



LECTURE ON HIV/AIDS

“PLEDGE TO STOP HIV STIGMA”

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WHAT IS HIV

- **HIV** is a virus that attacks the body's immune system. It stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).
- **AIDS** stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and can develop when HIV damages the immune system to such an extent that it can no longer fight off a range of infections it would normally cope with.



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WHAT IS LIFE LIKE WITH HIV?

- If diagnosed in good time, and with effective medication, people living with HIV **can now live as long as anyone else** and will be unlikely to ever develop AIDS. This is because medication is very good at reducing the amount of virus in the body, meaning that the immune system stays strong.



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WHAT IS LIFE LIKE WITH HIV?

- With **effective medication**, people living with HIV **can't pass on the virus** to anyone else. This is because HIV medication stops the virus from replicating and can suppress the virus to such low levels that it can no longer be passed on.
- This is often referred to as being '**undetectable**', because the level of HIV in the body is so low that the virus can no longer be detected.

WHAT IS LIFE LIKE WITH HIV?

- ❑ Unfortunately, people living with HIV still face **stigma and discrimination** in everyday life.
- ❑ The stigma around HIV is based on outdated assumptions and a lack of knowledge.

REDUCING STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

- ◉ Stigma and discrimination are primary barriers to universal access to HIV treatment, care, and prevention. People living with HIV often face discrimination from health providers, employers, family members or friend




The red ribbon symbolises:

- ▮ **Hope.** The red ribbon is intended to be a symbol of hope – that the search for a vaccine and cure to halt the suffering is successful and the quality of life improves for those living with the virus.
- ▮ **Support.** The red ribbon is intended to be a symbol of hope – that the search for a vaccine and cure to halt the suffering is successful and the quality of life improves for those living with the virus.
- ▮ **Care and concern.** It is being worn by increasing numbers of people around the world to demonstrate their care and concern about HIV and AIDS – for those who are living with HIV, for those who are ill, for those who have died and for those who care for and support people who are directly affected.



**Silence on AIDS related issues is
Dangerous to self and Society**





I pledge to unite in the fight against HIV, support the millions of people living with this fatal epidemic and commemorate the people who have died.

I pledge to spread awareness about the disease and fight the stigma and discrimination towards the people living with the condition.

An ornate, symmetrical decorative border in a light gray color frames the central text. The border features intricate scrollwork, floral motifs, and a central crest-like element at the top. The background is a solid dark gray.

THANK YOU