

Mortal Secrets: Truth and Lies in the Age of AIDS

Robert Klitzman, MD

Co-Director, Columbia University Center for Bioethics
Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

November 6, 2003
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Faculty Club
College of Physicians and Surgeons
630 West 168th St.
New York, NY 10032

Dr. Robert Klitzman presented a reading and discussion of his latest book, *Mortal Secrets: Truth and Lies in the Age of AIDS*, which he co-authored with Ronald Bayer, PhD, Professor of Public Health at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Drs. Klitzman and Bayer interviewed HIV-positive patients and examined if and how these patients disclosed their HIV infections to others, such as their friends, family members and, most importantly, their sexual partners. The book examines truth-telling, trust, and the patients' sense of their moral duty to inform others. The patients interviewed represented a cross-section of people, races, genders, and sexual persuasions. These findings have important implications for understanding and controlling the AIDS epidemic.