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# AIDS: LEGAL, PUBLIC, AND PASTORAL IMPLICATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

The problem of AIDS as a pastoral and institutional concern is current and controversial. A number of State Catholic Conferences have addressed AIDS as a public policy concern and a special Committee of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops is now studying the matter. To give focus to the problem in the diocesan Church, the Diocesan Attorneys Association conducted a series of three presentations on the public policy, pastoral, and legal dimensions of AIDS.

Mr. William Bolan, Executive Director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference, spoke to the Church's role in addressing public policy. Sr. Joanne Lucid, who operates a center for the care of AIDS patients, translated the Church's policy position into pastoral practices. Finally, Mr. Frank Morris, a Washington partner in Epstein, Becker & Green, and a specialist in employment law, addressed the legal implications.

The presentations follow.