

on the study takes note of the special social and psychological problems precipitated by relocation:

Householders are faced with having to reconstruct their lives at a time that does not coincide with a planned or desired change. They must act quickly where no autonomous action would otherwise have occurred. They must terminate relationships and break routines that—especially for the elderly—have been equated with life itself.²³

Under these circumstances, many people who have been uprooted by urban renewal have found it a shattering personal experience, with profound psychological and social aftereffects comparable to the grief that one experiences with the loss of a family member.²⁴

MOVING COSTS

All families displaced by urban renewal or other government action are confronted with expenses of moving a home. Federal law authorizes localities to compensate urban renewal displacees for out-of-pocket losses attributable to "reasonable and necessary moving expenses and any actual, direct losses of property." The limit is \$200 for the family or individual. Reimbursement is financed entirely by the Federal Government. In practice, few families or individuals are compensated for "losses of property." Ninety-eight percent of the total paid by the Federal Government has been for moving costs.

The Federal provision has been criticized for not covering costs necessarily involved in moving a family other than the direct cost of moving household goods. Items mentioned include utility deposits, appliance installations, redecorating costs, and payments of first month's rents in advance; or, if the home is purchased, down payments, closing costs, and necessary alterations. A number of cities responding to the ACIR-CM survey felt such items should be authorized for Federal reimbursement.

PROBLEMS OF DISPLACED BUSINESSES

Extensive testimony was presented to the House Select Subcommittee on Real Property Acquisition in 1964 by experts who had conducted special studies of business relocation problems under grants from the Urban Renewal Administration and Small Business Administration.²⁵ Dislocated businesses, they testified, are bearing a disproportionate share of the social cost of the projects which displace them. Many more of them are forced to shut their doors than are similar businesses unaffected by governmental action. A study of two urban renewal project areas concluded that the rate of business failure at least trebled during the project execution state compared with the rate of the preceding 5-year period.²⁶

²³ University of Pennsylvania and National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, *op. cit.*, p. 41.

²⁴ See Marc Fried, "Grieving for a Lost Home," *The Urban Condition*, *op. cit.*, pp. 151-171.

²⁵ U.S. Congress, House, Public Works Committee, Select Subcommittee on Real Property Acquisition, *Hearings, Real Property Acquisition Practices and Adequacy of Compensation Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs*, 88th Cong., 2d sess., 1964, especially pp. 121-132, 168-175, 190-195, 261-281, and 295-317. (Also see National Federation of Independent Business, *Report on Survey of Adequacy of Compensation Paid to Firms Forced To Relocate Operations Due to Government Construction Projects* (Washington, August 1963).)

²⁶ Select Subcommittee on Real Property Acquisition, *Hearings*, *op. cit.*, p. 122.