

The AIDS debate is on in Spain

by Leonardo Servadio

On Jan. 21 in Madrid, before a highly qualified audience, Elisabeth Hellenbroich of the Schiller Institute and Jonathan Tennenbaum of the Fusion Energy Foundation outlined the only possible solution to the AIDS crisis. The conference, titled "War on AIDS, the Plague of the 20th Century," opened with a speech by Mrs. Hellenbroich, who stressed the importance of implementing in Europe the measures advanced in the recent California ballot initiative, Proposition 64: mass screening of the population and appropriate isolation measures to prevent the rapid expansion of the disease. "If this is not implemented now," she warned, "Spain will soon be in the same condition as Uganda, where the victims of AIDS are so many and the people are so terrorized, that the corpses of the victims are thrown into the banana and cane plantations in the outskirts of the towns."

Dr. Tennenbaum presented a computer analysis, indicating the dramatic increase in AIDS cases within the so-called risk groups, and the expansion from the risk groups to the normal population.

The 40 participants in the conference were not only shocked by the magnitude of the problem, but were eager to discuss methods to deal with it. The audience included physicians from all the Madrid hospitals, researchers from biological and virological research centers, specialists from several ministries, and journalists from two of the three national radio channels.

A shock wave hit Spain in the first days of November, when the national press, in particular the Club of Rome-linked daily *El País*, started a drumbeat of slander articles against Lyndon LaRouche and "Proposition 64," similar to those put out by the "gay lobby" and Hollywood mafia in California. As a result, everybody started discussing AIDS. The papers were forced to hint at the magnitude of the problem. Figures known to the "experts" but withheld from public knowledge, began to surface: that in Spain already last year an estimated 70% of heroin addicts, 70% of homosexuals, and 70% of hemophiliacs were infected. Considering that the official estimates at the beginning of 1986 indicated at least 100,000 heroin addicts and some 10,000 hemophiliacs, these two groups alone would account for 77,000 AIDS-infected persons. The number of homosexuals is not known, but, given the campaigns in favor of homosexuality and free sex waged by *El País* in the past several years, it would be hard to believe the figure is below 200,000-300,000; this would

imply a total of 250,000 to 300,000 AIDS carriers just in the high-risk groups, based on year-old estimates.

Recently the press revealed that over 40% of people in jail are infected with AIDS.

As panic began to spread, in Madrid a "City Committee against AIDS" was hastily created, which published advertisements advising people to avoid swallowing sperm, to use condoms, and so on, with a long list of "how to make perversion safe" methods. But if the public debate is disgusting, what is going on behind the scenes is much, much worse. While the government is not saying anything or taking any measures, the country's policy-makers are preparing their solution. In a country dominated in a feudal way by the banking-Trilateral Commission structure, the solution to how to deal with AIDS and save money is simple: euthanasia—the crime for which Nazi war criminals were condemned at Nuremberg.

Nazi methods revived

On Jan. 15 the Spanish Association for the Right to Die with Dignity held a conference in Barcelona, with the participation of several Communist-oriented "intellectuals." The final demand of the meeting was to legalize both active and passive euthanasia—true to the tradition which made Spain for many years the center of the Nazi International, under the Franco dictatorship.

The "star" was Carlos Jiménez Villarejo, a public prosecutor, member of the Democratic Magistracy, a largely Communist group. Villarejo argued that today's euthanasia cannot be compared to the Nazi crimes, since the Nazi crimes should not be called euthanasia, but "collective assassination." He naturally did not explain the difference between "collective assassination" and euthanasia applied to hundreds of thousands of AIDS victims. Villarejo demanded respect for human rights: The person must voluntarily submit to euthanasia, and this must be regulated by law. He also specified that the person to be "killed" must be a victim of an incurable disease, and that those who practice euthanasia must be moved by "pity," not economic interests. With this moral code, euthanasia must be legalized rapidly, he demanded.

All the participants insisted that the difference between euthanasia and helping somebody to commit suicide, or murdering somebody, is that euthanasia must occur only in cases of incurable disease, and be based on the victim's "free will." Naturally, if the victim doesn't accept, he is killed anyway, not in an "active," but in a "passive" mode, i.e., by stopping treatment.

The Trilateral Commission paper *El País* gave a big build-up to these Nazi proposals, and since the Spanish government is fundamentally run by *El País*, there can be no mistake: The Spanish Socialist government has already made up its mind on how to confront the AIDS problem. The public stand taken by the Schiller Institute in Spain is the only opposition to this policy.