilson says of his first lover, Chris Brownlie. "And I went to his room for 10 years."

His family's acceptance of his being gay has certainly been tested. A visiting in-law to his family's annual reunion took exception, Wilson says, "to the fact that I was there with my partner and, after I had gone, felt a need to comment. My cousin, who is a very committed, active, and faithful Jehovah's Witness, told this woman, 'That man is my cousin. He is welcome here, and his partner's welcome here. They're a part of our family. You can't come to my house and talk about my cousin and his partner that way. That's not allowed.'"

This exchange in his absence, Wilson says, convinced him that the process of coming out as he had to his family was the right thing to do.

About his strategies for all black gays getting such a welcoming home, he suggests that those who have "gone home" already need to remind the others that "Mama and Daddy and sister and brother, they can't love you if they don't know you." And they must especially support those whose coming out is ill met: "The legacy of survival for the African-American people," says Wilson, "is our ability to support each other. That's what got us through slavery, that's what got us through Reconstruction, and that's what's going to get us through the hostility of the '90s and the 21st century. In the final analysis I may be angry at you and I may not like something you may do or say, but the gift that we have had is the ability to come back together. I think that part of what's plaguing the larger African-American community today is that we are not as good at that as we once were."

**L**AST JUNE the 10-year-old AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), which has an annual budget of over \$18 million got a new home. At its dedication Wilson pondered the agency's incessant growth rate: Was the enormous new Geffen Center (124,000 square feet) genuinely a victory, or a "symbol of tragic defeat"? APLA provides services for over 3,500 clients, most of whom are gay men, although women and people of color—particularly Latinos—constitute their fastest-growing caseloads.

Wilson says part of the task of his public policy department at APLA is to communicate the organization's internal needs to government officials, policymakers, and administrators from local to federal levels. But Wilson's other, personal task is "to create a capable and competent multicultural staff," he says, to reflect the agency's constituency. He says the buildingwide bilingual signs—like the PLEASE KNOCK/POR FAVOR TOQUE tacked on his door—recharge those aspirations. However, many visitors would probably pin his inspiration on all the zebras.

Ever since the first one was received years ago as a gift, remarks Wilson, friends have continued to present zebras to him. The office is filled with zebra renderings: in frames, as stuffed toys, on coffee mugs, of papier mâché. Even Wilson's white sport shirt is patterned with two of the creatures migrating calmly across his chest. If they are not Wilson's own conscious icon of his philosophy, they may well identify other people's image of him as a racial harmonizer. The collection at least hints that this nuts-and-bolts bureaucrat nurtures a castle-builder.

Wilson is avuncular with his staff. "It's a high-pressure department," he acknowledges to the team crowded into his office, perhaps especially for the benefit of newcomers Duane and Sophia—an African-American man and an Asian-American woman. He pauses occasionally to bite a banana or to sip from a bottle of orange juice. The multiple balls they must juggle, he tells them, include an accountability both to the agency and to the AIDS community. To that end Wilson expects all staff members to schedule themselves four hours a month bagging groceries and making direct client contact at the Necessities of Living Program. As well, they must maintain weekly reports to indicate, he says, "what you did, how long it took, who you worked with, a reference to the previous week's report, tasks completed, meetings attended, what you plan to do next week, task projection," for his review.

Wilson is firm about these duties. He respectfully indulges the silent protests that greet a dreary, if practical, assignment but implores them to consider that the agency's ability "to deliver" is inextricably linked to "how we feel about the work that we're doing." He hopes the reports will reflect this. "Our failure," he says, "means people die."

One typical Wilson day included an 8:30 a.m. public policy department meeting; a meeting with an architect wanting Wilson's counsel on the blueprint for an AIDS hospice he was to build; a reception and inspection at a newly opened hospice, where Wilson's brief presence (because it could possibly translate into funding) is shown so much deference that he hasn't the heart to confess that he's somewhat "over" hospices now; a meeting at the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum office; and an all-staff meeting in the afternoon. Not to mention the constant telephone corresponding about needle exchange, housing bills, a vitamin-

To some, Wilson's outwardly unthreatening, even preppy, demeanor was no longer presumed "safe." His disarming handsomeness and poise was capable of concealing an unreckoned bone of contention. Wilson's suit, while derided by some, is his Trojan horse.

supplement labeling act, reminding various politicians of their campaign pledges, and the like.

It is all a part of what Wilson describes as his other major goal at APLA: getting people to act on long-term AIDS planning, which people in the throes of actual crisis are understandably incapable of. But Wilson warns, "If you don't do any of that long-term planning, then you're assuring that it's going to be around another 5, 10, 15, or 20 years."

**I**MPROBABLE ALLIANCES challenge Wilson. He has shown a penchant for engaging disparate groups to address one another's concerns, or issues that one might not readily accord as its own. Some of the groups he has helped to establish seem implicitly ungovernable. Most lean toward the gay-, AIDS-, or African-American-specific, although their agendas are usually at least bifocal; they might couple issues of race and sexuality, or maybe sexuality and illness, or illness and race. A title sometimes conveys the group's basic mission, like AIDS Health Care Foundation, Chris Brownlie Hospice, or AIDS Prevention Team. Others, such as Black and White Men Together, Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, Blacks Living With AIDS and HIV Disease, or Gay Men of Color Consortium, might signify discordant interactions.

But Wilson is often praised for his ability to orchestrate a unified sound. Carmen Vazquez, coordinator of lesbian and gay health services for the Department of Public Health in San Francisco, points out that Wilson not only brings highly honed practical skills to his work, "He also brings a vision of progressive social change." Vazquez believes that, owing to an acute social consciousness rooted in his childhood, "Phill consistently gets the big picture."

Like last year's NAACP endorsement of the lesbian and gay March on Washington, which some trace back to a 1990 meeting at the King Center in Atlanta, pulled together by a group of black gay activists, including Wilson, Sabrina Sojourner, another principal organizer of that ensemble effort, notes that the meeting "helped to lay a lot of groundwork in being able to work with a number of different [black] organizations." She concurs that although the NAACP was absent from that particular meeting, "They were definitely influenced by that gathering."

As a high-profile administrator, the 37-year-old Wilson is susceptible to being discounted as merely a "suit." Although he doesn't always wear a coat and tie, his natty, patrician bearing rather lends itself to the description. Of



**WILSON FAMILY VALUES:** *Phill with his mother, Ina.*

course, radicals too can have charm and poise, if not always with impunity.

Wilson also understands that coalition-building may require some gentle, or not so gentle, arm-twisting. He shook the mothballs from his languishing theater degree when he attended a major lesbian and gay conference in Virginia in 1988. The War Conference (originally called fur, but not attended, by Larry Kramer) was intended to mobilize gay leadership around the poor state of the movement, but the conferees were solicited by invitation, which effectively bypassed people of color. To illustrate the lack of racial parity, Wilson called for a people of color caucus "in the phone booth outside," further making the point that "this is a movement that still organizes out of people's personal phone books." People of color, he said, were unlisted.

To some, Wilson's outwardly unthreatening, even preppy, demeanor was no longer presumed "safe." His disarming handsomeness and poise was capable of concealing an unreckoned bone of contention. Wilson's suit, while derided by some, is his Trojan horse.

Wilson himself admits he has occasionally been accused of "muddying the water." But Urvashi Vaid, former executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, to the contrary, found a "refreshing" quality when first observing him some years ago. Wilson's stance toward the white gay community "was very critical and (continued on page 141)

**PHILL WILSON** (continued from page 72) very skeptical," she says admiringly. "But he didn't let it stop him in any way from doing whatever he wanted to do." She logically chose him to participate on a panel called "Movement In-fighting: Isms and Schisms" at her organization's 1990 Creating Change conference. Indeed it was one of those occasions where Wilson was hearing himself cooperate for the umpteenth time that "the gay rights movement cannot mean the rights of white gay men to oppress us in the way their straight counterparts do."

