



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

Statement From Senator Malcolm A. Smith On World Aids Day

MALCOLM A. SMITH November 30, 2006



It is important on World AIDS Day to think not just about all those who have had their lives cut short by this disease, but also to consider the devastation AIDS has wrought all across the world.

AIDS has killed more than 25 million people since the first case was reported in 1981, making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history.

If we don't take action, another 117-million people will die due to AIDS in the next 25 years.

Despite these frightening numbers, only one in 10 infected children who needs treatment is actually receiving it, and two young people become infected with HIV every hour in the U.S.

Too few of our young people know how to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. We have got to keep our promise to provide all the resources necessary to educate children in order to keep them safe. Education can defeat AIDS.