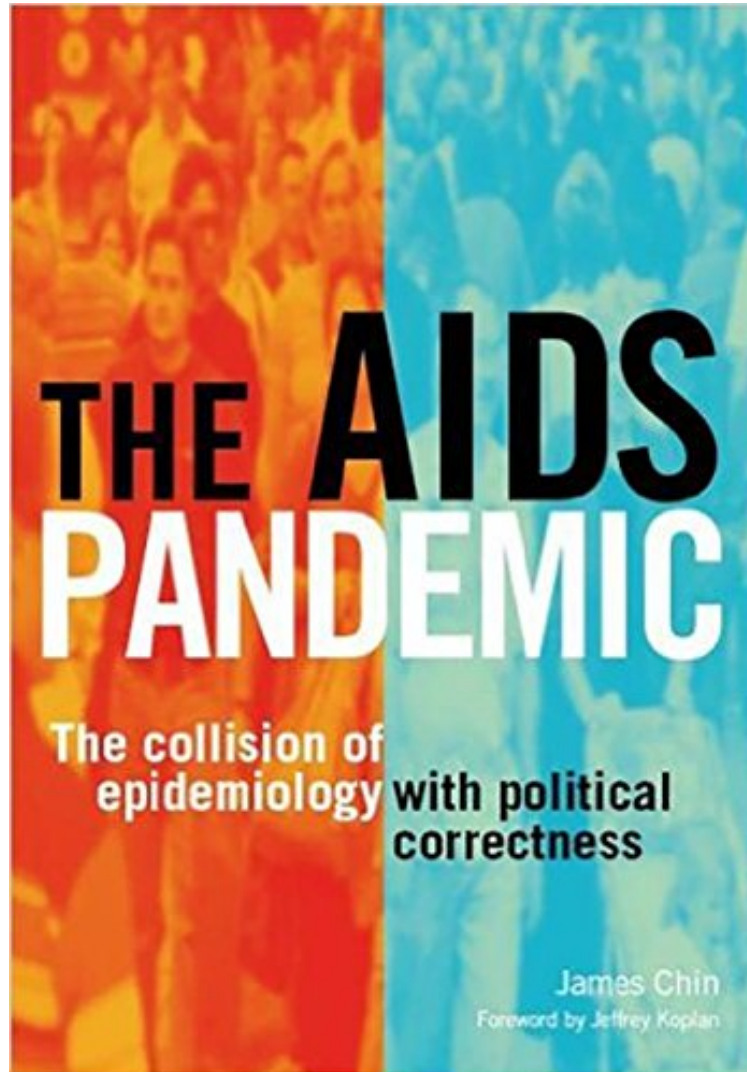


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The AIDS Pandemic: The Collision of Epidemiology with Political Correctness

James Chin

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James Chin : The AIDS Pandemic: The Collision of Epidemiology with Political Correctness before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The AIDS Pandemic: The Collision of Epidemiology with Political Correctness:

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent. Excellent. ExcellentBy ErnieThis book needs to be required reading for anyone interested in the AIDS pandemic. I first heard of Dr. James Chin when I found his extended interview for the documentary House of Numbers (which can be found on youtube) during the spring of

2013. As a side note, this was for research done during a course on AIDS offered thru Duke on Coursera.org. I was simply dumbfounded by the incorrect views on the spread of HIV expressed by the vast majority of students on the associated discussion blogs. In essence, there were two groups: HIV/AIDS denialists and the "we are all at risk for this disease as it is only a matter of time until the world all resembles the situation in Sub-Saharan Africa" group. Both groups are wrong. Dr. Chin writes clearly and forthrightly regarding the facts about the spread of HIV/AIDS. His view is medically sound and supported by the medical literature. He is not an HIV/AIDS denialist but his view is "unorthodox" (to use his term) only in that he speaks the truth regarding the fact that the disease is one spread primarily thru sexual intercourse and certain high-risk behaviors promote its spread in specific groups while limiting its spread in others (note the word "limiting" - not to be confused with the word "impossible"). This fact cannot be accepted by "AIDS, Inc." and other powerful groups due to political correctness. It is a shame that physicians of Dr. Chin's caliber are not at the public fore-front on this disease, since neither denialism or the "anyone is at equal risk" mentality does any good to stop the disease spread. However, it is clear from his writing that global/international pressures guide the reporting of the numbers and that is a shame. It adds fuel to the AIDS/HIV denialists and retards effective public policy. I was equally dismayed to see that although the book has been out for some time, there hasn't been a prior review. Once again, proving the point that the loudest voices in the HIV/AIDS global stage overshadow the careful and reasoned study of this disease. Dr. Chin's writing style is excellent and his arguments are put forth in a way that most anyone can understand. I wish all medical authors were so clear in their writing. In summary, this is a great book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Customer The book met my expectations.

This work includes a foreword by Jeffrey Koplan, Vice President, Academic Health Affairs, Emory University, Atlanta, Formerly Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This groundbreaking new book blows apart the myths about who is at risk of getting AIDS and shows how these myths are driven by moral and political pressures. It provides an objective, logical, clear, epidemiologically based analysis on the current situation and situates itself firmly at marked variance with the politically correct position of UNAIDS and most AIDS activists. "The AIDS Pandemic" argues that the story of HIV has been distorted by UNAIDS and AIDS activists in order to support the myth of the high potential risk of HIV epidemics spreading into the general population. In the past, most policy makers and members of the public have uncritically accepted UNAIDS' high prevalence estimates and projections when in fact lower HIV prevalence estimates are more accurate. Time, money and resources are being wasted worldwide. This book is full of fresh analysis for all people working in any capacity in HIV/AIDS programmes. It will be invaluable to undergraduate and postgraduate healthcare students, health and social care professionals and the international media. Policy makers and shapers will find the pioneering information crucial to the future of the AIDS strategy. 'For close to a half century, my work as a public health epidemiologist has involved field research, program management, and teaching, mostly on public health surveillance and prevention and control of communicable diseases. [Since 1981] I have been involved virtually full time with the international response to the AIDS pandemic which is without question one of the most severe infectious disease pandemics in modern times. During my public health career that began in the early 1960s, I have always been considered a part of conventional or mainstream medical science. However, since the mid-1990s, I have found myself swimming upstream against mainstream AIDS organisations. I have, during this period, gradually come to the realisation that AIDS programs developed by international agencies and faith based organizations have been and continue to be more socially, politically, and moralistically correct than epidemiologically accurate.' - James Chin, in the Preface. 'Controversy and differing opinions have been hallmarks of the AIDS epidemic since its onset. The scope of the problem, how to identify high risk groups without increasing the burden of stigma, the safety of blood products, the best balance between prevention and treatment, have all been hot issues sometimes dividing the public health community. The passion and conflicts about how to consider and address the AIDS pandemic reflect the huge impact this disease has had globally and its interplay with macro economic, legal, social, political, national security and ethical domains. Vital, provocative, thoughtful, direct, passionate, rational and willing to challenge conventional wisdom. "The AIDS Pandemic" is filled with information, rational arguments and opinions, often intermingled. It is a rare book on epidemiology that puts so much of the author's personality and viewpoints, along with his knowledge and experience, before the reader. The result is a thought-provoking, likely-to-be-controversial, contribution to the AIDS literature that should engage and stimulate the reader.' - Jeffrey Koplan, in the Foreword.

About the Author Clinical Professor of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, Formerly, Chief of the Surveillance, Forecasting, and Impact Assessment (SFI) unit of the Global Programme on AIDS (GPA), of the World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland