

Recto: A framed photograph of a gay couple next to a condom and a bottle of lubricant on a table with a book, a vase of roses and a lamp representing a safe sex advertisement for gay men by the Victorian AIDS council; verso: the backs of two naked men with their arms around each other, one holding a condom, the other with his fingers crossed with instructions on what to do when having sex with or without condoms. Colour lithograph by Opsis Design and Freak me Freak me Productions, 1994.

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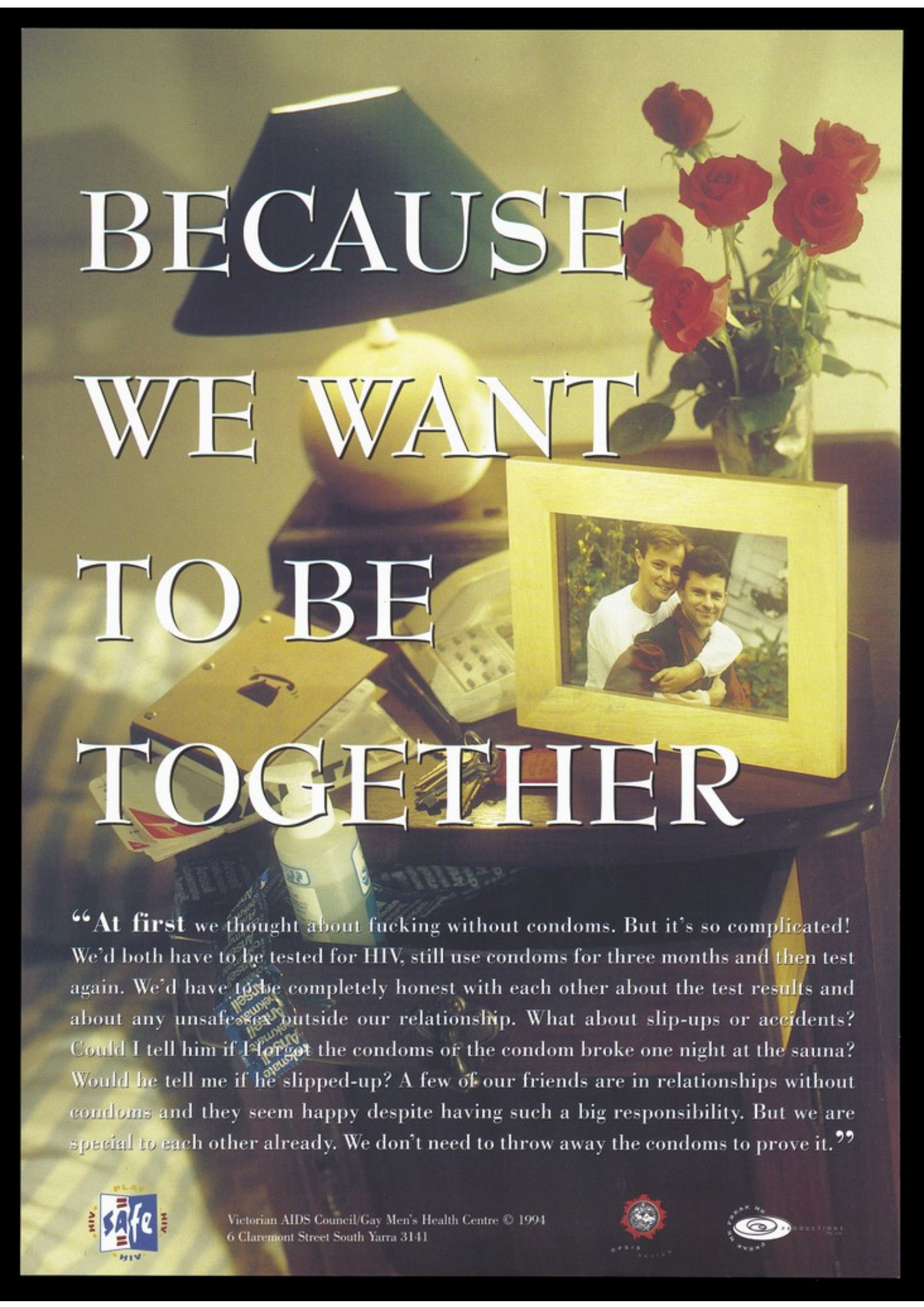
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A still life photograph of a desk. In the background, a lamp with a dark shade and a glowing yellow globe sits on the desk. To the right, a vase holds several red roses. In the foreground, a framed photograph shows two men smiling and embracing. A rotary telephone is partially visible behind the photo. A box of condoms and a bottle of lubricant are also on the desk. The text "BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE TOGETHER" is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters.

BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE TOGETHER

“At first we thought about fucking without condoms. But it’s so complicated! We’d both have to be tested for HIV, still use condoms for three months and then test again. We’d have to be completely honest with each other about the test results and about any unsafe sex outside our relationship. What about slip-ups or accidents? Could I tell him if I forgot the condoms or the condom broke one night at the sauna? Would he tell me if he slipped-up? A few of our friends are in relationships without condoms and they seem happy despite having such a big responsibility. But we are special to each other already. We don’t need to throw away the condoms to prove it.”



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"Relationships: Your Choice"



WITHOUT CONDOMS

1. Discuss with your partner how important it is for both of you to fuck without condoms. If it's not that important, keep using condoms.



2. If you'd both really like to fuck each other without condoms, both **get tested** for HIV antibodies. Be completely honest about your results, or get tested at the same time and collect your results together.



3. Continue to use condoms every time you fuck for **three months**. It can take this long for the antibodies to show up in a test.



4. After 3 months, both get **tested again**.



5. If you're **both HIV negative**, discuss and promise each other that you will avoid anal sex outside the relationship, or that if you or your partner fuck with anyone else, condoms will be used.



6. Discuss and promise each other that if either of you slips-up or has an accident with unsafe sex outside the relationship, you will **tell the other** immediately and go back to safe sex until you've both been tested again twice three months apart. Or...



7. Agree that either partner can **insist** on using condoms again.



8. Discuss with each other that slip-ups or accidents might happen and that it won't mean the end of the relationship. **Don't punish** your partner for being honest. If this feels like too much to expect, then keep using condoms, always.



9. If you **both have HIV**, talk with your doctor about the possible effects of reinfection with another strain of HIV. Discuss the damage to your immune system that might be caused by other STDs that condoms would protect you from and the link between unprotected anal sex and Kaposi Sarcoma cancer.



10. If **one of you** has HIV and the other does not, continue to use condoms every time you fuck.

WITH CONDOMS

1. Use condoms when you fuck with your partner or anyone else.



OPSID DESIGN



Design: Opsis Design; Photography: Freak me Freak me productions.
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