It is at such times, though, when a room becomes a polemical centrifuge, that Wilson's lack of cynicism is most affecting. Many see such challenges as epitomizing his leadership: a fearlessness to call the white gay community on its racism and call the black community on its homophobia and to do so with equal clarity. "He calls them like he sees them," says Mario Cooper, manager of last year's Democratic National Convention. "But when he calls them, they're based upon the use of judgment." Cooper adds that, because of Wilson's nature as a builder and unifier, "it also allows him to speak frankly about those racial issues."

Wilson doesn't leave his criticism in

a conference room but sets immediately to problem-solving. Seeking his own definition of what the gay rights movement should be, Wilson says, he must begin by asking himself what he wants from the world. As a human being, as black, as gay, or as a person with AIDS, he says, "I want the world to provide a safe space to live, to work, to love." It is soul-searching of the touchy-feely school, but sincere.

**P**HILL WILSON seems taken aback by people's perception of him as a leader, a title he says he never asked for. "I started to do this work," he says, "because I was interested in contributing to the lives of gay and lesbian people in general, and to the lives of black gays and lesbians specifically. And even more specifically to black gay men impacted by HIV and AIDS."

But the title of leader—and Wilson is not the only heir to it—seems inevitable for anyone who is on the inside track on all those counts, who is an energetic organizer, a resourceful administrator, an insightful strategist and has a persuasive mien. The particular measure and combination of all those attributes, however, have distinguished Wilson from the rest of the leadership cadre.

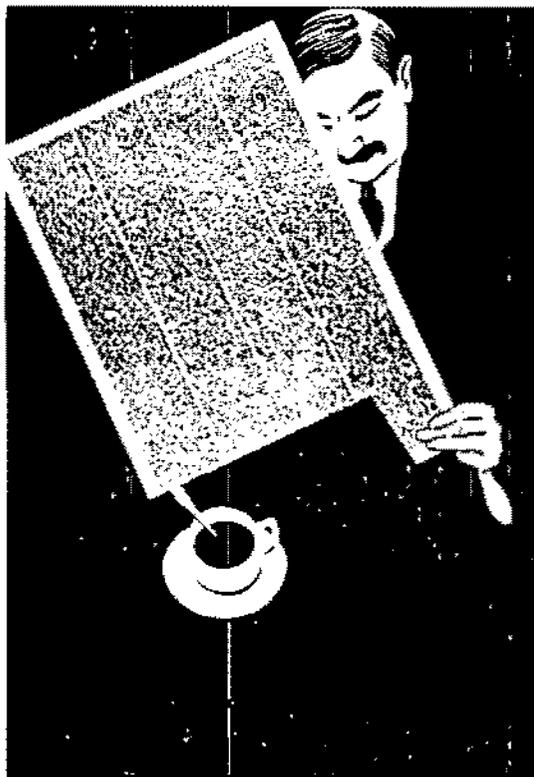
"Phill is clearly bigger than life," hyperbolizes George Bellinger Jr., a New York management consultant for community-based AIDS organizations. "He is one of the few black men who was open very early on about his HIV status and is still around. So he's like a champion for people."

He is, even more, a national spokesperson. And that has disturbing connotations of power and privilege for some who see him as fair game for potshots. Ironically, Wilson's mission to urge black lesbians and gay men back "home" has had an exacting toll: Some of them have locked him out.

Stewart asserts that Wilson has been falsely targeted as more gay than black in his loyalties, a notion he says Wilson's track record disproves. "Because Phill has been willing to work with and through the establishment to attain benefits for the black gay community does not mean he identifies his interests with that establishment," says Stewart. "Phill has come to symbolize black gays whose success is wrongly viewed as an indictment of more exclusively Afrocentric efforts, and he's resented for it."

Indeed, some of the most penetrating criticism of Wilson comes from

145 W. BROADWAY  
IN TRIBECA  
NEW YORK  
233-0507



**LUNCH**  
NOON TO 3 PM  
MON. TO SAT.

**DINNER**  
6 PM TO MIDNIGHT  
NIGHTLY

**BRASSERIE**  
NOON TO 2 AM  
FRI. & SAT. TO 3 AM  
EVERYDAY

**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
NOON TO 4 PM

other African-American gays. Many such critics of Wilson would not speak on record for this story lest they betray the facade of black cohesion. Of course, such self-censure abets a false impression of unanimous approval. The dislikes remain vague: His unassuming pleasantness is suspect. He is distrusted as bourgeois, removed, or "lunky." One individual, deferring to Wilson's formidable influence, didn't "want to commit political suicide" by speaking critically of him.

Others, however, are less restrained. Cleo Manago showed Wilson only contempt in a 1990 interview in *BLK*, a black lesbian and gay news magazine. Manago, himself controversial, founded the Black Men's Exchange (BMX) in Oakland, California, viewed by many as a reaction to BGLLF. He later "dissed" Wilson and the "mis-Leadership Conference" as a "West Hollywood black person," an "Oreo cookie," and a "sellout."

"There are folks who say that I'm not black enough, I'm not sufficiently Afrocentric," Wilson says. "It comes from people who have very strong feelings about black autonomy." His diplomatic understatement perhaps reveals his own wariness of widening a ruptured community.

Stewart, who is African-American, suggests a long-standing grudge is at work. "Phill Wilson continues to bear the stigma of (belonging to) BWMT when at the time," he says, "it was the only game in town." He refers to an old argument of gay blacks (those who make a genuine issue of prioritizing race over sexual orientation) versus black gays—an argument that Wilson thinks is dangerously divisive.

To be sure, Wilson has fielded complaints about BWMT's role in underwriting the first Leadership Conference. Ruth Waters, a founding member with Wilson of BGLLF and its co-chair for several years, laughs about the flap. "White people had no input into the formation of anything that was relevant, other than money," says Waters. "And that's always relevant. As far as how the thing was put together, and the ideas, those were all black." Waters offers her own barbed punctuation: "If black people want to bitch where money comes from, then they need to bring some money."

Most personally, Wilson has been pilloried for the affront of "sleeping with the enemy" (read: dating white men). Wilson acknowledges in stride that, in the politics of race, he is an interracialist, or multiculturalist. "I believe that the world is a better place when there

## One individual, deferring to Wilson's formidable influence, didn't "want to commit political suicide" by speaking critically of him.

are different folks living and working and caring about each other."

If Wilson's prominence does make him an outsider, it also affords him the vantage to see how to move things forward. Cooper, as a board member of Washington, D.C.'s Whitman-Walker Clinic, valued Wilson's counsel last year about tensions engaging AIDS workers in the straight African-American, the gay African-American, and the gay white communities. Each group was muscling the other over what Cooper describes as "a shrinking pie and increasing needs."

Explains Cooper, "The fact is, Phill's proven over the past decade that he represents and has the ability to translate the frustrations of several different communities into a coherent and influential message, which is why people respond to him."

**W**ILSON'S FAT, BLACK CAT, Bête-Noire, as gluttonously affectionate as she is overfed, affixes an unexpected guest to his seat. After changing into a T-shirt and sweats and ordering in a pizza, Wilson pads back to the living room in his socks and sinks into the sofa. One learns that Bête-Noire's companion, Bête-Crème—who was all white, of course—was very likely kidnapped.

Wilson has lived here in Silverlake since 1987, when he moved in with Brownlie, who died two years later. At the moment Wilson's living room has an air of transition, as if someone were still moving in or, more likely, the space were being outgrown; boxes seem interrupted from the process of loading or unpacking.

