

You have been a change agent. That has radically affected the establishment. The State employment agencies, perhaps the most hide bound, rock-ribbed conservative entrenched bureaucracies that the mind of man has ever devised, are beginning to think of how to do the job differently, how they can design jobs that will attract the poor, make it possible for the poor to break out of their structure of unemployment.

The same thing in welfare services. You have proven that we can get people off of welfare into jobs if they are given the motivation. The welfare institution, the welfare establishment now is thinking about changing its way of doing business.

I want to congratulate you for your courage above and beyond the call of duty, with all the mistakes that have been made, with all the things we have bragged about, what you have been willing to do is to experiment, to take chances, to take risks, to push our established institutions to go through the agonizing reappraisal of how they can do their job better.

The very fact that they want to grab these programs now, the very fact that OE wants to grab Headstart is a measure of the spectacular success which your innovative efforts have produced.

Mr. SHRIVER. Thank you very much, Mr. Congressman.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Steiger.

Mr. STEIGER. Mr. Shriver, the question that was asked previously as to the removal of persons from the poor category, according to a release printed in the Los Angeles Times on December 31, 1966, "The White House announced Friday, 2-year-old war on poverty takes 3.4 million persons out of poverty."

My concern here is why the announcement that this many people had been taken out of poverty was made not by the Office of Economic Opportunity which according to your testimony works as a unified command post in the war on poverty but rather the Office of Education and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Mr. SHRIVER. The statistics we have are available to all the departments of Government. You will find out. Congressman, the longer you are down here, you will find out that various people make announcements at various times to suit the needs of the situation.

We don't hoard these statistics. We make them available to everybody. It is not surprising that the Secretary or somebody else made the statement. I didn't happen to see it but that does not mean it is improper for them to make it.

Mr. STEIGER. If your agency is supposed to act as a unified command post it seems to me somewhat unusual that somebody other than that unified agency would make that kind of announcement or that kind of analysis.

Mr. SHRIVER. Not only is it not unusual; it is usual.

Mr. STEIGER. Do you have any information on whether or not the report by Secretary Gardner which indicated that the administration hoped to remove 500,000 more persons from poverty from January 1 to July 1 has been successful?

Mr. SHRIVER. That statement, Bob Levine informs me sotto voce, was based on his analysis of what would happen if the Social Security Administration amendments were enacted by the Congress.