

44.

While there is sharp split in attitude about the kind of kids in the center between graduates and discharges on one hand and dropouts on the other, the greatest cleavage is found between Negroes and whites. Negroes are much more favorable towards the other kids than are the whites. This is particularly true among the dropouts where over six in ten of the Negroes liked the kids in the center but less than three in ten of the whites felt the same way.

Observation: On most of the aspects of center life tested, the Corpsmen feel a good job is being done. (All of the items had at least half saying it was "good"). Graduates are uniformly more favorable than the dropouts. Discharges tend to rate most items the same as graduates. Negroes seem generally more satisfied than the whites and women more than men.

The Conservation centers do better than the urban centers as far as amenities. Only on "things they taught" do the Conservation centers lag behind the urban centers.

The problem of racial hostility is indicated by the high percentage of whites (50 percent) compared to Negroes (24%) who say "the kids in the center" are "not so good". This gap is smaller among the graduates (21 points) than among the dropouts (34 points). This clearly suggests that if the need and the motivation to learn are strong enough, as they are for the graduates, prejudices that the Corpsmen bring to the centers can be overcome and they can learn, work and live (or at least co-exist) with others of a different color.

Job Training In The Center

Each respondent was asked what job he had been trained for while in the

Job Corps: