

Student Handout B

Topic: AIDS in Thailand

Guiding Questions

AIDS in Thailand (October 11, 2002)

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week606/cover.html>

This transcript explores how Buddhist monasteries have dealt with the AIDS crisis.

1. Thailand has been very successful in reducing infection with HIV/AIDS. To what do you attribute their success?
2. The commercial sex trade was the main force that caused Thailand's AIDS epidemic. Can you infer how this differs from prostitution in the U.S.?
3. Compare the attitudes of the Thai monks about condom distribution and safe sex education with the attitudes of the African-American clergy profiled in the other RELIGION & ETHICS NEWSWEEKLY segments you have seen.
4. From reading the transcript, would you say that people with AIDS are well-tolerated and accepted in Thailand? Explain.

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