



Jon Cohen Biography

Jon Cohen is a correspondent with *Science*, and also has written for the *New Yorker*, *Atlantic Monthly*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *Smithsonian*, *Outside*, *Slate*, *Technology Review*, *Discover*, the *Washington Post*, *New Republic*, *Glamour*, *Surfer*, and other publications. He has written three books, *Shots in the Dark: The Wayward Search for an AIDS Vaccine* (W.W. Norton, 2001), *Coming to Term: Uncovering the Truth about Miscarriage* (Houghton Mifflin, 2005), and *Almost Chimpanzee: Searching for What Makes Us Human, in Rainforests, Labs, Sanctuaries and Zoos* (Henry Holt/Times Books, 2010). In addition to magazines and books, he has done mini-documentaries for Science and SlateV, and writes for the blog *ScienceInsider* and the online daily *ScienceNOW*.

Cohen began writing for *Science* in 1990, specializing in infectious disease. He has done extensive packages for the magazine about HIV/AIDS in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as routinely covering the research and response to the epidemic in the more developed regions of North America, Europe, and Australia. In addition to covering HIV/AIDS, Cohen has reported on a wide range of scientific and medical topics, including disease outbreaks, genetics, primate research, evolution, bioterrorism, vaccines and immunology, the National Institutes of Health, stem cell research, credit battles, and the media itself.

In 2003, 2005, and 2008 Cohen received mini-fellowships from the Kaiser Family Foundation to support his travel to two dozen countries for the *Science* packages about HIV/AIDS. In 2010, The OSI Public Health Program funded travel for a Science package that focuses on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe. Cohen in 1998 received a Sloan Foundation grant to complete *Shots in the Dark*, which won the Science and Society journalism award from the National Association of Science Writers and inspired the documentary "Ending AIDS: The Search for a Vaccine," which ran on PBS and is narrated by Richard Gere. In 2009, he won the Excellence in Media award from the Global Health Council for "Follow the Money," a package of stories for Science that examined the surge of funds that came to HIV/AIDS during the preceding decade. His 1997 Science article about the rise and fall of an AIDS research program in the former Zaire won the international health reporting award from the Pan American Health Organization. From 1986-1990 he was senior editor at the *City Paper* in Washington, D.C. He earned a B.A. in 1981 from the University of California, San Diego, where he majored in science writing. Cohen lives in Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California, with his wife, a TV documentary producer, and their three children.