To look at Wilson, his health situation is not apparent. He prefers to identify himself as a Person With HIV Disease, but his CD4 count buoys under and above the official waterline of 200 that stratifies AIDS. However, he has maintained this stable count, he says, since January 1988, with no "real" opportunistic infections to date. Knock on wood: "If whatever I'm doing is keeping

me in the same place for that long, I'm not going to fool with it." Indeed, he has enviable looks and energy for someone who habitually rises at 6 a.m. and closes his day toward midnight.

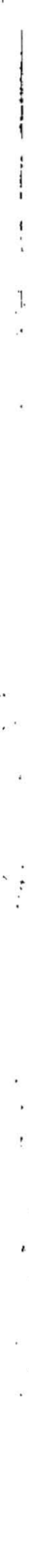
Yet Wilson confesses he's not very compliant about taking his medication. Occasionally he may forget to take his AZT before bed. "I refuse to take anything that gets in the way of my life," he says. "I'm certainly not going to use those things that cause neuropathy, or where you have to schedule meals around and you can't eat two hours before or four hours after or, you know, none of that madness."

Wilson adheres more strictly to his metaphysical regimen, one could say. He ponders whether he has yet to discover the "job" he is ultimately meant to do. He leans back to consider an old compulsion of his, doing things "always the right way." It was a barrier, he thinks, until he met Brownlie. "Chris taught me about the passion and integrity of living," says Wilson, who says he is no longer besieged by his fallibility. Today he worries "about being honest, consistent, fair, open . . . but I don't worry about being right." Which is a futile quest, especially for a man in the middle.

By shunning the vacuum of centrism—be it national, ethnic, religious, racial, gender, sexual, or whatever—Wilson deftly oversteps what Vaid labels "the dead-end pit of identity politics," where you can only plunge "deeper into your terminal uniqueness."

If it has become a familiar, and exasperatingly recurrent, motif for Wilson—having to face off the agitated sentiment of fellow African-Americans demanding to know why he must always bring gays into the picture, or of fellow white gays and lesbians objecting to his bringing up poverty and people of color, or of fellow black gays who take exception to his working with whites—he responds helplessly, in his New Age diction. "Well, my reality tells me that they're connected." And Wilson's dogged reaching to be their conduit—not by reflex, but by conscience—may well be the truly radical impulse toward synthesis and community.

Wilson says later, "I think that the biggest contribution any of us can make is to provide a catalyst for the universe of ideas that are out there. If I can do that, then I'm happy." He's been pretty good at that, so far. Might it not be his ultimate calling? "Unfortunately," he says, aiming a pizza slice toward himself, "we don't come with owner's manuals."♥



# Speaking the Truth

*APLA's Phill Wilson walks the walk*

**C**hatting with Phill Wilson the other day over lunch—Wilson, is the gay, HIV positive director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the country's second largest AIDS service organization.

"I don't know the Phill Wilson people talk about," he says, sipping his tea. "To me, I'm still the skinny black kid from Chicago."

The Phill Wilson people talk about is a compassionate man and a passionate activist. And that's the Phill Wilson, who is handsomely perched across from me now. He speaks like a man comfortable in his own skin, comfortable speaking eloquently on the numerous universal truths that, in his assessment, are being blatantly ignored. Why do I have to speak for all African-American gay men? he seems to be asking no one in particular. Why is his voice such a lonely one in the black community?

Wilson answers these questions with nothing short of heroic honesty.

"When you're engaged in a major war, which I think we are, you have an obligation to make strategic choices to end the war as soon as possible," Wilson says. "Sometimes the choices you make are not the most personally satisfying."

Most important to Wilson, perhaps, is the whole issue of race in the AIDS arena. "When you look at much of the safer sex information directed at gay men, much of the language and imagery is focused on white men and [my own experience as a black gay man is that if I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."

Wilson is no less critical when taking on the African-American community for its record on AIDS. In a tone perhaps muted by his legendary diplomacy, Wilson laments the years of silence by the leadership of the black community and complains that "even now when you look at AIDS prevention campaigns in African-American communities, you'll see that their priorities are not gay men and that often the agencies involved are hostile places for gays. In fact, when you look at the rates of HIV infection among black

women, much of that goes back to the failure to educate black bisexual men."

How is it possible, Wilson logically asks, that after 13 years of what is clearly the most devastating health crisis of this century that the black community in this country could remain outside a state of emergency?

"For a lot of African-Americans, life is about bad things happening to you; but there's a dawning awareness," says

Wilson. "People are starting to realize that the virus won't be ignored."

The inner city's reaction to AIDS remains a challenge Wilson gladly takes on himself. "I can't say it [their reaction] hasn't been an obstacle but I can say it's not been an obstacle I've ever noticed," Wilson says. "When I speak to kids in the inner city the truth is that I am from them, and nothing is going to change that. I won't let anyone take my culture or legacy away from me. I won't even entertain that possibility."

Parting shots?

"I'm a PWA today and by the time we have the AIDS infrastructure we have to have, I'll probably be dead," says Wilson. "But for right now I'm doing what I'm doing and living my life as I see it." ■

—DAVID BLANTON

*"If I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."*

# 'Sick and tired of being sick and tired'

Quality of life considerations should not be swamped by the current concentration on survival as the most important outcome of clinical trials, argued **Phill Wilson, Director of Public Policy of the AIDS Project Los Angeles, USA.**

Survival is certainly of primary concern, both for people with HIV and for research, he said. But extending the period when people are free of symptoms and postponing the need for hospitalisation are clearly worthwhile, even if treatment were to bring no survival advantage.

Beginning therapy, whether it is reducing stress and improving diet, having acupuncture, taking vitamins or zidovudine, ddI or ddC, can be a traumatic experience for any HIV-positive person. And there may be a tendency to deny the reality of the disease by delay.

On the other hand, initiating therapy early may prolong the period of good quality of life. It may also help influence people to modify their behaviour and so reduce the risk of virus transmission. Mr Wilson suggested. 'And the simple process of doing something - anything - empowers people to seriously consider their options,' he added.

Phill Wilson has lived with HIV for thirteen years. The United States CDC reports that there are now almost 290,000 AIDS cases in that country alone and the WHO estimate of the number of people who are HIV positive worldwide has reached 10-12 million.

'How does one describe the HIV community? Are we the drug user in Amsterdam, the haemophilic in Tucson, the six-month old baby in Riga, the lesbian in Chicago or the gay man in Berlin?' Mr Wilson asked. 'We are all of these people and more... a living, breathing cultural community.'

'And, echoing the words first used by American Civil Rights worker Fanny Lu Hamer, every one of us is sick and tired of being sick and tired.'

Mr Wilson concluded his talk by reading the poem 'What is AIDS?' by Chris Brownlie. The poem is reproduced below.



