ACT UP! FIGHT BACK! FIGHT AIDS!
Women, AIDS, and Activism

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ACT UP/NY
With HIV/AIDS, nothing has ever been given to people with HIV, everything was fought for and won!
AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. We are a diverse nonpartisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis.
We advise and inform. We demonstrate.
WE ARE NOT SILENT
1989

WOMEN DON'T GET AIDS

They just die from it

65% of HIV positive women get sick and die from chronic infections that don't fit the Centers for Disease Control's definition of AIDS. Without that recognition women are denied access to what little healthcare exists. The CDC must expand the definition of AIDS.

Gran Fury

Photos: Michael, Sotory and Blackstar
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Activist
What is Activism?

Activism mobilizes people to act as a united group to increase their power to affect change.

Activism increases our power to raise the social cost of bad policy.
Who Is An Activist?

An activist is one who pleads the cause of another; one who defends some special cause.
Who are the experts in HIV/AIDS?

People with HIV!

The Denver Principles

Recommendations for People with HIV/AIDS:

“Form caucuses to choose their own representatives, to deal with the media, to choose their own agenda, and to plan their own strategies.”

“Be included in all AIDS forums with equal credibility as other participants, to share their own experiences and knowledge.”
Self-empowered HIV activist....

• Do not give away their power
• Do not allow others to silence them
• View themselves as the experts about what they need and what is involved in their life
What can an HIV activist do to fight for or against an issue?

• Letter
• Phone Call
• Organize rides to a meeting
• Take care of their own needs
• Attend community forums
• Meet with elected officials
• Vote!
What is ACT UP working on?

• PEP (Post-exposure prophylaxis)

• PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis)

• Organ transplant for people with HIV

• We want better data!
  -Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
What should ACT UP work on?

- Women’s Issues
  - Health Care Access?
  - Stigma?
  - Less expensive drugs for Hepatitis C?
ACT UP/NY MEETING

Monday
7:00 -9:00 PM
LGBT Center
208 West 13th Street

Subway: 1, 2, 3, A, E
Nothing about us, without us!
One more thing.....

ACT UP! FIGHT BACK! FIGHT AIDS!
Questions?

WOMEN ROCK!