

Rear View: May 2022

Monthly spotlight on an item from the HIV/AIDS Graphic Communication Archive

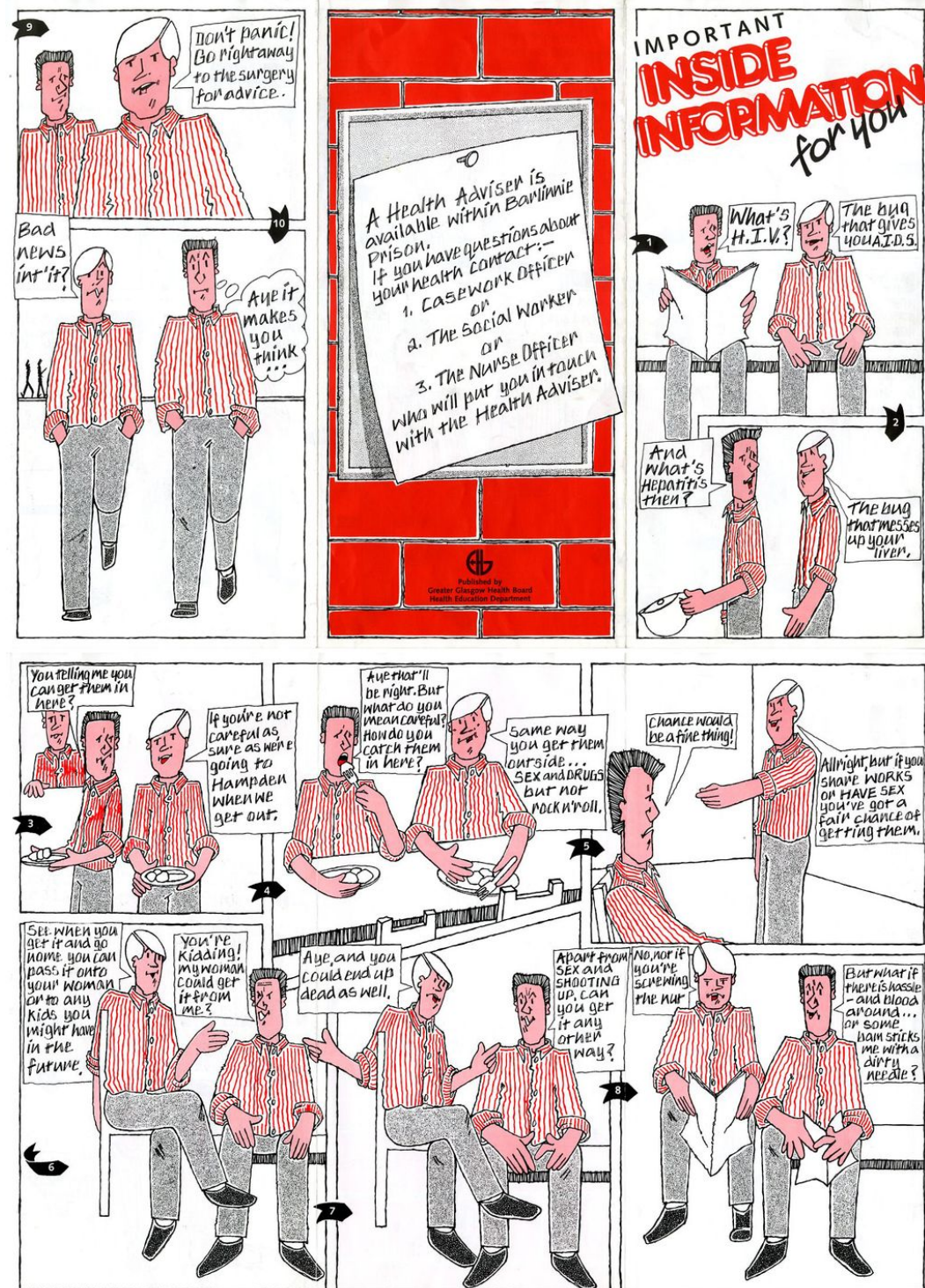
17. Important Inside Information For You, Greater Glasgow Health Board, Health Education Department. Leaflet, developed with prisoners: circa 1990.

Chosen by Paul Sammut:

"During my research for an exhibition on the representation of HIV and AIDS in Comics I approached Siân who kindly gathered examples of comics in her archive of graphic ephemera. I was instantly drawn to the pamphlet *Important Inside Information for You* due to its bold and graphic illustrations. The exhibition, titled *Comic Velocity*, was a way for me to demonstrate the multitudes of what the medium of Comics can do by finding examples of how they have been employed by artists, activists, and organisers to explore, create, and shape conversations about HIV and AIDS.

