



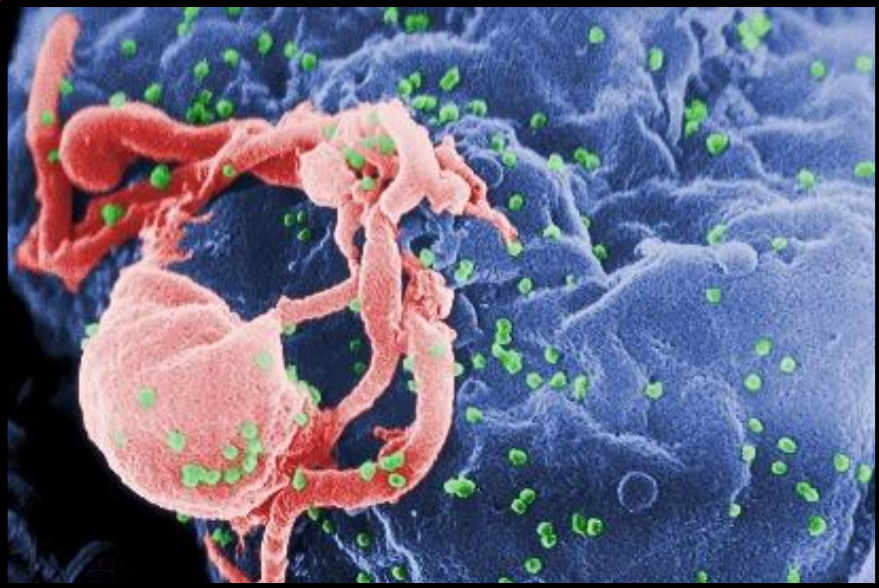
*Combating*

# **Aids & Famine**

*Across Africa*

# AIDS

- Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a disease that is spread through blood and other bodily fluids.
- It attacks and destroys the immune system, leaving the victim unable to fight off infections.
- Today, 34 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, and two-thirds of those people are in sub-Saharan Africa.



## Main symptoms of **AIDS**

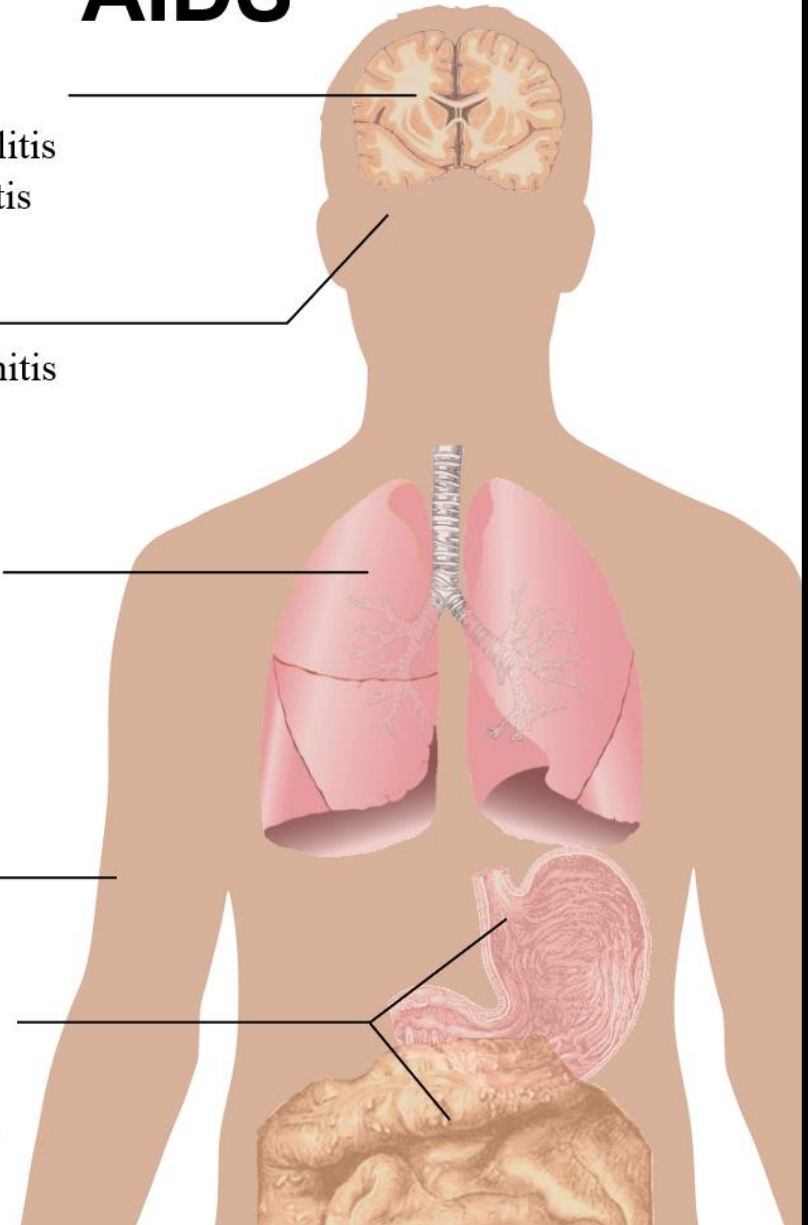
**Central**  
- Encephalitis  
- Meningitis