Phill Wilson

## What is AIDS?

by Chris Brownlie

It is a whimper, and a scream. It is the brush of a branch on the screen of your window, a rustle, a rattle.  
 It is being in your center, and being so far from your center that you don't know if you'll ever find your way back.  
 It is relentless. It is daunting, a great mountain which you MUST climb.  
 It is sweating, bleeding, puking, shitting in ways you never have before. It is pain you never imagined. It is fear you never dreamed. It is grief you never guessed.  
 It is the frenzy of the medicine. It is too many visits to the outpatient clinic, the two days in the hospital for tests, the weeks for the treatments.  
 It is the doctor's kindness, the nurse's caring, the phlebotomist's apology. It is the doctor's prodding, the nurse's poking, the phlebotomist's piercing.  
 It is the manic need to make your mark, to leave some worthwhile trace of yourself behind.  
 It is shattering denial every time the symptoms of another infection begin to mount.  
 It is the loneliness, like the whistle of a train passing in the dark night of your soul.  
 It is caring for your friends in a way you never have before. Intimate ways, horrible ways, ways that take more of your love than you knew you had.  
 It is being there when the coma comes, and it is begging in your heart for some little piece of mercy.  
 It is going to the church, or the park, or the beach to say farewell and Godspeed, beloved one.  
 It is waking up wet, to wet, wetter than you were at birth. It is having your skull split by its swollen lining.  
 It is changing your pants again because at the critical moment you couldn't tell the difference between gas and excrement. It is changing your sheets because the stench woke you up.  
 It is anger, weird, quirky anger that knocks you off your pins and makes you doubt your own judgments. It is not knowing the difference between your needs and your desires. It is being disoriented by the force of the great emotional wind which is constantly blowing within you.  
 It is the fighting back. It is the building of places to care for the living and for the dying.  
 It is courage, it is honor, it is integrity.  
 It is people joining forces in a time of great need. It is hope, it is sharing the burden. It is people caring for their own and finding love, and surviving, and believing in the future even when we are hurting more than we have ever hurt before.  
 It is bearing the unbearable, enduring the unendurable, and hoping in the face of hopelessness.  
 It is the haunted look in your lover's eyes when a new crisis begins. It is mourning together. It is mourning alone. It is holding him in your arms and in your heart. It is crying because your heart is breaking over leaving him behind. It is the sweet pain of knowing that you are dying, and the overwhelming sadness for those who will kiss you into their dreams.  
 It is a wall. It is a howl. It is beyond our grasp. It is awful. It is awesome. It is AIDS.

# Testimony

ONE PERSON'S STORY ABOUT THE WAR ON AIDS

## 'The Black Community Is Just Feeling Overwhelmed'

As Told to ROBERT SCHEER

*Phill Wilson, 37, is policy director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, which helps about 3,500 people a year with medical and social service needs. It is the second largest AIDS provider in the country. Only the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York is larger. Wilson has AIDS.*

**W**hen I was 10 years old and my grandfather died, I remember my mother coming into my room when I was on my bed crying. She said that it is all right to be sad that my grandfather had died but that I shouldn't cry too much, that I should remember that my grandfather had lived a full life and that he had made a difference.

I think about the fact that in all probability someday my mother is going to find herself sitting on the foot of the bed of my nephews or my nieces and I hope that she feels comfortable enough to say to them that they should not cry too much because their uncle lived a full life and that he made a difference. I think that that drives me a lot.

I grew up in a lower middle class suburban neighborhood on the south side of Chicago. Part of the '60s migration when people moved into bedroom communities. My father is a truck driver and my mother was a banker. I have one sister and two brothers.

I have been open and out about being a gay man and they have been supportive of who I am. They have known about my HIV status since 1988. In our family, unconditional love is very important and we try to live that.

Being black and gay and with AIDS, to paraphrase James Baldwin, I hit the jackpot. What this has crystallized for me is how powerful a force racism and homophobia can be when they join together.

The truth is that we look at how the HIV pandemic has spread through both this country and the world and it didn't have to happen. It could have been prevented and it happened because as a society we decided on some sick fundamental level that gay men were disposable. We decided that people of color are disposable and as a result of that everyone is at risk now. When the disease—even in this country—spread beyond white gay men, the people who it

infected were primarily African-American or Latino.

And so we had basically three [presidential] administrations that virtually did nothing. They actually allowed people to die and it was malicious neglect. They sat there, and it looked like they said, "Well you know it is OK if this group dies, we don't need to do anything yet. It is OK if that group dies." And that is really a tragic commentary.

Yes, I am very angry. But it is not enough, it is not sufficient. It doesn't get the job done. And in 1993 I have to focus on marshaling my energies to get the job done. The people we take care of need us to do that. I have to tap into all of my resources.

I think the homophobia in the black community really has contributed a lot to the spread of AIDS. It is more than the homophobia. I think the black community is just feeling overwhelmed. Because

**'When AIDS comes to the black community, violence doesn't go away, unemployment doesn't go away, poverty doesn't go away, high blood pressure doesn't go away, infant mortality rates don't go down.'**

when AIDS comes to the black community, violence doesn't go away, unemployment doesn't go away, poverty doesn't go away, high blood pressure doesn't go away, infant mortality rates don't go down. And at the same time their resources are not expanding sufficiently to take on these additional challenges facing the community.

There certainly have been class and race issues among the traditional AIDS and HIV providers. Many of these people responded to AIDS because their best friends got sick. And they built institutions anticipating that those institutions would serve their needs, so the structure of the initial fight against AIDS was really designed around taking care of people who look like them, that have the same experience as them, who are of the



THEODOBA LITSIOS / For The Times

Policy director Phil Wilson in his office at AIDS Project Los Angeles.

same socioeconomic class as them. And so it was easy to take care of people, not easy, but easier to take care of people with AIDS when you were a white gay man and the person you were taking care of was a white gay man.

It is more difficult when the people don't look like you and they don't come from the same socioeconomic class and in some cases they don't particularly have an affection for you. And in other circumstances they are not people that you would normally interact with. It is a greater challenge. At the same time, I think that a lot of white gay men are fearful that the resources will shift to other communities and when they get sick the resources won't be there to take care of them.

It is absurd that people even have to think about competition for health resources. It is more than absurd. It is probably criminal that someone has to consider, will the resources be there for me when I get sick? Or they have to commit energy to holding back resources from someone else so that they can make sure of the resources for themselves.

I am absolutely convinced that the HIV pandemic will end. I have to believe that. It is what gets me up every morning, it is what keeps me going.

I look at it as a war. And I guess the thing that I want to ask people—particularly those people who are going to be around to see the day when AIDS is over—someone is going to walk up to them and say, "What did you do during the war, what role did you play, were you a good guy or were you a bad guy."

I believe that there are no conscientious objectors in this battle. The good guys are the people who did something, who contributed in some way to fight this deadly virus. And the bad guys are the people who sat back and watched it happen.

I don't think victory will come in time for me. Absolutely not. Now I have AIDS. My health is actually fine. I've been in the hospital once and so I count myself to be very lucky. I've been working in the fight against AIDS for a decade now.

For people living with AIDS and HIV, it is a race against the clock. There is no drug that is being used today that is a cure. I know too much to be optimistic that that is going to happen for me. But it will happen for a lot of people, and right now that has to be enough to keep me going. I'm just one player among a whole host of people who are working to this end and I just try to do the piece that I can do.

I find that by and large I get a warm reception when I meet people. It is difficult to hate one-on-one. When there is a real live human being looking you in the eye, it is difficult to hate on that level. And so I am convinced that the hate-mongers and the people who think it is OK to beat up on gays and lesbians or to discriminate against people with AIDS and HIV, that they can feel that and they can think that only because they have not met us. They don't have people like us in their lives.

To Get Involved, call (213) 962-1600.

# 'The shadow of victory

## Phil Wilson's remarks at Geffen Center dedication

Phil Wilson, AIDS Project Los Angeles director of Public Policy, delivered the following speech at the July 15 dedication of the Geffen Center.

**A**s a person living with HIV disease and a staff member here at APLA, I look at this beautiful building and I must ask myself: is this a victory or is this a symbol of a tragic defeat?

You see, I remember when all of APLA's services were housed in a studio apartment on Cole Avenue. This building has 124,000 square feet and there are still some needed services that are beyond our capabilities. We could very easily feel defeated.

I remember when APLA was the only AIDS organization in Los Angeles. Today, there are nearly 300 organizations fighting AIDS in this county. They are all overwhelmed. And, still people with HIV disease have unmet needs. Feeling defeated is an understandable response.

