

29.

Living conditions not up to expectations, general exaggeration of the benefits, and stricter rules than anticipated are mentioned by one in five of those who feel the screeners did not give them a true picture. Those in urban centers complain about the living conditions more than those in Conservation centers. Whites complain more than Negroes. Over one in four discharges feel the rules were more strict than they thought they would be.

Observation: The screeners have a difficult job in presenting an accurate and fair picture of what the Job Corps will be like. There is bound to be some confusion about how they are going to be paid. There is bound to be some overstatement and exaggerated expectation of conditions and life in the centers.

These Corpsmen do not expect to be told every negative aspect of the Job Corps. We will see that many complain about fights and trouble in the center but very few complain that the screeners did not tell them about this part of center life. They do not expect to be told this. They do expect to be told about their real training opportunities and possibilities. The previous table indicates that this is not being done to the fullest extent.

Why Joined Job Corps

Each respondent was shown a list of possible reasons for joining the Job Corps and asked which had been most important for him: