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For immediate release



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Media Release

QAHC LAUNCHES NEW HIV DISCLOSURE CAMPAIGN

QAHC and QPP have jointly developed a Queensland wide campaign, **Safe Sex is Respect** in response to rising HIV infections that addresses HIV disclosure in a sexual context.

The campaign explores 6 commonly held beliefs about HIV disclosure in a sexual context. Some of these beliefs include: 1) Knowing a guys got HIV doesn't faze me. Whether I know or not, I use condoms. 2) I've never had sex with guys who have HIV, I can always tell. 3) I never tell guys I've got HIV until I get to know them. You just don't know what their reaction will be. 4) I only use condoms with other HIV positive guys if they insist.

The campaign aims to get gay men thinking about their own beliefs about HIV disclosure, and whether these match those of their sexual partners. Often they do not.

"While condoms and lube still provide the best protection against HIV transmission some men are seeking out sexual partners of the same HIV status." said Craig Lewis, Campaigns Coordinator for the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities. "If men are making assumptions and not explicitly disclosing their status, then they may be getting this calculation wrong, resulting in HIV transmission."

The campaign website, www.respect.org.au allows visitors to read other people's stories of disclosure and share their own experiences. It also allows visitors to have their say by taking part in polls and receiving instant results.

The campaign consists of posters & postcards in venues & clinics, web banners, advertisements in gay media and the campaign website.

For more information, interviews or quotes please contact Craig Lewis, Qahc Campaigns Coordinator on (07) 3017 1738.

Notes to the editor:

The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) is a community based organisation which promotes the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Queenslanders.

Queensland Positive People (QPP) is a peer-based advocacy organisation which is committed to actively promoting self-determination and empowerment for all people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) throughout Queensland.