

New Challenges In Fighting AIDS

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To the Editor:

Your Aug. 19 front-page article "With Fears Fading, More Gays Spurn Old Preventive Message" sheds light on the fact that developments in **AIDS** treatment and education have also created corresponding **challenges**.

But it is important to note that the complexities of risk-taking and decision-making are exacerbated for those confronting racism, poverty and homophobia.

These forces, along with limited access to health care and support, conspire both to inflate risk in their lives and constrict decision-making dramatically, resulting in a disparately high rate of H.I.V. infection and **AIDS** in gay communities of color, especially African-American and Latino communities.

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New York, Aug. 23, 2001

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