



FIGHT  
AIDS

NOT PEOPLE  
WITH AIDS

# FIGHT HIV/AIDS NOT PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS

## 1. AIDS is a worldwide disease

AIDS is a disease that exists throughout the world. Today 38 million people are infected by HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is prevalent in poor countries and regions, particularly in Africa. Of all people living with HIV/AIDS 70% are living in Sub-Saharan Africa.

## 2. Young people are affected mostly

UNAIDS reports that of the 37,8 million people estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS worldwide at the end of 2003, approximately one third or 12,1 million are under the age of 25. The youth are the ones most affected by the pandemic, which endangers their role in economic growth.

## 3. Women

Biologically, the risk of becoming infected with HIV during unprotected intercourse is greater for women than men. In Sub-Saharan Africa three quarters of all young people with HIV/AIDS are women.

## 4. Children orphaned by HIV/AIDS

There is an estimated 15 Million children living today that have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS, having lost one or both parents to the epidemic.

## 5. Access to prevention and treatment

Only 7% of people living with HIV/AIDS in need of anti retroviral (ARV) therapy have access to this treatment. IUSY Member organisations commit themselves to demand and urge governments, private companies and international institutions for their responsibility to ensure the accessibility to medicaments universally affordable to both rich and poor countries.

## 6. Patent rights on medicaments

Most pharmaceutical companies are not willing to produce medicaments cheaper because primarily they are interested in profit. HIV/AIDS is not a matter to be left to market economy but it is a human rights.

## 7. Education on prevention and sexual education

There is a dangerous lack of knowledge and information among young people. We demand that all educational institutions must incorporate HIV/AIDS education in their curricula at an early age.

### IUSY demands

- Free condoms for all - for male, female and homosexual use
- Education on prevention and sexual education among young people
- Patent rights on HIV/AIDS ARV medicaments must be lifted to enable all countries and regions to produce affordable and accessible drugs
- Free access to medicaments and prevention programmes
- To address the social and economical situation in the developing countries in order to fight HIV/AIDS

