  
Deephaven, MN 55331-9272

December 3, 1993

Mr. Brian Lamb, President  
C-SPAN  
Suite 650  
400 N. Capital Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 2001

Dear Mr. Lamb,

The purpose of this letter is to draw your attention to a topic which has had one-sided reporting in the other media and, to my knowledge, has not been covered by C-SPAN.

That AIDS is a result of infection by the HIV virus is presented as *fact* in all news coverage of the AIDS condition. The fact that a significant number of reputable scientists question this hypothesis is never mentioned. Many researchers believe that the AIDS condition may be a result of other factors and that HIV may be only an opportunistic hitchhiker which accompanies risky behavior. A number of scientists have occasionally spoken out on this subject but it has received little news coverage.

One scientist with a different view on AIDS is Robert Root-Bernstein, associate professor of physiology at Michigan State University. He has published a book, "Rethinking AIDS, The tragic cost of premature consensus" in which he suggests that AIDS may be an autoimmune disease, brought about by repeated insults to the immune system from exposure to semen and large doses of drugs and antibiotics. I have attached a copy of the back of the book jacket containing comments on the book.

If Root-Bernstein is right, many people have been tragically misled by the promotion of condoms as a sure preventive measure. Additionally, some people with HIV infection are being treated with very toxic drugs, such as AZT, which also assault the immune system and may even exacerbate the AIDS condition.

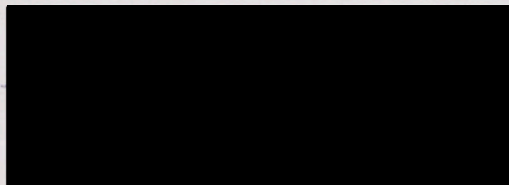
The HIV virus is so politically protected that little or no funds have been allocated to AIDS research except where HIV is the subject. The availability of large amounts of grant money has corrupted the traditional Scientific Method. Root-Bernstein quotes one researcher as saying that he would bet his professional reputation that there is more to AIDS than HIV, but he wouldn't bet his grant. I hope that you can help to bring the dialog out in the open through one of your features such as "Booknotes" or a discussion group.



Coincidentally, Dr. Root-Bernstein had an article on the editorial page of yesterday's Wall Street Journal which suggests that the AIDS epidemic is on the decrease. In your "Events in the News" program today, one reporter referred to the "rapidly increasing" number of AIDS cases. I hope that you can bring some clarity to this subject.

Thanks for C-SPAN. I suspect that the channel is reflective of your personal beliefs and, for that reason, hope that you never get tired of the job.

Sincerely,





Praise for

# Rethinking AIDS

"This book marks a major turning point in the struggle to develop a true understanding of the nature of HIV infection, HIV antibody positivity, and AIDS. Only when that end is achieved will we be able to develop and implement effective prevention and treatment strategies for AIDS!"

—Steven Jonas, M.D., M.P.H.

Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine  
SUNY — Stony Brook

"As the philosopher Martin Heidegger reminds us, 'the most thought-provoking thought is that we are not yet thinking.' In this most aptly titled book, Professor Root-Bernstein demonstrates the truth of that proposition as it applies to the most psychologically — if not physiologically — pervasive and devastating disease since the black death of the middle ages. The consequences of his analysis are profound. This is a must read!"

—Harvey Bialy, Ph.D.

Research Editor, *Biotechnology*

"This is the book which, more than any other to date, the problem of AIDS awaits and needs. The author's analysis of the complex array of disorders and diseases which are classifiable as AIDS, and his open verdict on causation, demand attention and respect because they are based upon scrupulous scientific arguments which are readable also as a well-informed historical narrative of relevant events."

—Gordon T. Stewart, M.D.

Emeritus Professor of Public Health  
University of Glasgow

"RETHINKING AIDS is just what the doctor ordered. We believe the whole thrust of testing, research, and treatment for AIDS needs to be re-examined. Perhaps this book will be the needed rallying point!"

—Michael Ellner

President  
HEAL (Health, Education, AIDS Liaison)

"As a gay man with AIDS, I found it painful to read the sections documenting the irrefutably immunosuppressive consequences of the fabled 'fastlane' lifestyle I lived, but sometimes the truth hurts. I urge every gay man — indeed, everyone who cares about AIDS — to read this book with an open mind. Here is the new Clinton Administration's AIDS agenda! In my opinion, this is the most important AIDS book — ever. It will save lives!"

—Michael Callen

Author of *Surviving AIDS*

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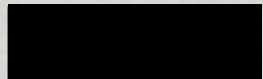
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SCIENCE/CURRENT AFFAIRS





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