

## **The Truth About So-Called "Safe Sex"**

**By Jim Seghers**

The Physicians' Consortium, which represents over 10,000 doctors, accused the Centers of Disease Control (CDC) on August 17, 2001 of covering up its own research, which shows that condoms do not protect individuals from most sexually transmitted diseases (STD). In 2000 the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases concluded its research that found no clinical proof that condoms offer protection from most STDs, such as herpes, syphilis, and chlamydia.

In addition the study asserts that there is no "epidemiological evidence that condom use reduced the risk of human papillomavirus (HPV)." According to Dr. Richard Klausner, the director of the national Cancer Institute, HPV causes over 90% of all cases of cervical cancer. How serious is it? More than 200,000 women, including 5,000 Americans, die of cervical cancer each year. Cervical cancer is second only to breast cancer as the most common malignancy in both incidence and mortality in women worldwide. Apparently the CDC has ignored this information for the past five years.

On July 20, 2001 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the findings developed by a scientific panel cosponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (US-AID). Of the eight STDs examined by the experts - HIV, gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, chancroid, trichomoniasis, genital herpes, and human papillomavirus (HPV) - condoms were not found to provide universal protection.

Currently an estimated 20 million Americans are currently infected with genital HPV. In addition to causing most cases of cervical cancer it has also been linked to prostate, anal, and oral cancer. Each year 15,000 cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed in the U.S. alone. Congressman Tom Coburn, a practicing physician, noted that the report makes it quite clear that condoms cannot prevent the HPV infection.

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) have reached epidemic proportions in the U.S. More than 65 million individuals are now living with an STD, the majority of which are incurable. About 15 million new STD infections occur annually. Congressman Coburn asserts, "This report finally exposes the 'safe' sex myth for the lie that it is."

Studies also suggest that women face serious risks from abortion and birth control pills. Since abortion was legalized in 1973 the incidence of breast cancer among American women has climbed 40%. According to the scientific research commissioned by the National Cancer Institute and conducted by Dr. Janet Daling and her colleagues at the Fred Hutchison Cancer Center in Seattle: "Among women who have been pregnant at least once, the risk of breast cancer in those who had experienced an induced abortion was 50% higher than among other women."

The British Medical Journal also reported in July 2001 that women taking newer, third-generation contraceptive pills are at an increased risk of potentially fatal blood clots. Also in July 2001 Indiana University released results of a study that verified birth control pills have significant adverse effects on sexuality and mood in some women. The Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction found that 61 % of the women who participated in its study reported adverse sexual, emotional, and physical side effects from birth control pills.

December 30, 2001