**Eyes**  
- Retinitis

**Lungs**  
- Pneumocystis  
pneumonia  
- Tuberculosis  
(multiple organs)  
- Tumors

**Skin**  
- Tumors

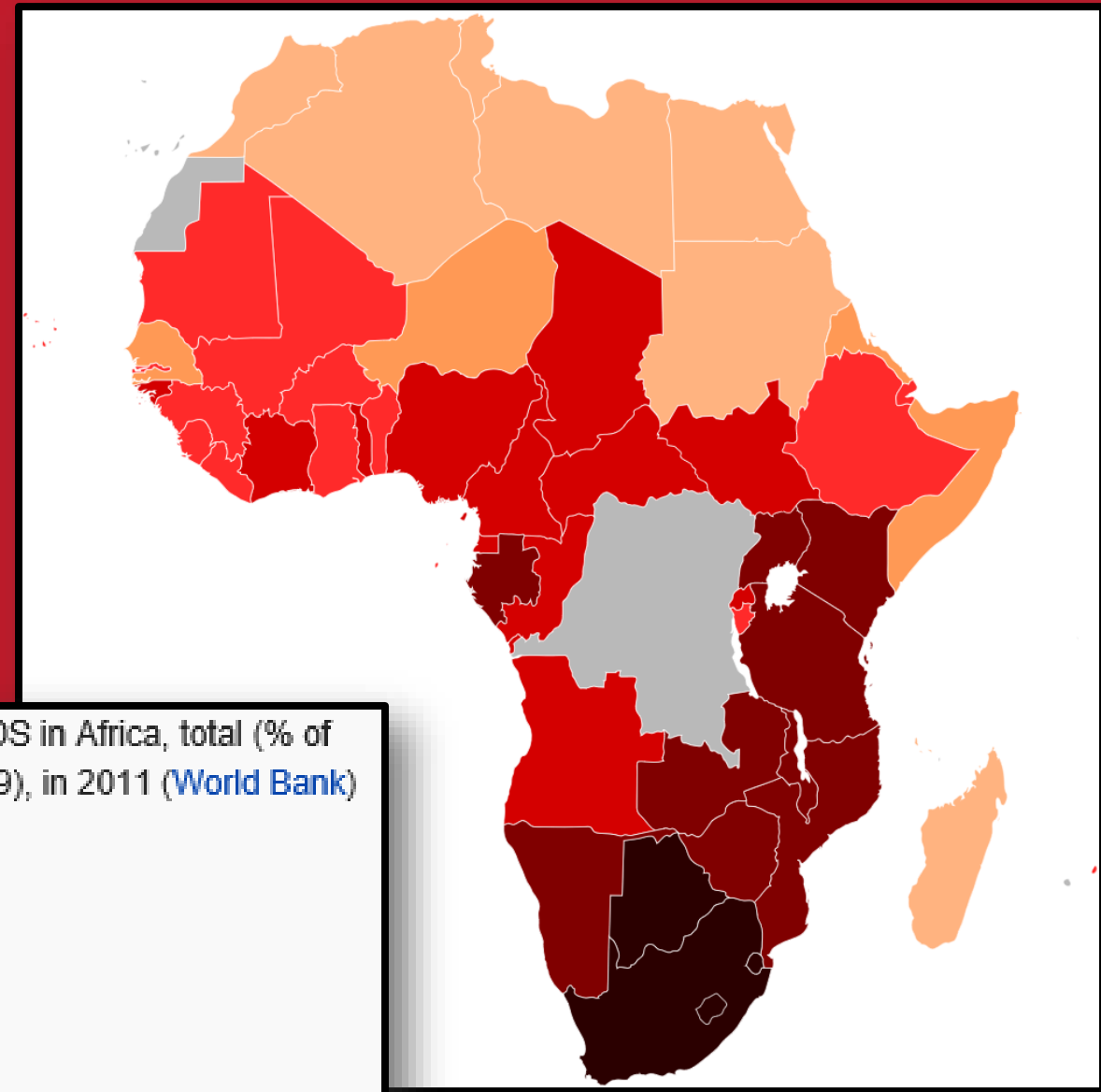
**Gastrointestinal**  
- Esophagitis  
- Chronic diarrhea  
- Tumors