Important Inside Information for You was published by Greater Glasgow Health Board Health Education Department, it uses only two colours; red and black, and all but one sixth of the large format (A3), double-sided flyer is given to a comic strip, presenting a conversation between two prisoners during their time in a canteen. It contrasts with other items in Siân's collection which, venturing to provide as much information as possible, are word heavy and less accessible. For example, the pamphlet *AIDS Inside and Out*, published by the Scottish Prison Service, is a smaller, text-based pamphlet with no real strategy for engaging prisoners where they are. Prominence is given to the Scottish Prison Service logo and only two images, the inside of a prison and two people talking in an unrelated location.

In an effort to counter any literacy barriers and encourage interpersonal conversation the language of *Important Inside Information for You* is informal and uncomplicated. It's specific to the context of Barlinnie Prison (the largest prison in Scotland), using dialect and slang as part of the prisoner's discussion. The economical and approachable design of *Important Inside Information for You* attempts to engage its audience exactly where they are, to spark conversation and embolden prisoners to find out more for themselves."



AIDS, Inside and Out

Scottish Prison Service. Leaflet: October 1989. Design: Graphics Group, Scottish Office.

Sex (and/or) casual sex

It is very important to know how to protect yourself from becoming infected with HIV. If you are not sexually active, you probably won't become infected. If you are sexually active, you should use a condom every time you have sex. It is important to use a condom every time you have sex. It is important to use a condom every time you have sex. It is important to use a condom every time you have sex.

Don't share sex toys

Sanitary protection

Sanitary towels and tampons should be disposed of responsibly for the general public.

What if I think I have been at risk?

What if you think you have been at risk of becoming infected with HIV? If you think you have been at risk of becoming infected with HIV, you should see a doctor. If you think you have been at risk of becoming infected with HIV, you should see a doctor.

Having the test is your decision

What about someone who is known to be infected with HIV or has AIDS in prison?

The best way to protect yourself from becoming infected with HIV is to use a condom every time you have sex. If you think you have been at risk of becoming infected with HIV, you should see a doctor.

SPS

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Is it fair to add to the burden of being HIV infected?

It is not fair to add to the burden of being HIV infected. It is not fair to add to the burden of being HIV infected. It is not fair to add to the burden of being HIV infected. It is not fair to add to the burden of being HIV infected.

In general

AIDS AND HIV OUTSIDE

What should I do?

Protect yourself and others

AIDS AND HIV OUTSIDE

What should I do?

Protect yourself and others

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What if I have run risks whilst in prison?

FINALLY TO SUM UP

The prison environment is at more dangerous than outside

Don't have risky sex

Don't get into fights

Don't have intimate contact or sex in prison

Do be compassionate to those identified as infected

Prisoners who commit homosexual acts may be breaking the criminal law.

8

SPS

It's not WHERE you are, but WHAT you do that matters.

The choice is yours!

SOME USEFUL ADDRESSES

Prisoners who commit homosexual acts may be breaking the criminal law.

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AIDS INSIDE AND OUT

We give you the facts - You make the decisions.

The Facts

What is AIDS?

How can you catch AIDS?

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

How can you catch AIDS?

1

What is unsafe?

What about casual contact?

What about accidental contacts with blood?

What about being spat on, kissing lips, or sharing a drink?

What about extra issues for women?

Pregnancy

Women with HIV should get advice on pregnancy

2

MOTHER TO BABY is discussed under 'extra issues for women'

The choice is yours!

Safer Drug Use

Safer Sex

"Safer Drug Use" and "Safer Sex" Protect

What about casual contact?

What about accidental contacts with blood?

What about being spat on, kissing lips, or sharing a drink?

What about extra issues for women?

Pregnancy

Women with HIV should get advice on pregnancy

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AIDS AND HIV INSIDE

But what about being in prison?

The choice is yours!

How about fights?

What about accidental contacts with blood?

What about being spat on, kissing lips, or sharing a drink?

What about extra issues for women?

Pregnancy

Women with HIV should get advice on pregnancy

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SPS

AIDS INSIDE AND OUT

Information for Prisoners

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May Guest Curator

Paul Sammut is an artist based in London.

<https://paulsammut.co.uk/>

<https://visualaids.org/events/detail/comic-velocity>