Patty Stonesifer, CEO Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation PO Box 23350 Seattle WA 98102

Dear Mrs. Stonesifer:

I am a physician who devised two new methods to block HIV transmission. I would like the opportunity to present them to you because they dovetail with your efforts to curb HIV/AIDS. While the current approaches are a step in the right direction, they are not enough. At an international AIDS conference in Sydney, Australia, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that treatment could not match the rate of new infections. "For every one person that you put in therapy, six get infected. So we're losing that game, the numbers game." (*The Independent*, London, 24 July)

I am not seeking any payment for the ideas, but I request that I be given a five-minute appointment with Bill Gates in which I would present an unrelated invention. This would surely interest him, judging from something he said. In a discussion of missed opportunities during a televised program (*Buffett & Gates Go Back to School*) in which Bill Gates and Warren Buffett responded to questions from students at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln School of Business Administration, Gates said, "In Microsoft's case, the biggest mistake is where we miss something that's coming along that's going to be huge. We don't want to have anything that comes along, some breakthrough . . . that we haven't gotten the best people in and are putting that together with the work we're doing, so it would be missing something like that that would be our worst mistake."

My invention is a huge breakthrough, potentially more popular than the Internet, and something that more people will find an indispensable part of their lives. It can be used alone or in conjunction with computers and the Internet. Everyone can use it, from young children to old folks, including the myriads of technological Luddites who can't, or won't, program a VCR. As Mr. Gates said, he would not want to "miss something that's coming along that's going to be huge," so I am confident that he will appreciate the offer that I am extending.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin Pezzi, MD