

Senator DOMINICK. Would that indicate to you that the rehabilitation process is not very fruitful?

Mr. CLEMMER. It would indicate that to some degree, Senator, and it would indicate that when they return to the free community there is not a helping hand around. It would indicate that in some aspects of our free community the moral tone is pretty bad. It does not indicate that we did not reform them, but it indicates, perhaps, an unwise selection of the time of release. And it indicates, I think, that the prevailing moral tone of crime is rampant, is "get anything you can while the going is good," and that sort of thing, which is deplorable.

Senator DOMINICK. Are these groups that you refer to, who have been in trouble before, relatively young?

Mr. CLEMMER. As I say, our average of the 1,500 male adult felons is 31 years point some months. Of course, the big deterrent, the big falloff in crime comes with age. Crimes of a predatory nature, such as robberies, car theft, and the like, decrease pretty much after 39. The curve goes way down. The slick crimes, such as forgeries and swindling and that sort of thing go on forever and ever. The dangerous crimes of yoking and so on decrease with age.

Senator DOMINICK. Sometime ago it is my recollection that Wilmington, Del., had a law which permitted judges to impose a whipping sentence. Did you follow that?

Mr. CLEMMER. I know about it.

Senator DOMINICK. Do you have any comment on that?

Mr. CLEMMER. I would not agree with that at all.

Senator DOMINICK. Would you agree with that?

Mr. CLEMMER. I think it is undignified and unhumanitarian and does not take into account the causative factors of crime and individual free will and determinism and all of that.

Senator DOMINICK. When was that repealed, do you know?

Mr. CLEMMER. I think it is still on the books. I think I read in the spring that some judge ordered a Delaware man to be lashed and it was appealed and has never been settled.

Senator DOMINICK. What is the Delaware crime rate?

Mr. CLEMMER. No better than Washington.

Senator DOMINICK. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. The only other question that I would like to ask you, Mr. Clemmer, is this: You may be required to supply this for the record—it may not be handy to you right now—is there a breakdown of the origin and the home or residence of these 1,700 people—do they come from the metropolitan area or are they coming here because it has been said that the District of Columbia is soft on crime and they can get away with anything here which they cannot in other places—can you give us an origin background of the 1,700?

Mr. CLEMMER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. You can supply that for the record?

Mr. CLEMMER. We made a study of that some years ago and I could give you the fundamental facts, and give you that table. First of all, the data is open to some questions, because we have to take as gospel that the inmates were born where they say they were, but contrary to popular opinion the heavy majority of our felony offenders have been Washington born or have been in Washington for 20 years