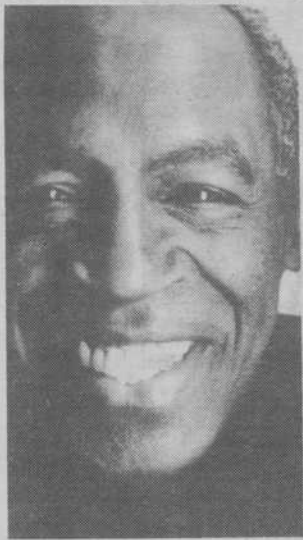


ROBERT GUILLAUME SELECTED AS SPOKESPERSON FOR SICKLE CELL



ROBERT GUILLAUME

Two-time Emmy Award winner Robert Guillaume has been selected as national spokesperson for the National Association for Sickle Cell Disease, Inc. Guillaume succeeds Danny Glover, who acted as the organization's spokesperson for three years.

The new executive director, Lynda K. Anderson, made the official announcement earlier this week. "On behalf of the National Association for Sickle Cell Disease, Inc. (NASCD), we are proud to have Robert Guillaume associated with our organization. He is highly visible and an outstanding role model. He represents a positive image for sickle cell disease programs nationally."

As Ambassador, Mr. Guillaume will add a dimension of clarification and insight to the sickle cell condition in this country and abroad. His involvement with the NASCD national convention in Washington, D.C. in October, sickle cell member organization activities, public appearances and public services spots will heighten the scope of sickle cell awareness with his peers and the public. NASCD is a Los Angeles-based organization with nationwide community sickle cell programs. The organization recently celebrated 20 years of providing education,

research and patient services centering on the sickle cell conditions. Sickle cell disease is an inherited, in curable condition which primarily affects African-Americans.

VIEW FROM HHS

by Louis W. Sullivan, M.D.



One of the most ominous trends threatening our nation is a perilous rise in fatherless families. Some 60 percent of American children will live part of their childhood in a single-parent home.

This loss of fathers is causing societal problems ranging from teen pregnancy to drug abuse. My hunch is that behind the baffling rise in senseless street and gang violence, drive-by shootings and "wildings," lies a group of young males raised without the love, discipline and guidance of a father. In fact, approximately 70 percent of juveniles in long-term correctional facilities did not live with their father while growing up.

A generation of young males are measuring their manhood by the caliber of their gun and the number of children they have fathered.

It is time that we put the issue of fatherless families and the indispensable role fathers play front-and-center on our national agenda.

A child with two parents is now the exception rather than the norm. Fewer people are marrying, and more are divorcing. At the same time, the number of children born to married couples is decreasing; out-of-wedlock births are surging. Today, more than one in four births is outside marriage.

Two parents are *not always* better than one. Many courageous and loving single-parents are able to care and provide for their children alone. But a strong two-parent family is the ideal.

Fatherless children are more vulnerable to physical, mental and emotional problems. They are five times more likely to be poor and twice as likely to drop out of school. In any given year, nine out of 10 children

from two-parent families avoid poverty, but one out of two children living in a mother-only family is poor.

A father's absence cannot be reduced to income loss alone; his attention, discipline and love are not easily replaced.

To reverse the trend toward fatherless families, we must reinvigorate a "culture of character" in our nation—a culture in which we support and reinforce one another actively in positive and healthy choices. We must re-evaluate our cultural values and the messages we send our children about marriage, family and sexual relations.

We must encourage fathers living apart from their children to remain involved in their children's lives. Only a third of absent fathers report that they see their children at least once a week, and nearly one in five has not seen his children for five years.

HHS has stepped-up child support enforcement to change the situation in which just half the women due child support receive the full amount owed, a quarter receive partial payment and a quarter receive nothing.

Also, for children whose fathers have completely abandoned them, we can strive to help through grandparents and extended family members, mentors and tutors.

Our nation is built on strong families and communities. If we protect these, no outside force can overwhelm us. But if our family and community ties grow weak, what will be left to save our children—and our future?

(Dr. Sullivan is U.S. secretary of health and human services.)

HEALTH STUDY RELEASED ON HOUSING AND THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC

As you know, homelessness has grown dramatically within the last ten years so that one to three million Americans may be without housing. During the 1980s public and private sector housing programs fell far behind demand. During the same period one million people or more became infected with HIV and another 218,000 developed AIDS. This untimely convergence of the housing shortfall and the HIV epidemic has created a "crisis within a crisis." People literally die on the streets from AIDS.

According to the study released recently by the National Commission on AIDS, "It is estimated that from one-third to one-half of all people with AIDS are either homeless or in imminent danger of becoming so..." It is also estimated that 15% of the homeless are infected with HIV, that in some urban areas the percentage is higher, and that the number of HIV-infected homeless is growing.

Over the years one of the terrible dynamics of the progression of HIV infection to AIDS is the individual's likely loss of housing. Many people have suffered the indignity of eviction when their diagnosis became known, even though such discrimination violates federal and state laws.

For many other people periods of illness reduces and finally eliminates the ability to earn income to pay for housing. The loss of financial self-sufficiency is only accelerated by the costs of

medical care and periodic hospitalizations required over the ten years or more it commonly takes to progress from HIV infection to AIDS.

The Commission found that all too often people with AIDS, finally impoverished and too ill to work, are either homeless or housed in acute care hospitals because no community-based residential program is available. The hospital can average \$1,000 a day whereas housing and services in a residential setting could cost less than one-tenth of that amount.

Federal officials, including Congress, the President and the Department of Housing and Human Development, have failed to deal well with this "crisis within a crisis."

The National Commission on AIDS is an independent body created by federal statute to advise Congress and the President on development of "a consistent national policy" concerning the HIV epidemic.

The 15-member Commission includes five voting members appointed by the Senate, five appointed by the House, and two appointed by President Bush.

Three members of the President's Cabinet are non-voting members of the Commission. They are the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Ultimate Pest Control • Work Guaranteed
Office Hours: 8 am-5pm Mon.-Fri.
License No. 2340

New York Style Pest Control
(Put your pest to rest)
649-6868

Zyra & Robert Thomas, Owners & Operators
3424-C E. Lake Mead
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

EYE EXAMS • CONTACT LENSES • FASHION EYEWEAR

DR. DEXTER MORRIS
OPTOMETRIST

3953 So. Maryland Pkwy. (at Flamingo)

INSURANCE ACCEPTED

Mon., Wed., Fri. — 9 am to 6 pm
Tues., Thurs. — 10 am to 7 pm
Sat. & Sun. by appointment

MENTION THIS AD AND
RECEIVE A 15% DISCOUNT

If Your Man Is Dabbling In Drugs...
He Could Be Dabbling
With Your Life.



Shooting up or skin popping, if your man is sharing needles he could get the AIDS virus and bring it home to you. So if he's running with the drug crowd, even if it's only on the weekends, you need to talk to him. Try to get him into counselling. Insist that he wear a condom every time you have sex. And if he's not listening to you—do something to save your life. Leave.

For more information about AIDS, call 1-800-842-AIDS. Nevada AIDS Hotline

AMERICA
RESPONDS
TO AIDS

This is a message from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

SHOW YOUR MOTHER YOU LOVE HER.

Make sure she gets her mammogram. It can spot trouble years before she can. For free information about a quality mammogram that's safe and reliable, call 1-800-ACS-2345.

AMERICAN
CANCER
SOCIETY

THERE'S NOTHING MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD.