

In regard to boys not finishing the 12 grades of school the statistics show that there are as many as a couple of years ago. Fifty-one percent of the dropouts in high school were girls, and 49 percent were boys. I think the statistics today are very similar. The highest unemployment rate in the Nation is among nonwhite girls between 16 and 21.

I do not want to argue today whether or not women should or should not be working. But the facts are that one out of every three employed in the country is a woman. Therefore, in 1967, I can't quite buy the defense that the boys need the program more than the girls.

May I turn to the vocational education recommendations by the Office of Education? I consider this probably the most important part of the 1967 amendments. I would like to first direct the question to the superintendent from Albuquerque, if I may, and then ask others to comment.

I am well aware of the controversy and newspaper articles in the Albuquerque press over the Job Corps center for girls in Albuquerque. The question that I would like to address to you revolves around an allegation that has been made. That the girls in Albuquerque center have had 2 or 3 hours, in some cases 4 hours, of work during the entire day and not necessarily 5 days a week, but sometimes 2 days a week or 3 days a week; and further the allegation that they are not in any way being trained for remunerative employment while in the center.

The specific questions to any school superintendent are: What do you think you could do if we, as an alternative procedure, said to a large city school superintendent, or said to the State department of education, would you explore this? What kind of a program could you put together that would include on-the-job training, taking advantage of work-study, combining it with MDTA, with the residential center? You would have a residential environment for those youngsters who need a change of environment and you could concentrate effort on the youngsters who would stay at home but come there during the day-time.

What kind of a program could you design for your city for \$8,000 per student?

MR. STAPLETON. As you know, we have the Technical Vocational Institute, which was developed several years ago and recently was strongly endorsed by a number of community leaders.

MRS. GREEN. Is that a residential school?

MR. STAPLETON. No, it isn't. There have been some plans identified. They certainly have not been formalized. But they indicate that this could be the direction to go, in terms of a residential area.

The Technical Vocational Institute has been received with such enthusiasm, the nature of the program has been in such a short time made so comprehensive, as we see it, with a broad spectrum of courses involving some of the traditional basic courses and then some of the new courses, such as data processing, that we feel that if funds could be channeled in this direction, the district could expand much faster.

As it is now, it is a holding action, hoping that the program will get continued endorsement. There was a recent effort to receive some funding from the State legislature.