I remember when there were only seven AIDS cases in Los Angeles County. Today there are 20,449 cumulative AIDS cases in this county.

I remember friends like Danny Warner, Peter Scott, Chris Brownlie, Mark Kostopoulos, Rick Biring, Scott Barry, Roger Pumpkin, Ralph Bland and Ken Thompson. They along with 162,273 other Americans are all dead from AIDS now. And I must use every fiber of my being to resist defeat.

But today I refuse to be defeated. I refuse to allow the memory of my loved ones who have been murdered by this pandemic to be diminished by any thought of defeat. I refuse to dishonor the courage and dignity of my brothers and sisters who live with this disease every minute of every hour of every day by any talk of defeat.

Today, we stand in the shadow cast by this building. This is the shadow of a victory, a victory born out of the lives and the sorrows of all people affected by AIDS and HIV disease. We are here to dedicate more than this building. We are here to dedicate the extraordinary commitment of those who perform heroic deeds every day. We are here to acknowledge the victories.

There are homeless people with AIDS who have a home today because of the dedication of the men and women who work and volunteer at APLA. This is a victory!

There are hungry people with AIDS who will be able to eat tonight because the people at the Necessities of Life Program are dedicated. This is a victory!

It takes dedication to protect HIV-infected people from losing their jobs, or from being discriminated against in housing, simply because of their HIV status. This is a victory!

There are people with AIDS who have access to health care today because of the dedication a case manager or social worker. This is a victory!

And there people who did not get infected today because of the dedication of the men and women who work and volunteer here. This is a victory!

In 1989, AIDS activist Chris Brownlie was asked to describe AIDS. He wrote:

*"It is caring for your friends in a way you never have. Intimate ways, horrible ways, ways that take more of your love than you know you had. It is being there when the come comes, and it is begging in your heart for some little piece of mercy.*

*"It is the fighting back. It is the building of places to care for the living and for the dying. It is courage, it is honor, it is integrity. It is people joining forces in a time of great need. It is hope, it is sharing the burden. It is people caring for their own and finding love, and nurturing, and believing in the future even when we are hurting more than we have ever hurt before.*

*"It is a soul. It is a hand. It is beyond our grasp. It is joyful. It is uncertain. It is AIDS."*

As we dedicate this building, let us be ever mindful of the most important dedication ever. Our dedication to hasten the day when we will lock the doors of this and every other AIDS institution on the planet in a celebration of the end of this pandemic.

The day will come when this epidemic is over. I am not hopeful that I will be there with you. I pray that you will remember the hundreds of thousands of us who will have died by then. I pray that the record will show we were not cowards. We were not ostracized. Some of us dared to care in the face of it. Some of us dared to fight because of it. Some of us dared to love in spite of it. Because it is in the caring, and the fighting and the loving that we live forever. ♣



Phil Wilson, APLA director of Public Policy, challenged listeners to work toward an end to AIDS.

Photo by GREG EPSTEIN

6 September 1994

Carol Rasko  
Assistant to the President  
on Domestic Policy  
Office of Domestic Council  
2nd Floor, West Wing  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

SEP 12 REC'D

Dear Ms. Rasko:

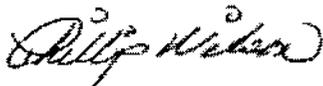
I wanted to thank you for taking the time to interview me for the position of the National AIDS Policy Coordinator. I thoroughly appreciate your commitment to the information gathering process as it underscores the importance of the AIDS pandemic to this current administration and to your staff in particular.

I am sure you will agree that AIDS is perhaps *the* public health issue of our time. The virus that causes AIDS appears to have consistently eluded us -- becoming a smarter, more aggressive and more efficient adversary than we've encountered previously, and as such we must be committed to doing whatever is necessary to end this pandemic as expeditiously as possible. The question must be asked -- have we engaged all facets of our society (research and development, scientific and religious communities, private enterprise and the public sector) to focus the necessary resources to halt the further stigmatization of people living with HIV disease and AIDS; and are we willing to re-evaluate current methodology approaches to prevention education and expand quality of care throughout disease progression?

It is my belief that ultimately we will be judged by how courageous, committed and proficient our response has been and the National AIDS Policy Coordinator's role in that process is a crucial one.

Finally, I wanted to say how much I appreciated your candor and balanced optimism throughout the series of discussions with community members and leaders over the last several weeks. I am sure that whatever the future holds for us, our ability to communicate has been enhanced by the dialogue that has transpired.

Sincerely,



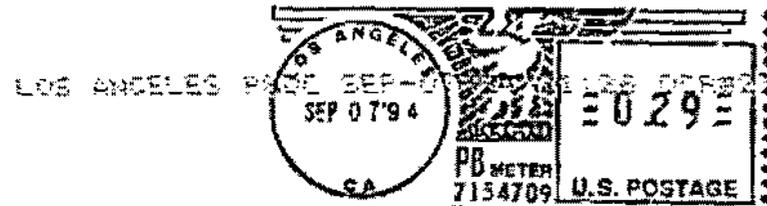
Phill Wilson

cc: Patsy Fleming

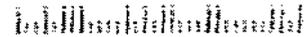


AIDS  
PROJECT  
LOS ANGELES

1313 N. Vine Street  
Los Angeles  
California 90028



Carol Rasko  
Assistant to the President  
on Domestic Policy  
Office of Domestic Council  
2nd Floor, West Wing  
The White House  
Washington DC 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 19, 1994

Mark S. Senak

P6(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Senak:

Thank you for taking the time to write and share with me and President Clinton your thoughts about the Office of the National AIDS Policy Coordinator. It is very important that this Administration hear from individuals like yourself who have valuable information to contribute to the dialogue about the AIDS office.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco  
Assistant the President for  
Domestic Policy

CHR:ram

**FAX TO:****MS. CAROL RASCO**  
202-456-2878**Re White House AIDS Policy Coordinator****FAX FROM:****MARK S. SENAK**

P6/(b)(6)

August 18, 1994

**Dear Ms. Rasco:**

I have been working in the field of AIDS care since 1982, when I was a volunteer at the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, doing deathbed wills for people with AIDS. In 1985 I became employed there as Director of Legal Services. I was also the co-Chair of the AIDS Resource Center, Inc. which opened up the first housing projects for people with AIDS in New York. I relocated to Los Angeles in 1988 and came to work at AIDS Project Los Angeles as Director of Client Services and I now do strategic planning for the agency. I also sit on the Public Policy Committee of the AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C. I am writing as a colleague and friend of Phill Wilson, who I have read, is being considered for the position of AIDS Policy Coordinator in the White House.

My lengthy introduction of credentials is an attempt to lend credibility to my support of Phill for this position.. Substantively, I can attest whole heartedly to the incredible skills possessed by Phill. Politically speaking, as a person of color with HIV and an excellent policy background, he is also an ideal candidate.

I was present in Los Angeles when then Governor Clinton announced this position at a campaign rally. Since that time, the notion of the "AIDS Czar" has suffered an extreme credibility loss and with it, so has the Administration. It is of course, only my opinion, but I truly believe that the appointment of Phill to this position would be an enormous stride to restoring that credibility with the AIDS community constituency and would do so to a far greater degree than the appointment of an outgoing politician or a public health bureaucrat. Appointing a person with HIV would empower the community to be with the Administration rather than feeling abandoned, or worse, against it.

