

I think I could add more, but I think you get the gist of Dr. Bennett's remarks with respect to the MMPI and its use by the Peace Corps.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Does he allow for error in this?

Dr. CARP. I am sure he allows for error in it, and the Peace Corps certainly allows for error in it.

Mr. GALLAGHER. It was pointed out yesterday that there was a false positive factor of 11 percent in this area of screening.

Dr. CARP. Well, the Peace Corps' procedures are such to take account of both the problem of the false positive; that is, those individuals who appear to have a deviant profile on the MMPI, and who are not in fact so psychologically deviant that they cannot be sent overseas, and also to help aid the false negatives, of whom there are some, those individuals whose MMPI patterns look perfectly normal, yet who are in fact emotionally disturbed.

The whole training and global assessment procedure, which lasts usually for 3 months, is designed to provide corroborative evidence in support of any hypothesis, based upon the MMPI testing.

The MMPI test is never determinative. The Peace Corps would never consider eliminating an applicant, solely on the basis of his MMPI profile. This is inconceivable, does not happen, and will not happen.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Well, assuming he refused to take it on the ground that it was an invasion of his privacy, or if the false positive factor is similar to the false negative, it is quite conceivable that some 4,600 young Americans have been eliminated as a result of even a minimum false positive factor.

Dr. CARP. No.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Last year 4,600 could have been, if you use the same 10 or 11 percent.

Dr. CARP. No; no one is eliminated on the basis of the MMPI, sir.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Well, no one is ever eliminated. But if they are not selected, therefore they are probably to some extent eliminated. If not, why is it needed at all?

Dr. CARP. One thing I would like to point out, that is the MMPI is not given to all 46,000 individuals who apply to the Peace Corps.

I want to point out the stage at which this is given, because I think it does make a difference. It is only given to those individuals who accept an invitation to a training program and who end up in training.

In this year, for example, there will be about 9,200 people in training. It is only these 9,200 people to whom personality inventories are given, so they are never in a situation where a decision is made merely based upon a test profile or test score.

There is always further followup, further study, further interview, psychiatric evaluation when required, observation in the training program itself, which contributes to the total evaluation of the person.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Would you, as a psychologist, tell us why these tests are needed? What do they do? What is the justification for these tests?

Dr. CARP. We need to investigate and evaluate the emotional maturity and the mental health of these individuals. This is why these inventories are used. I know of no way, really, of evaluating the mental health and emotional maturity, the psychological and psychiatric adjustment, of individuals without investigating some of