

STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE, AS A PROBLEM OF THE MODERN SOCIETY

Piddubna A. I – *Sumy State University,*
postgraduate student

Marchenko D. O. – *E.L. Adviser*

HIV infection/AIDS is a global problem of mankind. It's important to talk about the impact of AIDS not only in shaping the worldview individual and humanity as a whole.

There are a number of issues requiring philosophical basis, such as medical confidentiality, HIV testing in the context of the principle of respect for the autonomy of the individual patient's right to die with dignity. But among the variety of moral and ethical issues related to AIDS, the central place belongs to stigma and discrimination.

Stigma is treated as a characteristic of a person that significantly discredits it in the eyes of others, a strong social media stereotype of undesirable qualities. Stigma leads inevitably to discrimination, which is its practical implementation. The causes of these phenomena are varied: a lack of understanding of the disease, the natural man's fear of an incurable disease, myths about HIV transmission.

Stigma and discrimination affect the capacity of society to take affirmative action in the response to the epidemic. There is an unconscious desire of the people to "forget" about the threat. Despite of the catastrophe, silence prevails in the society, and practical measures are taken slowly due to denial. Indifference and negative attitude to the fate of HIV-infected people is a threat to the further spread of the disease.

Thus, the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS is a global phenomenon, which occurs in all regions of the world. Efforts should be made public to overcome all forms and manifestations of stigma and discrimination, as this fight is one of the components of AIDS itself. An adequate response to a deeper understanding of these issues reinforces the tools to overcome them by the values in the society.

Соціально-гуманітарні аспекти розвитку сучасного суспільства : матеріали IV Всеукраїнської наукової конференції викладачів, аспірантів, співробітників та студентів факультету іноземної філології та соціальних комунікацій, м. Суми, 19-20 квітня 2013 р. / Відп. за вип. В.В. Опанасюк. — Суми : СумДУ, 2013. — Ч.4. — С. 39.