

HIV/AIDS & Women

Selected Readings



Commonwealth Secretariat. (2002). *Gender Mainstreaming in HIV/AIDS: Taking a Multi sectoral Approach*. London: Commonwealth Secretariat. This manual focuses on gender and HIV/AIDS issues which play an important role in discussions around the prevention of HIV/AIDS. This manual gives its reader an understanding as to why a gender-based approach to HIV/AIDS is vital. It goes in-depth in explaining what we need to know about the relationship between gender and HIV/AIDS. The authors ensure that we see how gender mainstreaming policies are carried out in the form of case studies from different parts of the world. With a check list of things needed to

provide HIV/AIDS policy makers and educators with a tool to assess the gender sensitivity of their programmes and policies, the icing on the cake has been completed and the manual can be considered a complete resource for policy-makers, planners, field staff and others addressing the HIV/AIDS pandemic from a gender-aware, multi sectoral perspective.

Goldstein, Nancy & Jennifer L. Manlowe. (eds.). (1997). *The Gender Politics of HIV/AIDS in Women: Perspectives on the Pandemic in the United States*. New York: New York University Press. The book attempts to fill crucial gaps in understanding the specific effects of HIV and AIDS on women's lives. It emphasizes marginalised populations such as the homeless, sex workers, youth, the elderly, intravenous drug users, transgendered people, lesbians, bisexuals, incarcerated women, and victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence. By having women from different socio-economic and ethnic background with AIDS speak out, it gives a more realistic picture around women and HIV/AIDS. This book is essential for anyone interested in women and HIV/AIDS and can be used for both academic and non-academic reference.

Lather, Patti & Chris Smithies. (1997). *Troubling the Angels: Women Living with HIV/AIDS*. Boulder: Westview Press. This book with accounts of HIV positive women, explores what can be learned from them, about the cultural significance of the disease, its capacity to alter how we know ourselves and what we can do in the midst of the epidemic. The authors hope to provide support and information to women with HIV/AIDS and their friends, families and loved ones, to educate and inspire women with HIV/AIDS to advocate for themselves, one another and their communities, and to promote public awareness of women's HIV/AIDS issues. Due to its vivid nature, this book is a good reference for other women who are HIV positive,

to gain a sense of togetherness and see that they are not alone. It is also an inspiration for other women to be able to gain courage from these women and see that regardless of their HIV positive status, they can live a life devoid of denial and full of positive spins.

Squire, Corinne. (ed.). (1995). *Women and AIDS: Psychological Perspectives*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. This book tries to give a humane face to women issues and HIV/AIDS since far too many discourses have so far tended to ignore women, or, at best, has portrayed them either as transmitters of HIV to male partners and children, or as innocent victims of morally degenerate men. This book challenges such views and looks at the complex realities of women's relationships to HIV and AIDS and brings in a legal aspect by discussing women's reproductive rights. This book is good for people wanting to see a different approach to women's issues than what has usually been discussed. It also has a good account issues around rights that of the woman.

Stevens, Sally, Tortu, Stephanie & Susan Coyle (eds.). (1998). *Women, Drug Use, and HIV Infection*. New York: Haworth Medical Press. This volume brings together empirical findings from a multisite program of research on HIV infection among out-of-treatment drug users. The focus is on women who indulge in risk behaviour such as injection drug users and crack cocaine users. Findings conclude that several things can be done to reduce the risk behaviour of women who might be exposed to such risks. All the findings in this book come with recommendations which gives people working in the field of HIV/AIDS ideas they can use when addresses this target. Researchers who focus on HIV/AIDS and risk population as well as those who want to have a knowledge base of women, drug use and HIV infection will find this book very useful as a resource.

For more information please contact;

**The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
602-251 Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 1X3**

**Tel: (613)-567-1817
Toll Free: 1-888-285-2226
Fax:(613)-567-4652**

**e-mail: info@caan.ca
www.caan.ca**

