

[REDACTED]
Honors 490

9/13/11 Journal Entry

"Plague, Typhus, Quarantine"

Summary of points	Comments	Future Research Questions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are conflicting theories on the spread of Yellow fever. "Contagionists" believe that it is spread through human-to-human interactions while "Non-contagionists" believe that it was simply an epidemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• While I have not read or heard of the history of Yellow fever, I am not surprised that it was believed to come from Africa. From HIV to all manners of plagues, Africa seems to be repeatedly viewed as the "source of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How could we ever tell the geographic "source" of a disease today? Given the amount of travel and interactions between people from different parts of the world, is it truly possible to pin point the origins of a

<p>propelled more by environmental factors than human-to-human interaction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Caroline</i>, sailing into Europe from Sierra Leone is believed to be the “source” of Yellow Fever. • There is a lot of arguing as both sides try to prove themselves right. Both contagionists and non-contagionists seem to be very confident in what they believe. • Non-contagionists 	<p>disease”. Why was this narrative so dominant during the early years? Why does it continue to be the dominant narrative?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the constant arguing between contagionists and non-contagionists may seem pointless and even distracting, it is important to remember that knowing the mode by which a disease is spread is critical to the management and/or elimination 	<p>disease?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today, the term “HIV Pandemic” is popular and almost universally accepted but, given the information in this article, would the author agree with that term? Given the complex nature of the disease, could it be possible to fully consider it as being “purely contagion” or “purely epidemic”?
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<p>challenge the sources of information that contagionists use to support their theory. Apparently, a great deal of this information was mere hearsay that was difficult to substantiate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is important to remember that while the epidemic theory is under the constraint of time and place, the contagion theory depends fully on human interactions.• The nature of the	<p>of the disease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I cannot help but question the motivation behind both the contagionists and non-contagionists arguments. Were they truly seeking an understanding of Yellow fever for the good of humanity or were their constant arguments simply an effort to create/maintain some sort of a reputation or power?	
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