Sara -  
Please make a copy  
of the outgoing letter  
& staple to incoming.  
Then mail outgoing  
in attached envelope  
Dave  
Riz

THE WHITE HOUSE  
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO  
*Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy*

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Draft response for POTUS  
and forward to CHR by: \_\_\_\_\_

Draft response for CHR by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please reply directly to the writer  
(copy to CHR) by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please advise by: \_\_\_\_\_

Let's discuss: \_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

Reply using form code: \_\_\_\_\_

File: \_\_\_\_\_

Send copy to (original to CHR): \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule ? :       Accept       Pending       Regret

Designee to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: Put w/ 1<sup>st</sup> AIDS interview  
folder for Sept 6.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

August 22, 1994



# Health Division



Office of Management and Budget  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, DC 20503

AUG 26 REC'D

Please route to:

Bill Dorotinsky <sup>RD</sup>  
Barry Clendenin <sup>BC</sup>  
Nancy-Ann Min

Decision needed  
Please comment  
For your information  
Per your request  
See remarks below

X

Subject: **Government-wide HIV/AIDS  
funding levels**

cc: HPS, HD Chron,  
Distribution (see  
list below)

From: Wm. Greg White <sup>w/w</sup>

Phone: 202/395-4926  
Fax: 202/395-3910  
Room: #7026

You had previously asked two questions: (1) if you could provide the HIV/AIDS funding table to Carol Rasco; and (2) if the funding levels could be divided into separate categories i.e. research, prevention, medical care and income maintenance.

Included you will find the latest version of the funding table that can be given to Ms. Rasco. As you requested, the funds are broken down by category for FY94 and the FY95 Budget. We do not yet have these estimates for FY95 House or Senate action. Please call if you have any questions.

Attachments

Distribution:

Jill Blickstein  
Gordon Agress  
Elisabeth Topel  
Beth Rossman

**Federal HIV/AIDS FUNDING BY AGENCY**  
(Budget authority in millions of dollars)

	<u>FY 94 Enacted</u>	<u>FY 95 Budget</u>	<u>Latest House Action</u>	<u>Latest Senate Action</u>	<u>Dollar Increase FY 94 to FY 95 Budget</u>	<u>Percent Increase FY 94 to FY 95 Budget</u>
<b>HHS</b>						
Public Health Service	2,568	2,743	2,709	2,673	174	0%
Medicaid (Federal Share)	1,490	1,640	1,640	1,640	150	10%
Medicare	500	600	600	600	100	20%
Social Security	835	1,015	1,015	1,015	180	22%
Office of Civil Rights	3	3	3	3	-	-
<b>Total, HHS</b>	<b>5,396</b>	<b>6,001</b>	<b>5,967</b>	<b>5,931</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Veterans</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Defense</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-23%</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>OPM-FEHB</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Other*</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-3%</b>
<b>TOTAL HIV/AIDS FUNDING</b>	<b>6,424</b>	<b>7,105</b>	<b>7,097</b>	<b>7,071</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>11%</b>

	<u>FY 94 Enacted</u>	<u>FY 94 Percent of Budget</u>	<u>FY 95 Budget</u>	<u>FY 95 Percent of Budget</u>	<u>Dollar Increase FY94 to FY95</u>
(Research)**	1,462	23%	1,507	21%	45
(Prevention)**	719	11%	714	10%	-5
(Medical Care)**	3,160	49%	3,549	50%	389
(Income Maintenance)**	1,083	17%	1,335	19%	252
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,424</b>		<b>7,105</b>		

\*Includes USAID, Bureau of Prisons, State, and Labor

\*\* Within these totals, PHS function split based on HHS staff estimates.

COPIES

August 12, 1994



# Health Division



Office of Management and Budget  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, DC 20503

Please route to:

Nancy-Ann Min

Decision needed	_____
Please sign	_____
Per your request	_____
Please comment	_____
For your information	<u>X</u>

Subject: Government-wide HIV/AIDS funding levels

With informational copies for:  
HPS, HD Chron,  
Distribution (see list  
below)

From: <sup>Beth</sup> Beth Rossman

Phone:	202/395-4925
Fax:	202/395-3910
Room:	#7025

Attached is the latest version of the government-wide HIV/AIDS funding table. I will continue to update these levels as the we move into the final stages of appropriations bill tracking.

*Barry C/  
Beth - Can I  
share this with  
Carol Rasco?*

Distribution (includes detailed backup sheets):

Barry Clendenin  
Mike Dost  
Bill Dorotinsky  
Jill Blickstein  
Gordon Agress  
Greg White  
Wayne Amchin  
Lara Roholt  
Andy Allison

VA: Alex Keenan  
DOD: Jim Fish  
HUD: Jim Jordan  
OPM: Chris Heiser  
USAID: Janet Piller  
DOJ: Brad Kyser  
State: Jeff Ashford  
Labor: Larry Matlack/Pam Van Wi

*Nam*

*P.S. - Is there  
any way the  
I can be  
legitimately be  
divided into cate-  
gories like "research  
prevention, treatment services"  
K. M.*

**Federal HIV/AIDS Funding By Agency**  
(Budget authority in millions of dollars)

	<u>FY 1994 Enacted</u>	<u>FY 1995 Budget</u>	<u>House Floor 1</u>	<u>Latest Senate Action 1</u>	<u>House less FY 1995 Budget</u>	<u>Senate less FY 1995 Budget</u>	<u>Senate less House</u>	<u>Dollar Increase FY 1994 to FY 1995</u>	<u>Percent Increase FY 1994 to FY 1995</u>
<b>Health and Human Services:</b>									
Public Health Service.....	2,588	2,743	2,709	2,673	-34	-70	-36	174	0
Medicaid (Federal Share).....	1,490	1,640	1,640	1,640	--	--	--	150	10%
Medicare.....	500	600	600	600	--	--	--	100	20%
Social Security.....	835	1,016	1,015	1,015	--	--	--	180	22%
Office of Civil Rights.....	3	3	3	3	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total, HHS.....</b>	<b>5,398</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,966</b>	<b>5,931</b>	<b>-34</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>-36</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>11%</b>
Veterans.....	331	349	349	349	--	--	--	18	5%
Defense.....	129	99	119	129	20	30	10	-30	-23%
Housing.....	248	320	320	320	--	--	--	72	29%
OPM - FEHB.....	193	213	213 4	213 4	--	--	--	20	10%
Other 2.....	127	123	129	129	6	6	--	-4	-3%
<b>TOTAL HIV/AIDS FUNDING.....</b>	<b>6,424</b>	<b>7,105</b>	<b>7,097</b>	<b>7,071</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>-34</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>11%</b>

N/A = not yet available

1 Preliminary estimates

2 Includes USAID, Bureau of Prisons, State, and Labor

3 PHS function splits based on HHS staff estimates.

4 Estimates reflect mandatory spending associated with various plans participating in the FEHB.

12-Aug-94

01:07 PM

FEDFUND

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

24-Aug-1994 11:06am

TO: Geraldine E. Covington  
FROM: Patricia E. Romani  
Domestic Policy Council  
SUBJECT: Appt. request - Wilson, Phill

Date 06-Sep-1994 Appointment with RASCO, CAROL H

Room No. Bldg. Requested by Phone #  
2FL/WW WH Patricia E. Romani (202) 456-2216

Comments:

TIME	VISITOR'S LAST, FIRST NAME	BIRTHDATE	SOC. SEC. #
------	----------------------------	-----------	-------------

11:00am	Wilson	Phill	- -
---------	--------	-------	-----

P6(b)(6)

*officer Jackson  
Corrects*

*DOB*

P6(b)(6)

*© 1120  
PV*

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 10  
LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS HAD MATERIAL REDACTED. CONSULT THE  
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION.

