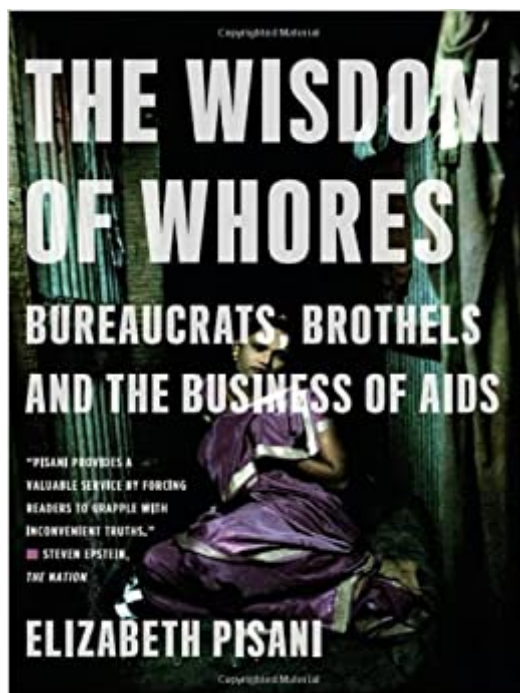


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# The Wisdom Of Whores: Bureaucrats, Brothels And The Business Of AIDS



## Synopsis

â œ[A] rollicking, eye-opening, hilarious account of the underbelly of international AIDS research.â •â •Carlin Romano, Philadelphia Inquirer As an epidemiologist researching AIDS, Elizabeth Pisani has been involved with international efforts to halt the disease for fourteen years. With swashbuckling wit, fierce honesty, and more than a little political incorrectness, she dishes on herself and her colleagues as they try to prod reluctant governments to fund HIV prevention for the people who need it most: drug injectors, gay men, sex workers, and johns. With verve and clarity, Pisani shows the general reader how her profession really works; how easy it is to draw wrong conclusions from â œobjectiveâ • data; and, shockingly, how much money is spent so very badly. 12 illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

â œThe book will make you reconsider everything you thought you knew about HIV/AIDS.â • - Katie Hunter, Foreign Policyâ œThis is an utterly fascinating book. . . . Elizabeth Pisani writes with enormous verve and acerbity, her prose alive with anecdote and metaphor. . . . The Wisdom of Whores is a great read.â • - Stephen Lewis, The Globe and Mail

Elizabeth Pisani has lived in Indonesia at various times over the past twenty-five years, originally as a journalist and later as an HIV epidemiologist. The author of *The Wisdom of Whores* and *Indonesia Etc.*, she is based in London.

I really enjoyed reading this book. While some of its details might make some people uncomfortable (HIV spread and taboo topics go hand in hand) the author's honesty and frankness is refreshing. The book itself is a little short for my taste but not everyone likes to read tomes. The iconoclastic nature of the book and its challenges of several truisms added to the appearance of honesty. As I continue to study the subject the accuracy of these claims may be questioned in which case I will revisit the review but her statements are well documented in the text.

Wonderfully witty and direct: truth at its best from someone who studied HIV/AIDS.

Chock full of personal experience in doing the dirty field work of HIV prevention and control practically in every corner of the world, Pisani's account of everything right and wrong the world has been doing to rid itself of AIDS (and then some) is a must read, not only for the (still, sadly) relevance of the topic but also due to her beautiful and incredibly fun-to-read English.

I had to read this book for a class and I must say that Ms. Pisani surprised me. The title of the book makes you think it's about what it might be and attracted attention whenever I read it out in public, however it is not about that but about the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. Good read for any health class.

This was the assigned book for a college course on AIDS. It was very interesting and I learned a lot of new information, as well as learning to think about certain topics in a different way. An excellent choice by my Professors to broaden my thinking, and after all, isn't that what college is for?

Very interesting!!! I am a public health student that has done global health classes and volunteer work in AIDS/HIV and I still learned something about this disease. Elizabeth Pisani is an excellent and engaging writer and has learned how to take such a devastating public health issue and give it a wee bit of charm and humor.

Having spent a lifetime in aid and development work there were few surprises in this book's expose of the difficulties around getting the right treatment to the right people the right way when it comes to HIV/AIDS. Pisani has seen and heard it all from inside the bubble and has bothered to find out what really goes on on the ground outside. Excellent insights and well worth the read.

An excellent summary of how HIV spreads , how to fight it and the political and cultural reasons why it has not yet been eradicated. I found the personal anecdotes and interviews with various drug users and sex workers most interesting

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