

Call South Africa Today

Just 10¢ a minute to South Africa No PIN Dialing and No Expiration!
www.PennyTalk.com

Illinois Budget Crisis

Deficit will harm IL families. Education and healthcare at risk.
www.campaignforillinoisfuture.org

HIV Treatment Basics

Learn how a once-a-day pill works inside your body to help fight HIV
www.JustOnceADay.com



Ads by Google



THURSDAY, JUNE 09, 2005

AIDS In Africa: Bush Ain't Helping

by Michael in New York on [6/09/2005 10:00:00 AM](#)

David Brooks has a **rather tortured column on AIDS in Africa**. He tries to paint Bush's inactions in the best possible light while still arguing that much, much more needs to be done. Even the headline (which he probably didn't write) is wrong: "In Africa, Life After AIDS," it reads, when any responsible observer knows that the worst is still ahead of us. Africa won't have life after AIDS until decades from now and only then if we take action today.

All he concedes is that, "Obviously, there is still a long way ago." Then Brooks makes a comparison that even he admits is perverse: he compares the underfunded hospitals to Silicon Valley in the early '90s.

They're facing the problems start-ups face: how to offer treatment to hundreds when you have only one sink and one phone, how to use the survivors who suddenly have the rest of their lives to lead.

That IS perverse, David. A Silicon Valley start-up is a luxury enjoyed by people with the freedom and wealth to roll the dice on a new company that could make them millionaires. Hospitals in Africa starved for resources are a sign of dire necessity and the moral failing of the world community. People are dying and no one cares.

Brooks also describes money "rolling in" from the US, which is also a lie. Here's the truth: Bush made a big splash by promising to spend an extra \$15 billion fighting AIDS in Africa and his words have proven hollow.

1. Bush hasn't come close to spending the amount he promised.
2. Bush has politicized the funding, placing religious purity ahead of medicine and saving lives.
3. Bush has defunded effective international groups like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Why? Because they don't meet his standards of religious purity.
4. Bush has forced Uganda to switch from an effective prevention program that cut HIV infection in the population from 15% to 6%. What new program does he dangle money in front of the government to force them to use? An unproven abstinence only program that every responsible health expert says will result in more illness and death.

Rolling Stone has a **decent article detailing the roadblocks Bush has placed in front of those trying to help Africa**. It proves Brooks is willfully lying or woefully ignorant when he tries to credit Bush with helping to fight AIDS on that troubled continent.

It's pretty simple. Bush pretends he wants to fight AIDS but won't buy condoms. That's like saying you want to fight hunger but won't buy any food.



JOHN'S PHOTOS



HOT OFF THE WIRE

- Daily Kos**
Open Thread and Diary Rescue - *Today, srkp23 (pulling a double shift), ybruti, taylormattd, ItsJessMe and vcmvo2 combed through hundreds of diaries to find this powerful list. Today's...
5 minutes ago
- Eschaton**
Overnight - Folk On. Newish.
22 minutes ago
- HuffPost Politics**
Michael Likosky: Ed Rendell: Hardest Working Man in Infrastructure - At this year's National Governors Association (NGA) meeting, Governor Ed Rendell's tenure as Chair fittingly came to a close with a plenary session on infras...
24 minutes ago
- Crooks and Liars**
Open Thread - Open Thread below...
51 minutes ago
- Firedoglake**
Late Night: Livin' the Dolce Vita with The Lovernator - Who's got time to govern? Certainly not Mark Sanford.
1 hour ago

Show All

AMERICABLOG TV

Next 6

Despite insurance premiums doubling over the past decade, Republicans want to see health care reform fail. For the GOPers, health care is politics. They just



I collect with vodpod

see all 322 videos >

Visit our AMERICAblog TV site.

GAY POLITICS



Visit our new gay politics section, [AMERICAblog Gay](#).

FEEDS



Blog RSS



1,423 readers



AMERICAblog TV RSS



Twitter RSS

Twitter Feed



Mobile Version



Google

Get the blog by email:

Top Ad

[Advertise in this spot.](#)

HEALTH CARE REFORM

The Treatment

Obama Has a Grown-Up Talk With America (Gulp)
34 minutes ago

Ezra Klein

Tab Dump
4 hours ago

Wonk Room

Sen. Byron Dorgan: The 'Trade' In Cap-And-Trade 'Makes No Sense To Me'

SEARCH

AMERICAblog
 Web

Search

SEND US TIPS & COMMENTS

americablog@starpower.net

BLOG ARCHIVE

Blog Archive

SITES WE LIKE

- [Air America Radio](#)
- [Alan Colmes' blog](#)
- [Ari Melber \(The Nation\)](#)
- [Ben Smith](#)
- [BicycleMark's blog & podcast](#)
- [Bilerico](#)
- [BradBlog](#)
- [Bring It On](#)
- [Carrie Fisher](#)
- [Crooks and Liars](#)
- [DailyKos](#)
- [Dan Savage's "Slog"](#)
- [Daou Report](#)
- [Democratic Underground](#)
- [Eschaton](#)
- [Ezra Klein](#)
- [Fire Dog Lake](#)
- [FiveThirtyEight.com](#)
- [Freeway Blogger](#)
- [The Gavel \(Speaker Pelosi's blog\)](#)
- [Good As You](#)
- [Glenn Greenwald](#)
- [Holy Bullies and Headless Monsters](#)
- [Huffington Post](#)
- [Hullabaloo \(Digby\)](#)
- [Jack and Jill Politics](#)
- [Jed Report](#)
- [Jesus' General](#)
- [Kenneth in the 212](#)
- [Margaret and Helen](#)
- [Matthew Gross](#)
- [Media Matters](#)
- [Mike Signorile's "The Gist"](#)
- [Mudflats](#)
- [MyDD](#)
- [Open Left](#)
- [Plum Line](#)
- [Political Punch \(Jake Tapper\)](#)
- [Political Wire](#)
- [Politics 1](#)
- [Pop Surfing](#)
- [Progressive Blog Digest](#)
- [Queers United](#)
- [RawStory](#)
- [Rex Wockner](#)
- [Rude Pundit](#)
- [Smirking Chimp](#)
- [Talk Left](#)
- [Tapped](#)
- [Taylor Marsh](#)
- [Think Progress](#)
- [TowleRoad](#)
- [VetVoice.com](#)
- [Washington Note](#)
- [WayneBesen.com](#)
- [Wonkette](#)
- [Worth Repeating](#)



NEWS LINKS

- [US](#)
- [Washington Post](#)

PLEASE SUPPORT AMERICABLOG

One-time donation

\$

Donate

Recurring monthly donation

\$

Donate

Donations are not tax-deductible.

LABELS

Select a label

LAST 100 VISITORS

Recent Visitors

[Click to Get FEEDJIT](#)

ABOUT AMERICABLOG

Why AMERICAblog?

Because a great nation deserves the truth.

What issues do you cover?

US politics overall with a particular focus on the Obama Administration, the radical right, and civil rights.

Who are you?

John Aravosis
Editor
Washington, DC

Joe Sudbay
Deputy Editor
Washington, DC

Chris Ryan
Associate Editor
Paris, France

Robert Arena
Contributing Editor
Baltimore, Maryland

Jacki Schechner
Contributing Editor
Washington, DC

