What led Thabo Mbeki, energetic architect of AIDS policy during the Mandela years, to become the world's most reviled AIDS sceptic a few months after becoming President himself? What accounts for his 'inexplicably contrary views on AIDS'? Why does he claim that 'scientists don't know what they are looking for when testing for HIV' and that the West sees Africans as 'promiscuous carriers of germs … naturally prone to ... an AIDS pandemic caused, it is said, by rampant sexual promiscuity and endemic amorality', and 'human beings of a lower order … a depraved and diseased people … perishing from self-inflicted disease … doomed to an inevitable mortal end because of our unconquerable devotion to the sin of lust'?

Is he really 'mad', 'a nutter', 'no longer playing with a full pack', 'off his rocker', 'having a nervous breakdown', 'suffering from a gargantuan persecution complex', 'paranoid', 'a man whose sensitivity on race points to a previously undiscovered psychological trauma'?

***'Just say yes, Mr President'* explains the reasons for Mbeki's sudden lapsed enthusiasm for the AIDS scare, and lays bare its poisonous suppositions.**

'An outstanding interdisciplinary study pivotal to understanding Mbeki's stance on AIDS. My respect for his integrity in the face of Western economic and ideological agendas has been deepened. One is reminded that all one knows is learned, but not necessarily true....' **George Davidson MB ChB, PhD (biophysics and biochemistry), Bronte Stuart Prize-winner UCT, senior research scientist, biotech pharmaceutical R&D, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia**

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