

Godson Ike

AIDS: Death by Ignorance

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Ms. Arter

Sophomore Year- Communicate Ideas: Select and applies appropriate resources, such as technology and media, to communicate and collaborate with a range of diverse individuals.

During the second half of my sophomore year, for Summit Night, the sophomores were tasked with creating a documentary that addressed any national or global issue that is occurring or has occurred in history. For my documentary, Brady, Michael, Maryanne, and I chose to focus on the AIDS crisis of the 1980s. The AIDS crisis was something that was poorly handled by both citizens and the government, and it was downplayed numerous times by the Reagan Administration, especially by the secretary of state. For the people we had to interview, we decided to talk to Dr. Young, who was in medical school in New Orleans during the 1980s and was able to see how stigmatized the disease was. We also wanted to investigate how AIDS is currently being treated in Nigeria and Thailand because the disease is still a very big issue there today. We talked to a Nigerian doctor and he was able to tell us about what steps the Nigerian government has and hasn't taken to help the fight against AIDS.

This shows that I was able to communicate ideas because AIDS is oftentimes a topic that is laughed about in the modern day or seen as a joke, so to ensure that my project was effective and made an impact, I had to find a way to organize the information and the videos in a way that would really strike at people's hearts and help them understand why this wasn't purely a disease that only affected homosexuals. This also taught me how to work well with others because,

during the entire process, my group argued and fought numerous times, but we were never personally mad at each other because we all understood that we all wanted the documentary to be the best that it could possibly be.

As for evidence of my work, I have inserted a link to the documentary below.

[AIDS: Death by Ignorance](#)