

AIDS is a *fatal, communicable disease*. Even the Bush administration isn't seeking civil rights for Typhoid Mary, but we're supposed to hug AIDS Eddie and invite him into our home, school, and business. Or be jailed.

I'm sick of AIDS, even though that's not a politically popular view right now. Say, is that the siren of the Hate Crimes Squad I hear in the distance?

- L.H.R., Jr.

## The Real Lesson of Ryan White

by the Old Curmudgeon

Everyone is weeping about the death of Ryan White, and pointing to the "great lesson" of his experience. But why is he being singled out for special attention among all those who have died of AIDS? And what exactly is the "lesson" we are to learn?

The general view holds the lesson to be how wonderful it is that Ryan White was able to overcome the prejudice of the community and to force his way into public school. But the point

of school is supposed to be preparation for adult life, and what is the point of his going to school when it was inevitable that his life would be snuffed out long before adulthood.

The real lesson of Ryan White, and his uniqueness, is very different. A hemophiliac, White was given AIDS six years ago by a blood transfusion. The real lesson of the case of Ryan White, in short, is that he was murdered by the medical profession, the profession that prescribed and administered the transfusion, yet this murder has not been highlighted and the perpetrators have neither been identified nor brought to justice.

Sure, the medical profession will claim that these bad old slip-ups have *now* been corrected and the current blood supply is absolutely safe. Don't believe it; that's what guilty bureaucrats *always* say. If anyone needs a blood transfusion, he should make sure to get it from friends

and relatives, from people he trusts ..... personally.

M.N.R.

## Secession!

"Save your Confederate money, boys," goes the old saw, "the South will rise again!" Only it's no joke. A Confederate note is today worth a good deal more

than a Federal Reserve note. In fact, it may not be a joke in any sense, as the principle of secession once again sweeps the globe.

The idea that people of a shared culture and history ought to be able to

have their own country has always seemed reasonable—except to imperial governments.

*Of course*, Lithuania ought to be independent of Moscow, and Latvia and Estonia too. But why stop there? The Ukraine, Byelorussia, Azerbaijan, Armenia—all the captive nations of the U.S.S.R. have the right to be free.

**The blood supply is dangerous.**

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