

After all, we teens are all in the same boat -- dealing with school worries, disagreeing with our parents, deciding how to party on Saturday night.

And, whether we admit it or not, we're definitely concerned about AIDS. But it really does seem like the AIDS education we've been getting (if we get it at all) just isn't working.

In fact, look at how the infection rate among teens is skyrocketing. And one in every five people with AIDS was infected in their teen years.

Now that AIDS Action has gotten teens talking to each other about the problem, we're sure to have a better chance of being heard.

For instance, since going through AIDS Action's 35-hour intensive training, I've become the peer resource person on HIV at my school. Other kids who have questions -- whether or not they're having sex -- know they can get the facts from me without getting into a whole big judgement thing.

Actually, getting educated about AIDS might even lead kids to make their own decisions not to have sex, or to have it more safely.

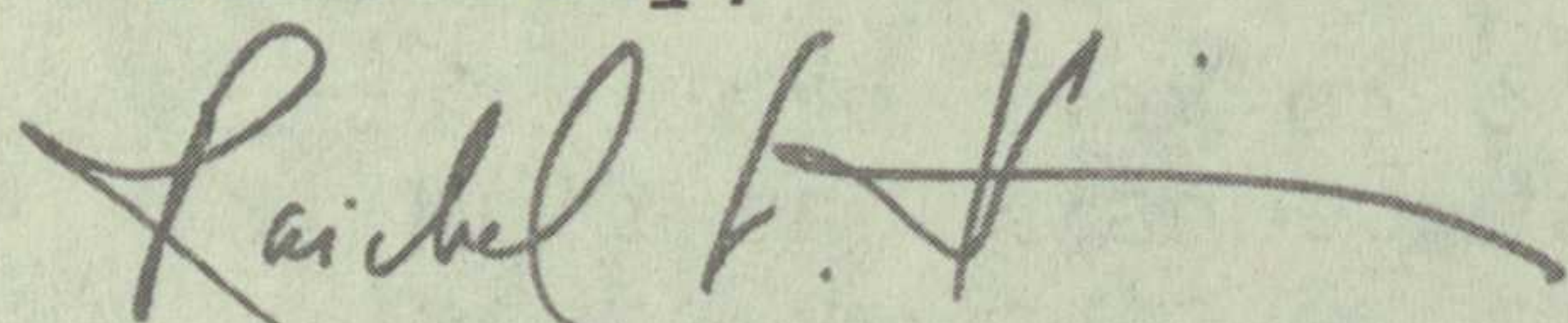
At AIDS Action, I've met people who are living with AIDS. They come in as clients and get all kinds of tremendous help with day-to-day living.

I can see that some of these people are in their twenties, not much older than me. It's pretty scary to think they must have been infected when they were teenagers.

That's why AIDS Action's new work with teen prevention is so incredibly important.

Won't you help us get the word out to other teens in the way they can hear it best -- from each other? I'm really sure we can make a difference.

Sincerely,



Raichel Hirsch

P.S. I've enclosed a flier to tell you about the many ways AIDS Action helps people who are living with HIV. I hope it will help convince you to send as much as you can to AIDS Action, today. And thanks.

P.P.S. The New Youth Only AIDS line is 1-800-788-1234  
in case you know any kids who want to  
call us up. Thanks!