

AIDS AND THE SEXUALITY OF LAW

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*AIDS
and the
Sexuality of
Law*

Ironic Jurisprudence

Joe Rollins

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© Joe Rollins, 2004

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This book is dedicated to the Garner sisters, those
indomitable women who taught me that irony is also a
strategy for survival.

For Cecil, Mabel, Jean, and Babe, but most of all, Evelyn.

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Acknowledgments

AIDS and the Sexuality of Law was inspired by a series of events that began in 1990. That year, my first in graduate school, one of my closest friends, Donald Tichy, was diagnosed with AIDS. He died in August of 1992. Within six months of his death, my sister, Ronda Rollins, was diagnosed with cancer; she died in October of 1995. Although I certainly would have preferred otherwise, I spent my time in graduate school struggling to stay afloat as a student while simultaneously coping with the harsh spectacles of medical treatment, the politics of disease, sexuality, and grief. Like many other people who write about disease and politics, these events sparked the imagination, outrage, and curiosity that kept me working on this project. If not entirely ironic, death itself is certainly a mixed metaphor.

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