



# Enhancing the News

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## **AIDS, the global pandemic**

The increasing prevalence of people living with AIDS may be prompting criticism that Australia's, and indeed the world's, efforts to combat this crippling disease are not enough.

According to an AIDS Epidemic Update paper, a total of 39.5 million people worldwide were living with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in 2006. This is an increase of 2.6 million since 2004. Also, 2.9 million people died from AIDS in 2006.

Awareness and education have been identified as major responses needed to prevent and reduce the transmission of this infectious disease.

Ensure that students are well-informed about the global AIDS crisis and encourage them to make a difference with the help of the following resources. The free feature article, [HIV/AIDS: It's time to educate our youth](#), examines HIV/AIDS and asks why this issue is so under reported in Australia, and how much do our youth really know of this issue? Take a look at our free study guides that accompany films: [Make it Real \(To Me\)](#), follows the journey of Kevin Sumba as he tries to understand the terrible suffering that HIV/AIDS has wrought upon his country, and [A Closer Walk](#), provides a portrayal of humankind's confrontation with the global AIDS epidemic.

For primary students, [Behind the News](#) looks at what HIV is and why medical experts are worried. [The Age of AIDS series](#) presents the 25 year saga of how AIDS was discovered, identified, traced and treated. [Four Corners: Sick No Good](#) reports on how Papua New Guinea became a hot spot for the AIDS virus, and [Why Must I Die?](#) celebrates the life of an AIDS orphan from South Africa as part of World Aids Day. While [Danger Virus](#) takes a detailed look at viruses, [The Origin of AIDS: A Scientific Controversy](#) charts the journey of Edward Hooper as he attempts to find evidence to back up his theory regarding the possible origins of AIDS.

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