

where the Federal Government would step in and say what books, what curriculum will be taught, and so on. This is one thing, I think, we have to watch. I want to say, strictly on that basis, I am concerned. I am also fully concerned with the problem we are talking about.

I am concerned a little about how far you go.

Mr. ROBINSON. We also are concerned with individual liberties. They have been our sole concern for as many years as I have been alive. I don't think our approach to the problem has to do with Federal controls or restrictions in so much as it has to do with Federal enforcement of laws that are already a part of our body politic. That is the only thing we are concerned with.

I would be the last to bring about or discuss censorship, but at the same time we do censor certain things in our schools. There is not really academic freedom as we would like to believe. We have to start thinking about where we are going. What values are we as a nation inculcating in the youth?

I think the Federal Government in placing tax dollars in the arena of education has a responsibility to set the moral tone, goals, norms, and standards.

Mr. BELL. I just wanted to point out that the area of textbooks and curriculum is a particularly sensitive area. They disturb some people. I fully concur and agree with where we should go in this direction, but I am concerned about what other factors we get into when we reach this stage. Actually the Elementary and Secondary Education Act itself specifically tries to limit the Federal Government in this particular area of textbooks. It is primarily left up to the local schools, State offices, and State boards.

Mr. ROBINSON. But guidelines could be established by the funding organizations as to what specifications—

Mr. BELL. I was getting at the question of on what basis do you think this could be done? How can we show that the intent of Congress is to move in this direction, but yet not have the Federal Government moving in and ordering what books schools should buy?

Mr. ROBINSON. Certainly guidelines are as far as the Federal Government should go. Establishing the rules should be as far as they should be. Guidelines are established but they are not enforced. I am not in favor of stepping in and saying, "This is what you will use," but the overall intent of changing the climate of the country toward something we have not had, democracy, should be the approach of the bills on education.

Mr. BELL. I think we are in an agreement.

Chairman POWELL. The gentleman from California, Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. HAWKINS. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Washington, I would also like to commend you on the contribution you have made to this hearing. In reading your statement I get the impression you are somewhat critical of the textbooks currently being used in the New York City system?

Mr. ROBINSON. By and large.

Mr. HAWKINS. I was rather surprised at such criticism coming so fast on what I thought last night was new knowledge after reading the statement of the Board of Education of the City of New York which was issued October 1962, and which was updated for this hear-