### HIV/AIDS in Africa, 2005

	<i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i>	<i>World</i>
<b>New infections</b>	<b>3,200,000</b>	<b>4,900,000</b>
<b>Child (under 15) infections</b>	<b>630,000</b>	<b>700,000</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>2,400,000</b>	<b>3,100,000</b>
<b>Child deaths</b>	<b>520,000</b>	<b>570,000</b>
<b>People living with HIV/AIDS</b>	<b>25,800,000</b>	<b>40,300,000</b>

Source: Africa Renewal from WHO and UNAIDS data



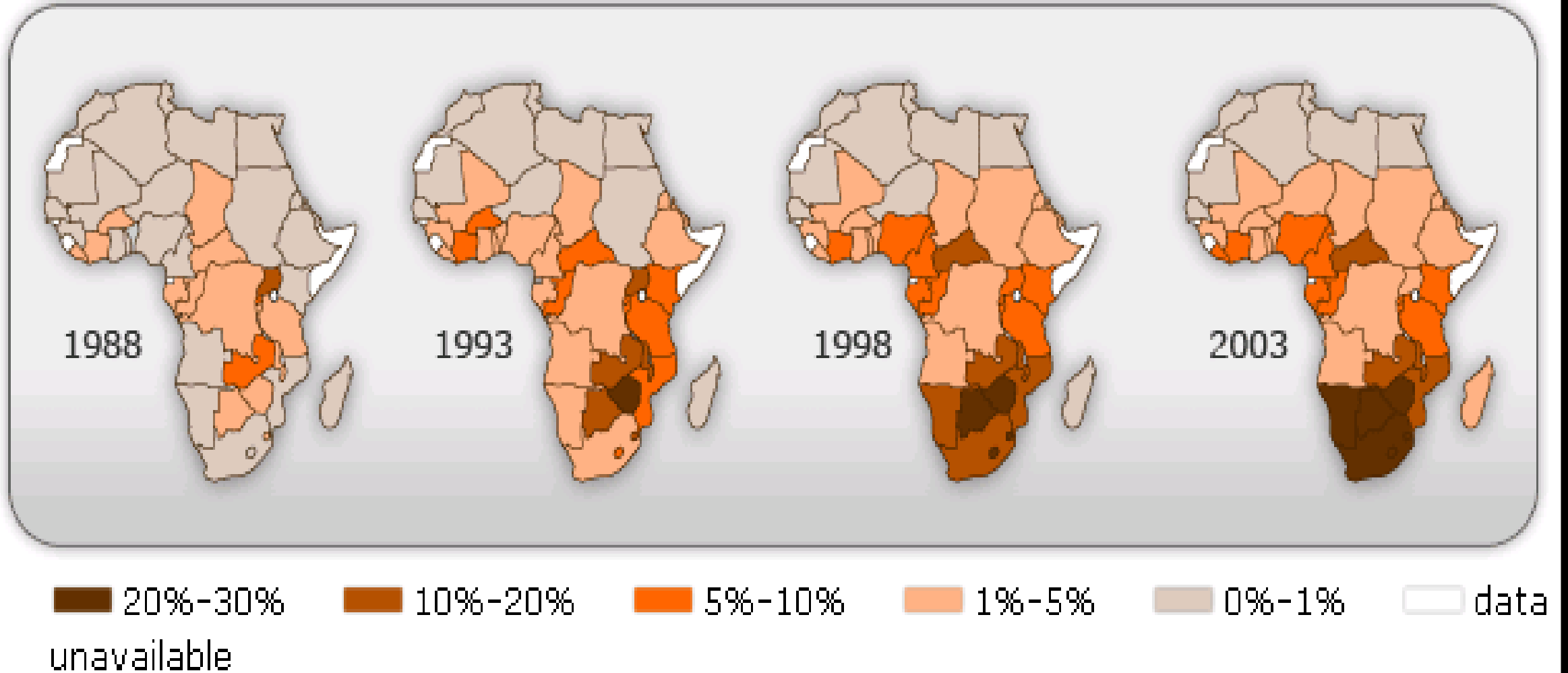
Prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Africa, total (% of population ages 15–49), in 2011 (World Bank)

-  over 15%
-  5-15%
-  2-5%
-  1-2%
-  0.5-1%
-  0.1-0.5%
-  not available

# AIDS in Africa

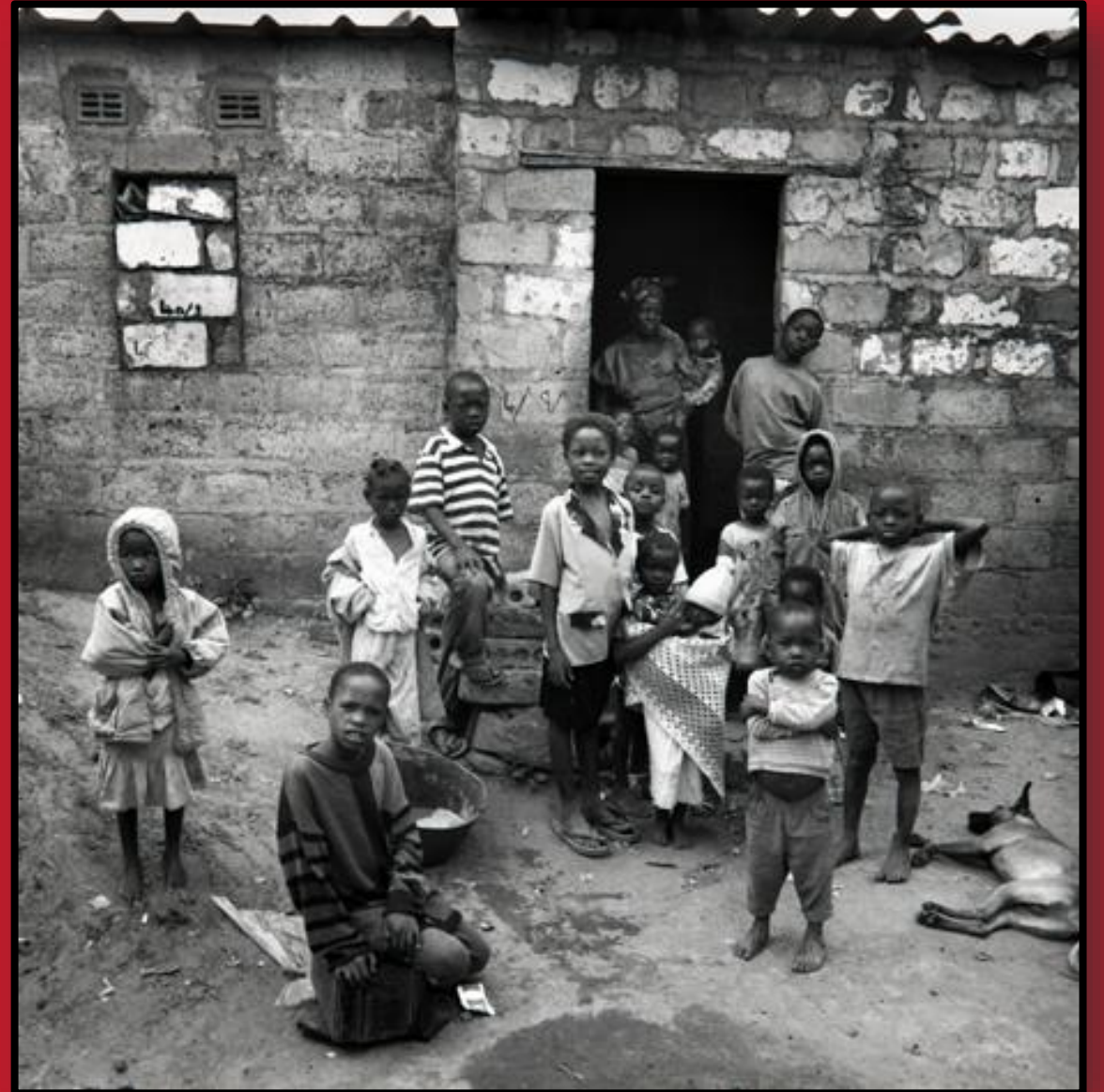
- Sub-Saharan Africa has one of the highest HIV/AIDS infections in the world.
- About 23 million people across the continent have AIDS, and 1.5 million have died.
  - These deaths have created over 11 million orphans.

## Adult HIV prevalence (%) in Africa between 1988 and 2003





AIDS Orphans,  
Swaziland



# No Cure

- Unfortunately AIDS cannot be cured.
- Scientists haven't been able to find a vaccine or prevent the HIV infection.
- There are drugs that can slow down the progress of the disease called antiretroviral drugs (AVTs), but they are expensive and many patients can't afford them.



# Epidemic

- The first case of an HIV infection was detected in the continent of Africa and governments were slow to respond.
- Poor healthcare systems, poverty, and lack of government organization, as well as ignorance about the disease and its causes and prevention, contribute to the number of AIDS cases.

# Epidemic

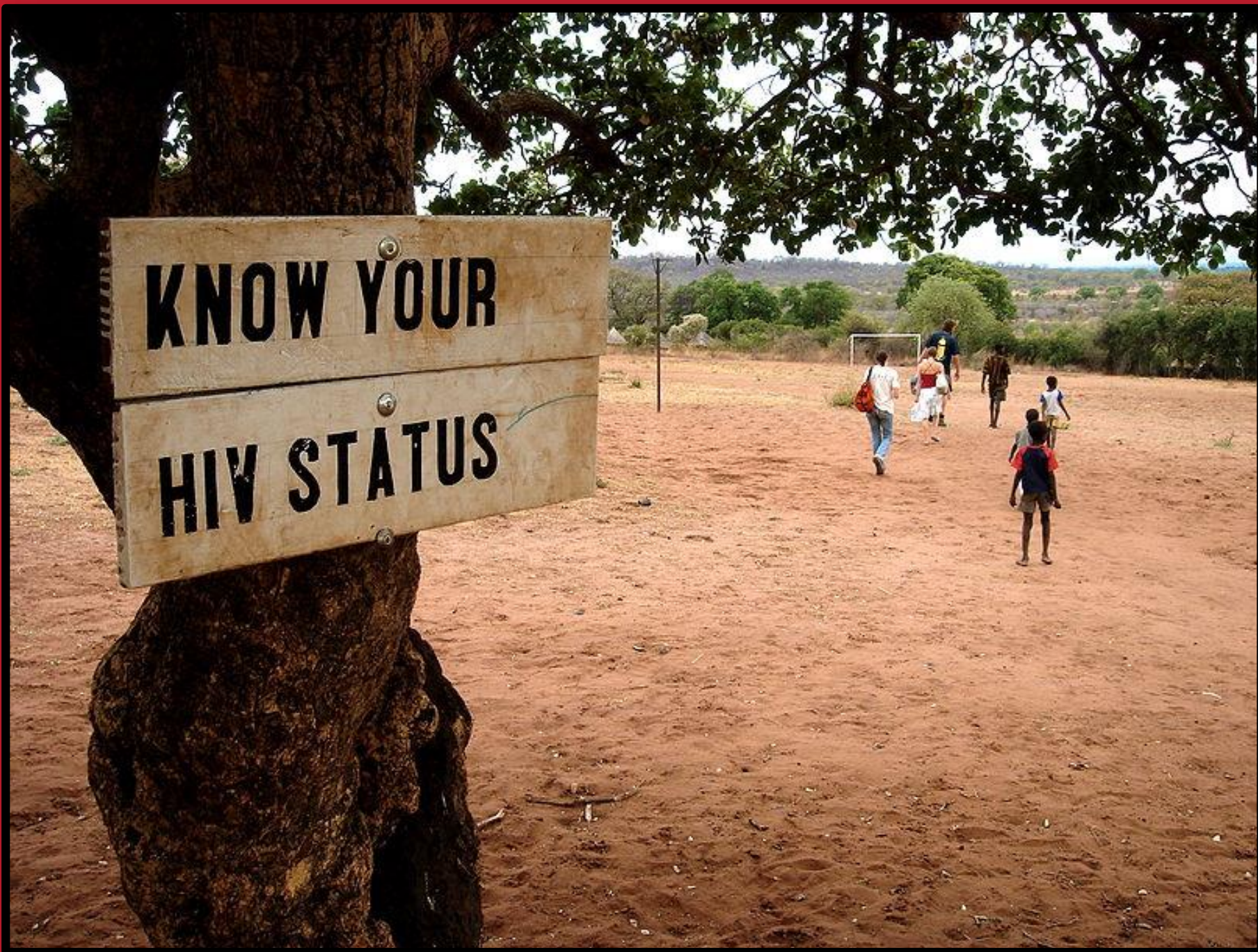
- The situation has gotten even worse as a result of poverty and weak educational and public health services.
- The epidemic now places a huge burden on the healthcare systems on countries that barely have enough resources to handle basic care.
- Few African countries have the resources to treat AIDS patients.

# Government Stability

- AIDS has become an epidemic in Africa because the spread of the disease was overshadowed by the lack of stability in African governments.
- A country's government stability has a huge impact on the distribution of resources to combat AIDS.

**KNOW YOUR**

**HIV STATUS**



Sign in Zambia  
2005

# South Africa

- In South Africa, it is estimated that 1 in 5 people may be infected with AIDS, yet few have access to the AVTs.
- AIDS took hold in South Africa just as Apartheid was ending and the country's focus was on stabilizing the country during the early stages of the AIDS epidemic.



South Africa is running out of space in its cemeteries.  
2013

**There are more than 1.4 million of South African AIDS orphans.**



# Zimbabwe

- Zimbabwe has one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the world.
- The country also has government corruption, civil unrest, and a suspicion of outside help—which has made the situation worse.
- Zimbabwe also has a very poor economy, meaning that the expensive AVTs are impossible for most people to afford.



# Nigeria

- Almost 3 million people in Nigeria are currently infected with AIDS.
- Even though Nigeria has oil, most Nigerians are relatively poor and cannot afford treatment.
- In the 1990s, Nigeria's government began to make AIDS a priority and began to focus on prevention, treatment and care.
  - The nation still struggles, but the government is trying to educate its citizens about prevention.

# Botswana

- Botswana has maintained a stable democratic government since the country gained independence in 1966.
  - As a result, Botswana has the resources to help treat AIDS patients.
- Botswana's government has provided education and prevention training for its citizens.
- It was also the first country to offer the necessary drug therapy for free to infected people.

# AIDS Education Outreach Event



# Famine

- Along with AIDS, famine is one of Africa's biggest problems.
- Famine occurs when a region does not have enough food for a long period of time.
- People who are starving can die from malnutrition.
- Famines are both human-made and natural.





# Climate

- Many African countries face drought because of climate changes.
- Repeated drought has plagued Africa since the 1970s.
- Soil infertility and erosion have decreased the amount of crops grown.

# Government Stability

- The stability of a country's government directly impacts the country's ability to provide enough food to prevent famine.
- Civil wars interrupt daily life for most people, including farmers, which causes food shortages.
- Some governments have built armies instead of investing in food for their people.
- Other governments have used food as a weapon by denying food shipments to political enemies.