HIV/AIDS: International Behavioral Research

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A recent article in *Science* (Faria et al., 2014) suggested that Kinshasa (now the Democratic Republic of Congo) was, perhaps, ground zero of the early transmission of HIV-1 in the 1920s. According to the World Health Organization, approximately 35 million people worldwide were living with HIV/AIDS in 2013 (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 2015). And people in the United States have panic attacks worrying about a case or two of the Ebola virus. Give me a break. As of January 1, 2015, a PubMed search for HIV yields 279,386 entries. A PubMed search for AIDS yields 227,159 entries.

There are many periodicals devoted to HIV and AIDS: *African Journal of AIDS Research*, *AIDS*, *AIDS and Behavior*, *AIDS Care*, *AIDS Education and Prevention*, *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, *AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses*, *AIDS Research and Therapy*, *AIDS Reviews*, *Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS*, *International Journal of STDs and AIDS*, *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, *Journal of AIDS and HIV Research*, *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, *Journal of Social Aspects of HIV-AIDS*, *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, and *Sexually Transmitted Infections*. I am sure that I have missed a few others.

This brings us to the February 2015 issue of *Archives*. Over the past few years, I have been impressed with the steady stream of submissions to the Journal on the behavioral aspects of HIV/AIDS. I have also been impressed with the international scope of these submissions. In the present issue, for example, the band

stretches from truck drivers (the second article) and their wives in South India to male-to-female transsexuals in Southern Brazil (the last article), with various samples from China, South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam, and the U.S. sandwiched in between. Although there are only 23 articles in this issue and thus constitutes a minuscule percentage of a vast literature, they reflect the growing presence of international contributions on HIV/AIDS behavioral research. Perhaps in conjunction with new biomedical methods of prevention, such as pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP and PEP), as discussed in the article by Kubicek, Arauz-Cuadra, and Kipke in this issue, these innovative behavioral studies will contribute, in some small way, to the Herculean task of reducing the HIV/AIDS nightmare that has circled the globe over the past 30 years.

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References

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