

CRYSTAL METH MAKES ME SEXY

MORE TOXIC THAN HEROIN AS ADDICTIVE AS CRACK.

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tal methamphetamine use of the gay community. We have seen a sharp increase in hepatitis C, syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases among our patients in Chicago."

Given the current political and funding climate in Washington, Berger says: "It's up to our community leaders and business owners to step up to the plate to warn, educate and support efforts to deter further club drug use [and] unsafe sex and promote STD testing. Individuals who themselves may be involved should take ownership and responsibility to get help and therapy, and stop the downward spiral that our community is facing."

—Bob Roehr

NEW ANTI-METH ADS CAUSE A STIR

The Crystal Meth Working Group launched three new ads June 17 on phone kiosks and bus shelters in New

HOW TO MAKE CRYSTAL METH

PAINT STRIPPER

1 PART 5 BINS MEDICATION
2 PARTS DRAIN CLEANER
3 PARTS ANY FREEZE
4 PARTS PAINT STRIPPER

the International AIDS Conference in Bangkok that there may be some protection against reinfection with similar strains of virus but that there is a different set of clinical implications with a very different strain or, with this example, a completely different clade of HIV.

Daniel S. Berger, medical director of Northstar Healthcare in Chicago, "has long suspected that serial reinfection with other HIV strains are not new, but common. Unfortunately, testing for HIV subtypes is not part of monitoring or testing in medical clinics, so we have not been able to prove that."

He called the report "another manifestation of the growing upsurge in...unsafe sex, circuit parties, crys-

CRYSTAL METH IS NOT AN ANSWER

YOU MUST KNOW THAT BY NOW. I KNOW MANY PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR ANSWERS. PERHAPS THAT IS WHY MANY OF YOU ARE READING THIS. YOU WANT ANSWERS? WE'RE LIVING IN PIGSHIT. IT'S UP TO EACH ONE OF US TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET OUT OF IT. YOU WANT TO KILL YOURSELF? GO KILL YOURSELF. I'M SORRY, IT TAKES HARD WORK TO BEHAVE LIKE AN ADULT. IT TAKES DISCIPLINE. YOU WANT IT TO BE SIMPLE, AND IT RARELY IS, BUT THIS TIME IT IS ... GROW UP. HERE'S THE ANSWER: BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY. FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS. IT TAKES COURAGE TO LIVE. ARE YOU LIVING? DO YOU THINK CRYSTAL MAKES YOU ALIVE? METH IS AS ADDICTIVE AS CRACK, AND MORE TOXIC THAN HEROIN. I DON'T WANT TO HEAR EACH WEEK HOW MANY OF YOU ARE GETTING HOOKED ON METH. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES. ALREADY HOOKED? GET HELP! LOVE EACH OTHER. THESE ARE THE ANSWERS. WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO ALLOW OURSELVES TO LIVE LIKE THIS!

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York City. Its primary funding source for these ads was the city's Department of Health.

These ads were created in collaboration with a focus group that resembled the target audience—gay men who haven't tried meth before or have tried it only occasionally. The designs started in February and were shown to the focus group every week. Its input was used to scrap some ideas and to change others.

"If any of these ads speak to some but piss off others, we've done our job. Just as long as the ads aren't boring and ignored. I've heard from four friends that work out at the David Barton Gym on 23rd Street in Chelsea that the 'Crystal Makes Me Sexy' ad is causing lots of discussion on the gym floor," noted Peter Staley, a member of the working group. "Again, it's those discussions that matter, NOT the ads themselves."

—SD



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