



Atlantic Centre of Excellence
for Women's Health

Canadian Association for Studies in International Development (CASID)
&
Atlantic Centre for Excellence in Women's Health, Dalhousie University

in conjunction with Saint Mary's University International Development Graduate
Student Society

present

***“Gender Inequality and HIV/AIDS:
Lessons for International Development in the New Millennium”***

March 7, 2005

Halifax, NS

Public Archives Bldg., Akins Room

9:00- 4:30pm



The Canadian Association for Studies in International Development (CASID), the Atlantic Centre for Excellence in Women's Health and the Saint Mary's University International Development Graduate Student Society present a one day conference entitled ***“Gender Inequality and HIV/AIDS: Lessons for International Development in the New Millennium”*** on March 7th, 2005.

HIV/AIDS is being recognized as the greatest threat to development throughout the globe. Women and girls are disproportionately affected through their lower social and economic status, which when combined with the social and cultural construct of “gender”- the shared expectations and norms within a society about appropriate male and female behaviour, characteristics and roles - creates a situation where women and girls are extremely vulnerable to HIV infection. In southern Africa, girls are five times more likely than boys to be living with HIV. In Canada, nearly 25% of new infections occur in women, up from just 12% a few years ago. Clearly, HIV/AIDS is a gender-based epidemic.

The day will focus exclusively on Gender and HIV/AIDS – a rapidly developing programme area at the Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health, and a critical area of research and development practice for all of those interested in the social aspects of HIV/AIDS. The conference will include faculty, researchers, development practitioners, community members and both graduate and undergraduate students. It will take place at the Public Archives building, 6016 University Ave, Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The conference will be opened with a high-level keynote speaker, and will be comprised of panel discussions on critical issues arising out of the field of gender and HIV/AIDS, such as:

- the links between gender inequality and vulnerability,
- gender and HIV/AIDS in development
- experience from the frontlines
- building capacity for gender and HIV/AIDS

Participation can be in the form of sharing research experience, personal experience, study or general interest with the overall goal of bringing together a critical mass of experience and interest in the topic. Lunch and snacks will be provided. There is no fee to register. Regional travel assistance can be requested.

If you would like to be involved, either as a presenter or a participant, please contact Erika Burger by **February 9th** at: Erika.Burger@dal.ca

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This one day conference is part of a broader CASID Regional Event, themed “International Development for the New Millennium”, which takes place March 5-7th. The first two days of the Regional Event, held at Saint Mary’s, is a student-based conference on “Conceptualizing International Development for the New Millennium” and involves a broad range of critical issues in the field of IDS. This is being organized and hosted by the IDS Graduate Student Society at Saint Mary’s University. For more information on the student IDS conference, please contact idsgradsociety@hotmail.com