

The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, to get to the second part of your question, is not a subterfuge or another way to get at a physical examination. It is not a physical examination. We are really not concerned with the factual truthfulness of an individual's response to a question. This is his feeling, his attitude, his opinion of the question—even in some respects it is what he is willing to admit to somebody else in this medium.

Now, to the extent that research and practice and experience indicate that these kinds of responses are in fact useful in evaluating people, then the instrument becomes useful.

It is the Peace Corps' experience, as well as, I think, the experience of many people, that the test or the profiles used in this way are in fact useful, and I emphasize the word "useful." They are not determinative. They do not prove that the individual is actually this or that. And the Peace Corps would certainly never base its decision on whether an individual goes overseas solely on the basis of his response to the MMPI. But it is true, we have personal experience to back us up, that we can help to identify people through the use of these tests whom everybody would agree it is wrong to send overseas. And there is some likelihood that if we did not use the test, we might have in fact sent them overseas, both to their own harm as well as that of the Peace Corps and the country overseas.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. I think you testified earlier, doctor, that you had been associated with the selection of candidates in the space program; is that correct?

Dr. CARP. Yes, sir.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Did you use this test with those candidates?

Dr. CARP. Yes, sir.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. And what was your experience there as compared to the Peace Corps?

Dr. CARP. Again, since the environment, the way in which they were used, was very similar to the way in which they are used in the Peace Corps, they were a useful additional bit of information. Again, they were not determinative in any case.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Could you relegate some percentage degree of importance to the results of these tests as ranked with other considerations—personal interviews or experience backgrounds, or direct answers?

Dr. CARP. Well, I hope I do not appear to be resistant, but I really cannot, because the way in which they are used in the Peace Corps makes it impossible, in one sense, to assign percentage values.

My own feeling is—and this is strictly my personal feeling—if, say, in the present program year we will give this test to about 9,200 people—if it helps to keep from going overseas only 5 individuals who really should not go overseas, the test is well worth the cost and effort. Now, I think it is many more than 5. But I personally would be satisfied if there were only five, because the test is really used in a protective sense rather than in an eliminative sense.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. There is a line of philosophy that disagrees with that in a somewhat related situation. The U.S. Supreme Court—many Justices have said that if we let five criminals go by protecting the rights of society, we have done the right thing.

If we are invading the rights of many just to save from making the mistake in letting the five go overseas, I am not particularly impressed with that.