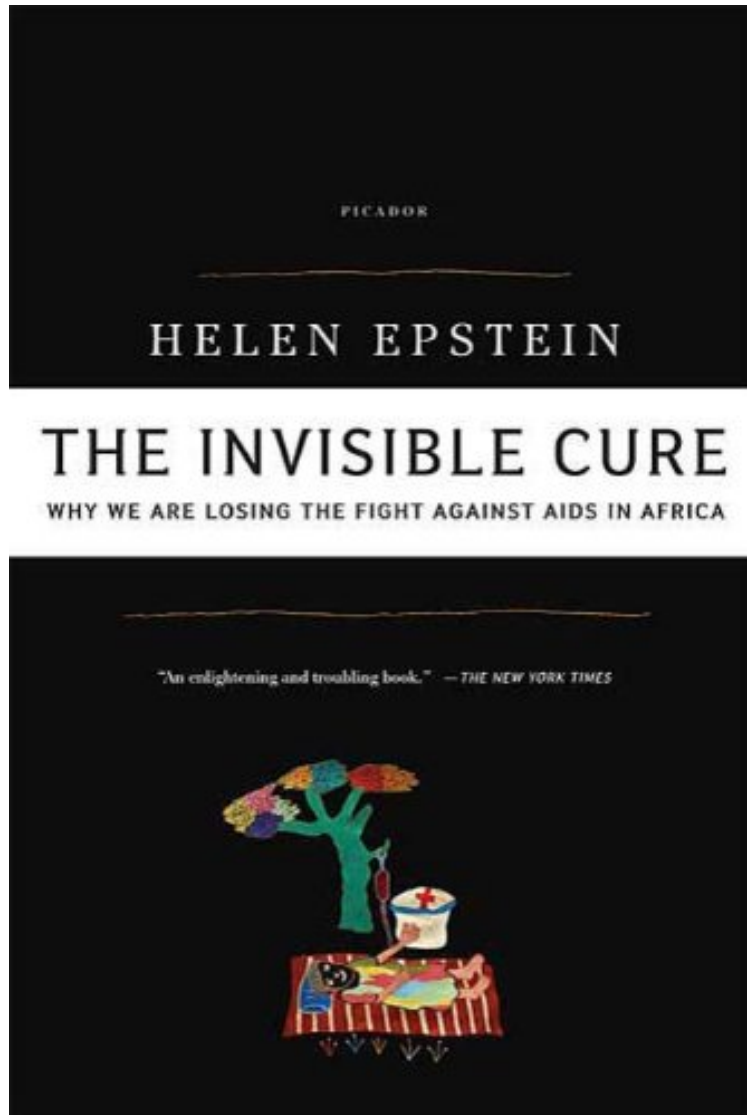


[Read download] The Invisible Cure: Why We Are Losing the Fight Against AIDS in Africa

The Invisible Cure: Why We Are Losing the Fight Against AIDS in Africa

Von Helen Epstein

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #1815383 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2007-05-15Erscheinungsdatum: 2007-05-15File Name: B004ZM089M | File size: 16.Mb

Von Helen Epstein : The Invisible Cure: Why We Are Losing the Fight Against AIDS in Africa before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Invisible Cure: Why We Are Losing the Fight Against AIDS in Africa:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Clear Thinking About Slowing the AIDS Epidemic in AfricaVon Donald MitchellWe have been overwhelmed by bad

information about what causes AIDS to be so much more prevalent in the eastern and southern parts of Africa than elsewhere in the world. Even though more money than ever is being directed to stopping this epidemic, that money is hardly ever being spent for a helpful purpose. Helen Epstein carefully describes what she learned on site in Africa about what the primary problems really are and how best to deal with those problems . . . rather than the problems that politicians and NGOs want to address. Millions of lives are at stake: Please read what Ms. Epstein has to say and share what you learn with others. So what's different about people in eastern and southern Africa that makes AIDS so much larger a risk there? 1. Men are much less likely to be circumcised. Circumcision cuts infection risk dramatically. 2. Although the people in that part of the world have no more (and often fewer) sexual partners over a life time, these people are more likely to be active with more than one sexual partner at a time. That habit causes those who become infected to spread the disease much faster and further. What can be done? Uganda (once the area most affected by AIDS) provides the answer: Make sure everyone knows that AIDS risk is there for everyone who is a drug user and shares needles, or has sex with anyone who has more than one partner without using a condom. The public in general, and politicians as well, like to paint AIDS as being a problem limited to homosexuals, sex workers, and promiscuous people. But in places like eastern and southern Africa, those who monogamous can be almost equally at risk. In fact, Uganda doesn't use these good policies any more ("No Grazing") because fighting AIDS has gone from being a local activity to being a national policy. Ms. Epstein reports in detail how local initiatives to get the correct information out can make a big difference (saving an estimated one million lives in Uganda). National and international initiatives seem to waste almost all of the money (as she points out in several examples). By not paying attention to what works and what doesn't, country leaders and international NGO leaders run the risk of making everyone feel like everything is being done . . . when the wrong things are being done. As a result, millions will die. It's a sad story of how everyone wants to help, but they see the problem as being like the nail in the eye of a carpenter. You hit the nail to solve the problem. Drug companies want to develop vaccines. Condom makers want to sell condoms. Churches want to preach sexual abstinence. Politicians want to ignore the frequency of rape, casual sex, and cheating among married people. Individuals want to believe they are safe because they know the people they have sex with. But most of these nails don't make much difference. Let's start hitting the right nail!

Kurzbeschreibung A New York Times Notable Book of 2007 The Invisible Cure is an account of Africa's AIDS epidemic from the inside--a revelatory dispatch from the intersection of village life, government intervention, and international aid. Helen Epstein left her job in the US in 1993 to move to Uganda, where she began work on a test vaccine for HIV. Once there, she met patients, doctors, politicians, and aid workers, and began exploring the problem of AIDS in Africa through the lenses of medicine, politics, economics, and sociology. Amid the catastrophic failure to reverse the epidemic, she discovered a village-based solution that could prove more effective than any network of government intervention and international aid, an intuitive response that calls into question many of the fundamental assumptions about the AIDS in Africa. Written with conviction, knowledge, and insight, The Invisible Cure will change how we think about the worst health crisis of the past century--and indeed about every issue of global public health. From Booklist Some countries in Africa report that approximately one-third of their adult populations are infected with HIV. Epstein wondered how such a state of affairs came about. Seeking answers, she contracted with a biotechnical company to go to Africa and work toward discovering an AIDS vaccine. What she subsequently learned exploded some preconceived and widely shared notions about AIDS, about how African culture all but ensures its spread, and about what might be a deceptively simple answer to the complex question of how to stem that spread. Her absorbing report reveals governmental inefficiencies and medical bureaucracies and social structures that have done nothing to slow the epidemic's pace and may be accelerating it. Besides the epidemic's social and medical aspects, she discusses the business of AIDS, and she examines the mystery of how the HIV infection rate dropped some 70 percent between 1992 and 1997 in Uganda and the Kagera region of Tanzania; she believes that the invisible cure involved in that plunge provides clues to resolving the issue of AIDS in Africa generally. Chavez, Donna Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Pressestimmen "Her tone is level and undogmatic, but the news that Helen Epstein brings from the African front lines about AIDS is searing. So many lives have been lost, so much time and money wasted in badly-designed public and private campaigns against the disease. What actually works is both simple and subtle. There may be no magic bullet--there may never be a vaccine--but there are success stories, even in very poor countries. This is a landmark study. "--William Finnegan, author of Cold New World: Growing Up in a Harder Country and A Complicated War: The Harrowing of Mozambique