



12 December 2005

Dear Dr Tshabalala-Msimang

Did you see that the distinguished, prize-winning AIDS journalist Kerry Cullinan is now likening you to an 'animal' in her latest article in *Health-e*? In case you missed it, we've enclosed a copy, published a week ago online under the unpleasant title, 'Another bizarre year for AIDS policy' – implying you're stupid and/or mad for promoting nutrient-rich food and micronutrient supplementation as the best route to recovery from broken health in place of swallowing exceptionally poisonous synthetic chemicals.

To commemorate this new low in journalism in our country we've chosen to give this person 'The Judith Miller Award for AIDS Journalism in South Africa' for 2005, to add to her honours. A copy of our citation is enclosed. Judith Miller was the Bush administration's bunny on the *New York Times*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning, self-billed Middle East expert, who ardently peddled fake

The **Treatment Information Group** is a public interest initiative to promote *research-based* debate of antiretroviral drug policy, alternative non-toxic treatment approaches to AIDS, and HIV testing issues in South Africa. The TIG has entered into a strategic alliance with the **Dr. Rath Health Foundation Africa** to achieve this.

The Terraces, 34 Bree Street, Cape Town  
[www.dr-rath-foundation.org.za](http://www.dr-rath-foundation.org.za)

*Propaganda is to democracies what violence is to dictatorships.*  
Noam Chomsky

stories about Iraq's alleged 'Weapons of Mass Destruction' to generate public support for the invasion, which a few days ago on BBC television she at last admitted were completely bogus. (Google <Judith Miller BBC> for a movie clip of the interview on the BBC's website.)

Do you think that one day Ms Cullinan might appear on TV like Judith Miller, saying, 'I'm deeply sorry' for her failure as a journalist, deploring the vacuousness of the information she's been uncritically broadcasting, insulting you and President Mbeki all the while: 'It's a terrible failure, it's a shocking failure, it's a deeply troubling failure.' And then go on to announce:

Although it's taken me a very long time, since I'm rather slow, I've finally come to appreciate now that AZT and similar chemicals are very bad drugs: fraudulently approved, deadly toxic, completely useless, and long overdue for replacement by better, more rational and humane treatment approaches. Again, I want to say how deeply sorry I am for having persistently denigrated Dr Tshabalala-Msimang and President Mbeki over the years for expressing their well-founded concerns and warning about the dangers of taking these drugs. Whereas they are clearly well-informed, I've been wilfully and dully ignorant. For all to see in my embarrassingly foolish columns. Making propaganda for the drug industry and its local agents. Because it's the trendy thing to do. Being a trendy sort of person, an adoring groupie of the TAC, I've been deliberately looking the other way, even when sent easy-to-read materials citing the research literature on the harm these drugs do – worst of all to babies.

I'm so ashamed about my disgraceful professional failure as a health reporter in this regard that that I've decided to follow Judith Miller's example and quit. Pushing drugs.

Do you think there's any chance of this?

Finally, I just want to assure you that not all white people think of black people as animals. When they make up their own minds about things, and aren't as docile and obedient as the servants.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY BRINK:

Convener and National Chairman: TIG

Cc: Government, ANC and online at [www.tig.org.za](http://www.tig.org.za)