Post-Movie Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think that the gay population was living such an open, promiscuous lifestyle during the 1980s?

2. Why did the gay population disagree so vehemently against closing the bathhouses?

3. Why did a legal battle ensue between Dr. Robert Gallo and the French research group?

4. Why are AIDS infected people subject to opportunistic infections?

5. Why was the blood bank hesitant in safeguarding their blood supply even though there was evidence that it was probably infected with the AIDS virus?

6. Why did the CDC have to use case-control studies and interviews to track AIDS instead of using the more accurate randomized study?

7. When did the government & general population begin to show sensitivity and support towards AIDS?

8. How did AIDS eventually get the political clout and support it has today?

9. What do you think the title “And the Band Played On” means?
DVD Questions: And The Band Played On

Directions
Please provide short answers for these questions as you watch this film.

1. In the movie’s prologue, what is the disease that Dr. Don Francis discovers in the Congo?

2. What type of public health professional was Dr. Don Francis?

3. What did the public health professionals mean by “shoe leather epidemiology”?

4. Early in the AIDS epidemic, a study was done that demonstrated AIDS was a sexually transmitted disease. Where did most of the sexual liaisons take place?

5. What acronym was originally given to the AIDS virus and what did that acronym stand for?

6. What is the name of the dark skin lesions that many AIDS patients were developing?

7. Who was the researcher who discovered the first retrovirus.

8. Throughout the movie the epidemiologists reiterated that they must always do three things in order to properly identify a disease: 1) What do you _________? 2) What do you _________? 3) What can you _________?
9. What do you think was meant by the boardroom question, “When doctors start acting like businessmen, who can the people turn to for doctors?”

10. Why was it so difficult to get federal funding for AIDS research in the early years?

11. Give at least 4 reasons why the AIDS virus spread so quickly.

12. What is the name of the research clinic that was responsible for the definitive identification of the AIDS virus?

13. What did you learn from this movie about HIV/AIDS, public health, and the government that you did not know?