# Say What

April 1, 1999

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**A Real Gem**
“She empathizes so much with pain and suffering that it throws her off course.... Like, she walks out of Rivington House and literally wants to sit by a river and ponder why AIDS exists and maybe write a song about it.”
*—Atlantic Records vice-prez Ron Shapiro on Jewel,* Entertainment Weekly*, January 15*

**Blind Faith**
“[An HIV prevention] campaign is the wrong solution to the problem. The solution is that husbands should remain faithful to their wives, and then there is no AIDS.”
*—Assistant Secretary-General of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines Msgr. Pedro Quitorio,* Los Angeles Times Online*, January 1*

**Cash or Discharge?**
“Senate candidate Robert Medley of Washington state called for homosexuals to be issued ‘Sodomy Club Cards’ and for banning gay sex for noncardholders.... Whenever a cardholder had gay sex, money would be deducted from his account and donated to AIDS research.”
*—“Dubious Achievements of 1998,”* Esquire*, January 1999*

**2 + 2 = 5**
“The more condoms you’re exposed to, the more likely you are to test HIV positive.”
*—Kiedi Obi Awadu at the Harlem AIDS Forum,* The New York Times*, December 22*

**Hide the Zucchinis!**
“I didn’t want those people walking around in our grocery stores, touching our meat and vegetables. AIDS is dangerous to everybody. AIDS people need help and they need a cemetery, too. Gosh, we don’t want that in our well-established community.”
*—Fort Worth resident Essie J. Birdow on why he objects to an apartment building for PWAs,* Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, December 10*

**He Gives Me Heartburn**
“People with AIDS can live with more joy than a supermodel living in a penthouse—it’s how we handle the information that comes to us.”
*—Film director Mike Nichols, A&U, December 1998*

**Oral History**

“I had, in fact, never had unprotected anal intercourse before my infection. In some ways, it would have been more of a relief if I had. I could have beaten myself up for a stupid lapse, and isolated the sense of failure and shame I felt.”
—*Andrew Sullivan,* San Francisco Examiner Magazine*, January 10*

**Enemy of My Enemy**
“What has the world come to when strident AIDS activists find that their calls for accountability from AIDS charities are echoed by the Family Research Council?”
—*AIDS Accountability Project Director Michael Petrelis, after the FRC demanded that Congress audit all federal AIDS dollars,* The Washington Times*, December 9*

**We Eat Feces, Too!**
“AIDS protesters should have the hoses turned on them because they put gerbils up their ass.”
—*Subway gunman-cum-New-York-City-mayor-wannabe Bernhard Goetz, as overheard by HIV positive New York City councilmember Phil Reed,* Midtown Resident*, December 7*

**CLINTON INFECTIONS**
1999 (as of January 31): **4,861**
Since January 1, 1993: **13,414**

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