JUN-29-1994 16:27 FROM AIDS ACTION

DC TO

A. WEXLER

P.05

FBI  
CHR

Interview:  
Sept 6  
11-12

DOB:

P6/(b)(6)

SSN:



Bio  
Phill Wilson  
September 1, 1991

Phill Wilson is the AIDS Coordinator for the City of Los Angeles. He is the Co-Chair and founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Los Angeles CARE HIV Health Services Planning Council. Mr. Wilson has worked with Stop AIDS Los Angeles, Minority AIDS Project and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. He has also served on the Boards of the National Association of Black and White People Together, the National AIDS Network, the South Central AIDS Hospice Committee and the California LIFE Lobby. Mr. Wilson is also one of the founders of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

213-993-1600  
AIDS Project LA

left msg w/ Jewell w/  
give him msg.

8/22,  
8/23

DOB

P6/(b)(6)

Name: **Phill Wilson**  
Address: **Community Development Department**

P6/(b)(6)

Telephone:

CAREER RELATED EXPERIENCE

Firm: City of Los Angeles  
Title: **AIDS Coordinator**  
Start Date: **November, 1990**  
Description: **-responsible for implementation, monitoring; supervising the AIDS policy for the City Los Angeles**  
**-directs City's AIDS Residential Program**  
**-directs City's AIDS Education Program**  
**-responsible for community outreach to group and organizations**

Firm: National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together  
Title: **Director of Education and Training**  
Start Date: **October, 1988**  
Description: **-responsible for designing safer sex risk reduction curriculum for Gay and bisexual men of color**  
**-created training manuals for facilitators and train the trainers**  
**-coordinated national training program targeting 22 cities**  
**-responsible for community outreach to groups and organizations**  
**-developed education and safer sex guideline policies**

Firm: Minority AIDS Project  
Title: **Deputy Director**  
Start Date: **May, 1988**  
Description: **-responsible for programs and systems**  
**-chief health educator**  
**-head of Speaker's Bureau**  
**-responsible for community outreach to groups and organizations**

Firm: Stop AIDS Project  
 Title: Director of Outreach  
 Start Date: October, 1986  
 Description: -responsible for recruitment to AIDS Prevent and Education seminars  
 -editor and chief writer of Project newsletter  
 -head of Speaker's Bureau  
 -responsible for community outreach to groups and organizations

Firm: Black is More Than Beautiful, Inc.  
 Title: President and Founder  
 Start Date: September, 1983  
 Description: -principal owner of business  
 -responsible for all aspects of business including sales, product development, accounting, personnel, executive overview  
 -hired, trained and supervised 5 employees and 70 outside sales representatives  
 -3 years intensive business experience as entrepreneur

Firm: AT&T Information Systems  
 Title: Account Executive, Industry Specialist  
 Start Date: January, 1982  
 Description: -responsible for designing, developing, and coordinating implementation of market plan to penetrate new territories for AT&T following deregulation  
 -designed voice/data networks for major corporations  
 -responsible for account base billing \$3 million

Firm: Illinois Bell Telephone Company  
 Title: Account Executive  
 Start Date: April, 1980  
 Description: -certified as a professional account executive in the media field  
 -responsible for account base billing \$3 million  
 -account base and growth management, market development through business problem solving for voice, network and data

EDUCATION

School: Illinois Wesleyan University  
Degrees: Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1976;  
Bachelor of Arts, 1977

HONORS:

Honorary Chairperson, 1988 Being AI  
Candlelight March  
AT&T Achievers Club, 1981 & 1982  
Illinois Bell Quarterly Recognition  
outstanding sales effort (four consecut  
quarters)  
Blue Key - National Honor Fraternity

ACTIVITIES:

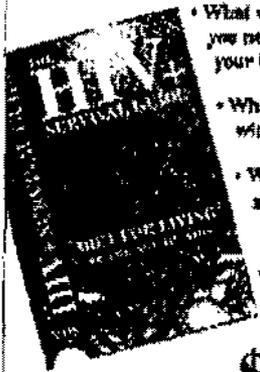
AIDS Prevention Team, Founder  
Blacks Living with AIDS and HIV diseas  
Founder  
National Organization of Black County Officials  
Convener of 1988 and 1989 National Black C  
and Lesbian  
Conference and Health Institute  
National Minority AIDS Council  
Assemblyman Terry Friedman's Task force on AI  
Kaiser Permanente AIDS Prevention Advise  
Board  
Minority AIDS Project, founder of Speake  
Bureau  
South Central AIDS Hospice Committee, Boar  
Member  
Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Committee  
AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Board of Director  
Black & White Men Together, Co-Chair  
National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadersh:  
Foundation, Co-Chairman  
Operation PUSH Trade Bureau, 1983-86  
Gift Association of America, 1983-86  
-American Booksellers Association, 1983-86  
Acacia Fraternity - National Board o  
Directors, 1976-78

REFERENCES:

Available upon request

# HIV+ SURVIVAL GUIDE

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"This video provides critical information important to anyone who is HIV+." - Tom Pringle, M.D.

"...is essential for anyone seriously committed to personal health and healing"

- Marjorie Williamson, author of *A Slave to Love*

"Brave" - Billboard Magazine

CALL NOW 1(800)788-8823

# Speaking the Truth

APLA's Phill Wilson walks the walk

**C**hatting with Phill Wilson the other day over lunch—Wilson, is the gay, HIV positive director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the country's second largest AIDS service organization. "I don't know the Phill Wilson people talk about," he says, sipping his tea. "To me, I'm still the skinny black kid from Chicago."

The Phill Wilson people talk about is a compassionate man and a passionate activist. And that's the Phill Wilson who is handsomely perched across from me now. He speaks like a man comfortable in his own skin, comfortable speaking eloquently on the numerous universal truths that, in his assessment, are being blatantly ignored. Why do I have to speak for all African-American gay men? he seems to be asking no one in particular. Why is his voice such a lonely one in the black community?

Wilson answers these questions with nothing short of heroic honesty.

"When you're engaged in a major war, which I think we are, you have an obligation to make strategic choices to end the war as soon as possible," Wilson says. "Sometimes the choices you make are not the most personally satisfying."

Most important to Wilson, perhaps, is the whole issue of race in the AIDS arena. "When you look at much of the safer sex information directed at gay men, much of the language and imagery is focused on white men and my own experience as a black gay man is that if I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."

Wilson is no less critical when taking on the African-American community for its record on AIDS. In a tone perhaps muted by his legendary diplomacy, Wilson laments the years of silence by the leadership of the black community and complains that "even now when you look at AIDS prevention campaigns in African-American communities, you'll see that their priorities are not gay men and that often the agencies involved are hostile places for gays. In fact, when you look at the rates of HIV infection among black women, much of that goes back to the failure to educate black bisexual men."

How is it possible, Wilson logically asks that after 15 years of what is clearly the most devastating health crisis of this century that the black community in this country could remain outside a state of emergency?

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*cc to  
R. Herman  
S. Wilson*

*re Phil Wilson*

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**FAX COVER SHEET**

Anne Wexler  
Chairman

**NAME: ALEXIS HERMAN**

**FAX NUMBER: 456-2983**

**FROM: ANNE WEXLER**

**PAGES: 6**

**DATE: JULY 1, 1994**

**ANY PROBLEMS WITH THIS TRANSMISSION PLEASE CALL 202-662-3709**

**MESSAGE:**

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION...**

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MICHAEL P. KEELEY

P6(b)(6)

213-847-3484 (W)  
FAX (213) 217-0388

WH

AUG 10 REC'D

TO: VERONICA BIGGINS  
CAROL RASKO  
SYC  
*[Signature]*

**fax**

to: Kim Wardlaw  
fax #: 669-6380 phone  
from: Michael P. Keeley *AKC*  
date: July 22, 1994  
subject: Phill Wilson  
pages: 1 including this page

My close friend Phill Wilson is in the running to become the AIDS coordinator in the Clinton Administration (replacing Christene Gebbe, who was recently canned). Phill is an African American who now works as the director of public policy for APLA, a position he has held for several years. Before that he was the AIDS coordinator for the City of LA. Phill is very well respected in the AIDS community and would do a great deal to improve the image of the Clinton administration on this important issue.

