

Turn on your TV or radio, open a magazine or watch the ads before a movie on the big screen today...they are flooded with messages from the HPV & Cervical Cancer "**One Less**" awareness campaign. For the first time ever, it's possible to **stop** a cancer—cervical cancer, **the number two cancer killer of women worldwide!** Cervical cancer robs women of their identity, fertility, intimate relationships and often their lives.

But this doesn't have to be the case. Cervical cancer is nearly **100% PREVENTABLE** and nearly **100% CURABLE** if caught early. This is the first time in history that we know the cause — (HPV) of a cancer, have the tools available for early detection and a vaccine to prevent it!

So why are so many women suffering from this disease? The number one and two reasons are **lack of education and screening.**

THERE IS NO REASON ANOTHER WOMAN SHOULD SUFFER FROM THIS DISEASE, TOGETHER WE CAN DIG OUR HEELS IN AND STOMP OUT CERVICAL CANCER!

Who is affected?

- Women of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. **Although women in underserved communities and lower socioeconomic conditions are at greater risk, especially Hispanic and African American women.**

What are the Statistical Facts?

- In 2007 nearly **500,000** women worldwide were diagnosed with cervical cancer, resulting in over **300,000 deaths.**
- Cervical cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women worldwide—only breast cancer accounts for more cancer deaths
- In the US alone **3.5 million** women have abnormal pap smears annually, resulting in additional painful diagnostic procedures.
- In the US, approximately **11,000** women per year are diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer and **3,700 die.** In addition, more than **50,000** cases of carcinoma in situ (a spot of cancer not yet invasive) are diagnosed annually.
- Here's a sobering thought, every **2 minutes** another woman dies from cervical cancer; a preventable disease!

What do you need to know?

- Cervical cancer is nearly **100% preventable**
- Cervical cancer is nearly **100% curable** if diagnosed in the early stages
- Cervical Cancer is caused by the HPV virus (70% of occurrences are caused by HPV 16 & 18; while 30% result from other HPV strains).
- **80% of sexually active women will have an HPV infection by the age of 50**, often without any symptoms. For most women, your immune system will fight off the infection in 6 to 24 months. HPV is as common as a cold, so there is no need to be embarrassed or ashamed
- The **Pap Test** is a screening tool, used to discover cervical cell changes
- Women over 30, it is recommended **The HPV Test** be combined with the Pap Test
- **Another woman doesn't have to die or lose her fertility to this disease; with education and proper regular screening we can stop this cancer!**

Learn the Facts, Do Your Own Research, Ask the Difficult and Uncomfortable Question, and Tell Someone, Anyone You Know...You Can Make a Difference!