



# World Chronicle

UNITED NATIONS

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## **“Women, AIDS and Violence”**

A decade ago, in casual conversation, HIV / AIDS might have been referred to as a ‘gay man’s disease’. Today, we know that more than half the people living with HIV /AIDS are in fact women.

Why have women, who initially seemed to be peripheral to the AIDS pandemic, moved so rapidly to its epicentre? Can the spread of the virus be linked to violence against women, especially in conflict situations?

In this edition of World Chronicle, these questions are addressed with the help of Noeleen Heyzer, the Executive Director of the women’s fund at the United Nations – UNIFEM.

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