I would be very grateful if you could put in a good word for Phill with the Clinton Administration. Phill believes it is most important to get the word to John Emerson and Carol Rasko. If convenient, it would also be helpful to contact Maggie Williams and Alexis Herman.

Incidentally, David Mixner says that Phill would be a strong candidate. David is more likely to support John Garamendi. Though John knows little about AIDS, David believes he will have the President's ear, which he thinks is very important.

Please call at your convenience to discuss this. Thanks.

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 2  
LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS HAD MATERIAL REDACTED. CONSULT THE  
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION.

JUN-29-1994 16:27 FROM AIDS ACTION . DC TO

A. WEXLER P.05

Handwritten notes in a bracketed box: "Sep 6" and "11/2"

DOB: [redacted]  
SSN: [redacted]

P6/(b)(6)

Bio  
Phill Wilson  
September 1, 1991

Phill Wilson is the AIDS Coordinator for the City of Los Angeles. He is the Co-Chair and founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Los Angeles CARE HIV Health Services Planning Council. Mr. Wilson has worked with Stop AIDS Los Angeles, Minority AIDS Project and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. He has also served on the Boards of the National Association of Black and White People Together, the National AIDS Network, the South Central AIDS Hospice Committee and the California LIFE Lobby. Mr. Wilson is also one of the founders of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

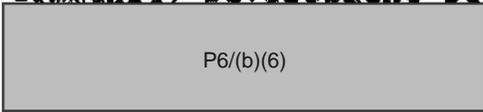
213-93-1600  
AIDS Project LA

left msg w/ Jowell w/ [unclear]

8/22  
8/03

fax resume  
to Betsy  
690-7098

Name: **Phill Wilson**  
Address: **Community Development Department**



Telephone:

CAREER RELATED EXPERIENCE

Firm: **City of Los Angeles**  
Title: **AIDS Coordinator**  
Start Date: **November, 1990**  
Description: **-responsible for implementation, monitoring;  
supervising the AIDS policy for the City  
Los Angeles  
-directs City's AIDS Residential Program  
-directs City's AIDS Education Program  
-responsible for community outreach to group  
and organizations**

Firm: **National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of the  
National Association of Black and White Men  
Together**  
Title: **Director of Education and Training**  
Start Date: **October, 1988**  
Description: **-responsible for designing safer sex risk  
reduction curriculum for Gay and bisexual men  
of color  
-created training manuals for facilitators and  
train the trainers  
-coordinated national training program  
targeting 22 cities  
-responsible for community outreach to groups  
and organizations  
-developed education and safer sex guidelines  
policies**

Firm: **Minority AIDS Project**  
Title: **Deputy Director**  
Start Date: **May, 1988**  
Description: **-responsible for programs and systems  
-chief health educator  
-head of Speaker's Bureau  
-responsible for community outreach to groups  
and organizations**

Firm: STOP AIDS Project  
 Title: Director of Outreach  
 Start Date: October, 1986  
 Description: -responsible for recruitment to AIDS Prevent and Education seminars  
 -editor and chief writer of Project newsletter  
 -head of Speaker's Bureau  
 -responsible for community outreach to groups and organizations

Firm: Black is More Than Beautiful, Inc.  
 Title: President and Founder  
 Start Date: September, 1983  
 Description: -principal owner of business  
 -responsible for all aspects of business including sales, product development, accounting, personnel, executive overview  
 -hired, trained and supervised 5 employees, 70 outside sales representatives  
 -3 years intensive business experience as entrepreneur

Firm: AT&T Information Systems  
 Title: Account Executive, Industry Specialist  
 Start Date: January, 1982  
 Description: -responsible for designing, developing, and coordinating implementation of market plan to penetrate new territories for AT&T following deregulation  
 -designed voice/data networks for major corporations  
 -responsible for account base billing \$3 million

Firm: Illinois Bell Telephone Company  
 Title: Account Executive  
 Start Date: April, 1980  
 Description: -certified as a professional account executive in the media field  
 -responsible for account base billing \$3 million  
 -account base and growth management, market development through business problem solving for voice, network and data

EDUCATION

School: Illinois Wesleyan University  
Degrees: Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1976;  
Bachelor of Arts, 1977

HONORS:

Honorary Chairperson, 1988 Being Al  
Candlelight March  
AT&T Achievers Club, 1981 & 1982  
Illinois Bell Quarterly Recognition  
outstanding sales effort (four consecut  
quarters)  
Blue Key - National Honor Fraternity

ACTIVITIES:

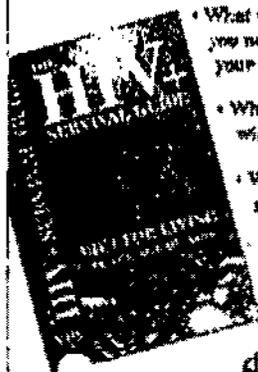
AIDS Prevention Team, Founder  
Blacks Living with AIDS and HIV disease  
Founder  
National Organization of Black County Officials  
Convener of 1988 and 1989 National Black C  
and Lesbian  
Conference and Health Institute  
National Minority AIDS Council  
Assemblyman Terry Friedman's Task force on AI  
Kaiser Permanente AIDS Prevention Advise  
Board  
Minority AIDS Project, founder of Speake  
Bureau  
South Central AIDS Hospice Committee, Boar  
Member  
Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Committee  
AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Board of Director  
Black & White Men Together, Co-Chair  
National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadersh  
Foundation, Co-Chairman  
Operation PUSH Trade Bureau, 1983-86  
Gift Association of America, 1983-86  
-American Booksellers Association, 1983-86  
Acacia Fraternity - National Board o  
Directors, 1976-78

REFERENCES:

Available upon request

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# Speaking the Truth

APLA's Phill Wilson walks the walk

**C**hatting with Phill Wilson the other day over lunch—Wilson, is the gay, HIV positive director of public policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the country's second largest AIDS service organization.

"I don't know the Phill Wilson people talk about," he says, sipping his tea. "To me, I'm still the skinny black kid from Chicago."

The Phill Wilson people talk about is a compassionate man and a pas-

sionate activist. And that's the Phill Wilson who is handsomely perched across from me now. He speaks like a man comfortable in his own skin, comfortable speaking eloquently on the numerous universal truths that, in his assessment, are being blatantly ignored. *Why do I have to speak for all African-American gay men?* he seems to be asking no one in particular. Why is his voice such a lonely one in the black community?

Wilson answers these questions with nothing short of heroic honesty.

"When you're engaged in a major war, which I think we are, you have an obligation to make strategic choices to end the war as soon as possible," Wilson says. "Sometimes the choices you make are not the most personally satisfying."

Most important to Wilson, perhaps, is the whole issue of race in the AIDS arena. "When you look at much of the safer sex information directed at gay men, much of the language and imagery is focused on white men and my own experience as a black gay man is that if I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."

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The inner city's reaction to AIDS remains a challenge Wilson gladly takes on himself. "I can't say it [the reaction] hasn't been an obstacle but I can say it's not been an obstacle I've ever noticed," Wilson says. "When I speak to kids in the inner city the truth is that I am from them, and nothing is going to change that. I won't let anyone take my culture or legacy away from me. I won't ever entertain that possibility."

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