

One folded sheet containing the silhouette torso of Michelangelo's David and a list of excuses for not practising safe sex; advertisement by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Colour lithograph by Larry Stinson and Les Poppas.

Contributors

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EXCUSES

Research shows that some gay men still have unsafe sex. Unsafe sex must be completely eliminated if we are to triumph over AIDS. There are no excuses.

SLIPPING. This is what some gay men call occasional unsafe sex. It trivializes the deadly consequences. You can easily become infected with just one "slip".

LOVE. Knowing a guy for a while or even being in love does not make either you or your partner immune to AIDS. It doesn't matter if you've known each other for a long time. You must have safe sex unless you are certain that both of you are monogamous and free of the AIDS virus. Don't give your lover AIDS.

ALCOHOL & DRUGS. Most unsafe sex takes place when people are under the influence of alcohol and drugs. If you have unsafe sex when you're high, then don't get high when you have sex. If you can't stop then get some help; you're not alone.

CONDOMS. "They cut down on sensitivity." "They don't fit right." "They're expensive." "They're not romantic." "I'm embarrassed to buy them." "They're hard to find." "I didn't have one." "He didn't have one." Get over it. Protect yourself, your partner, and your community.

BOREDOM. If you think safe sex is boring, think again. Millions of gay men are enjoying safe sex. There's no reason why you can't be one of them. There's a lot of great sex to be had—be creative, use your imagination.

IMMUNITY. Nobody is immune to AIDS. Not Asians or Blacks or Latinos, or Native Americans. Not teenagers or older men. If you've been having unsafe sex and have not been infected it's not because you're immune—it's because you've been lucky. Don't wait for your luck to run out.

FATALISM. Some people who know or think they've been infected mistakenly think that safe sex doesn't matter anymore. They're wrong. Don't get re-infected and don't infect (or re-infect) someone else. It's never too late to stop having unsafe sex.

If you have stopped having unsafe sex—**CONGRATULATIONS.** You've learned from history. You are part of the solution.

If you have any unsafe sex—**STOP NOW.** If you're having a hard time, ask for help.

If you come up with a new excuse to continue unsafe sex, call your local AIDS hotline—they want to hear from you.



San Francisco AIDS Foundation
P.O. Box 6182
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If you have any questions please call our English/Spanish hotline. Monday thru Friday 9am-9pm, Sat & Sun 11am-5pm.
(415) 863-AIDS or toll-free in Northern California 800-FOR-AIDS. TDD (415) 864-6606.

UNSAFE SEX. Unsafe sex is when certain body fluids (cum, vaginal fluids, blood, spit, and piss) get from one person into the body of another person.

This happens by fucking without a condom, having oral sex and getting cum or vaginal fluid in your mouth, licking someone's ass (rimming), fisting without a latex glove, and sharing sex toys.

Sharing needles is a very effective way to spread the AIDS virus. If you shoot drugs don't share needles. If you share a needle learn how to clean it with bleach.

UNSAFE