

HIV/AIDS is a relatively new disease; we are only 30 years beyond recognizing it for the first time

Sex education in the US has long been focused on abstinence and has placed little emphasis on accurate teaching of STIs and how to prevent infection

Inaccurate information is easily accessible, making accurate information more difficult to find

HIV/AIDS is socially associated with many stigmatized behaviors

Religious conservatism plays a large role in American social values

Most life-threatening conditions inspire strong reactions

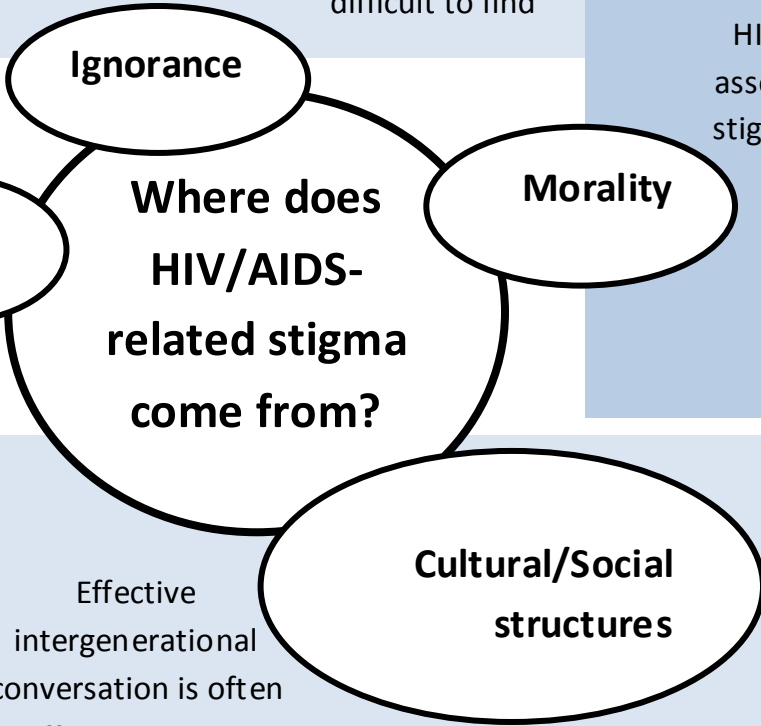
Most individuals are uncomfortable with the idea of death

HIV/AIDS is viewed by many Americans as an "African" issue

HIV/AIDS is associated with punishment, crime, promiscuity, irresponsibility, risk-taking, and "otherness"

Many Americans hold irrational fears or misconceptions regarding HIV/AIDS

Americans struggle to discuss sex outside of pop culture and entertainment



Effective intergenerational conversation is often difficult and rare, especially where values may be concerned

Young people are given little voice in community governances; education, economic, and social policies are dominated by adult and elderly perspectives

What kind of HIV/AIDS-related stigmas might be present in your life?  
What stigmas do you hold regarding HIV or AIDS?  
**Where have these come from?**