

Mr. KELLY. We made just such a comparison, Congressman Brademas, on page 86 of your booklet and Dr. Gottlieb has a comment on that.

Mr. GOTTLIEB. There are several comparisons made comparing Job Corps enrollees, Neighborhood Youth Corps, MDTA, private vocational education, and public vocational education wherever we were able to get data from these other programs to make comparisons. In addition, on page 88 there is a triangle which shows the clientele that are handled by the various programs. In every comparison that we have been able to do it is clear that our youngsters are most deprived from an educational point of view, from a medical point of view, and in terms of the poverty backgrounds they come from. One thing is apparent, that long before we even put our youngsters into vocational training there is so much more that has to be done first. We have youngsters that we cannot enroll in our own vocational training because they can't read a blueprint, don't know what a ruler is and how to handle it. You don't put these people into a vocational training program.

Mr. KELLY. On page 86 you will note that this private vocational education, 84 percent of the youngsters that go into that program have completed high school where only about 10 percent of our youngsters have completed high school that come into the Job Corps. I think that is an important measure.

I was up at Camp Kilmer not long ago and one of the difficulties we were having there is that we had a number of youngsters there that before they could get into the welding program—and they indicated they wanted to be welders—they could not read well enough to read the very elemental welding manual that we had put together and they were discouraged because they had seen other kids with torches and tanks who were cutting metal and they could not understand why they could not do that until basic education was upgraded.

Mr. BRADEMAS. In this committee we are also considering right now vocational education legislation to improve and strengthen the quality of the traditional vocational education in our country because we find that it is not doing an adequate job in terms of meeting job requirements.

I have another question, Mr. Chairman. We have heard a lot of testimony in the past and read newspaper stories about Job Corps enrollees getting into trouble in the various communities where Job Corps centers are located.

I would like to ask if you find this a continuing problem and if you are still receiving widespread complaints?

Mr. KELLY. Let me say, Congressman Brademas, that I was very curious about that when I became Director of the Job Corps and one of the things I did in the late spring was to write a letter to law enforcement officers all over the country that were adjacent to Job Corps centers. I also wrote the same kind of letter to mayors of towns and cities. I also wrote the same kind of a letter to the chambers of commerce that were located in these places and the overwhelming response that I got was that the Job Corps was a good neighbor, that the Job Corps problem incidents with the police were very low. As a matter of fact, I got a number of these letters.