

CHANNEL 4 NEWS - AIDS REPORT

SAID TO JIM GRAY 28.11.98

*(Lloyd had already brokered an "honourable compromise" - that Jim would use my material in a film he put together which would also include material from sources opposed to the programme's central thesis - that HIV has not been identified. I would then take part in a studio discussion. However in the course of Nov 28th I heard from the producer Chris Boulding, who had been assigned to us, that the film piece was going to be "very short" and that the emphasis was going to be in the studio. The other guest was to be a virologist.)*

I proposed that he should cut down my existing film to whatever reasonable length he saw fit. It should be introduced as my report and be voiced by me.

Then I would be happy to participate in the studio discussion.

If he could not do this, I would not be willing to participate in the studio debate.

Jim said he would take the tape home to view and ring me in the morning. (Sat)

I mentioned all of this to David Lloyd on the telephone on Friday evening.

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NOV 29th

Jim did not call in the morning. at 1.30 pm had to ring ITN and ask for him to be contacted. He called back and said he had seen the tape again, that we had done quite a good job and it could be trimmed here and there in order to improve it, but he was of "the same view" as the night before.

If you wish to continue with the plan to produce a film piece using my material but compiled by you, then I have taken legal advice and am advised that this would be in breach of my moral rights. I am not able to allow my material to be used in this way, therefore wish to withdraw permission for its use.

Gray said "so it's a moral issue now, is it?" He then said he would be taking legal advice but thought that as my commissioning editor he had the right to use the material.

I said if he could not do what I had asked then I would rather nothing went out.