

to another when in fact we could do it more simply by going with an appropriation to the Department of Labor in this case?

Mr. SHRIVER. The reason is complicated, but I think it is pretty important. Congress apparently through in the beginning that the poor needed some agency that was watching out for their interests specifically without having to be concerned about anything else. The money is appropriated to us and we watch it on behalf of the poor and also on behalf of the Congress.

Let me say that I think it is easier for a Congressman to evaluate the effectiveness or lack of effectiveness of moneys given to us in our helping the poor when they are in one place and you can analyze them in one job.

Excuse me.

Mr. STEIGER. Go ahead. I would respectfully disagree. I think here we have a case where we fudged a little bit. Foster Grandparents is not a program, it seems to me, which is designed exclusively for the poor. It is one which ought to be open in the age range of Foster Grandparents, so that the program is made available to anybody who can qualify and can handle what Foster Grandparents authorize. I would seriously object to that kind of a delineation on the basis of who is poor and who is not poor and one who would then be eligible to run a Foster Grandparents operation.

It seems to me that it would make eminently good sense to avoid the sleight of hand that we can go through to run money through your agency when we can't watch it any more effectively than in the Department of Labor. We can watch it more effectively in the Department to which you have delegated it.

Mr. SHRIVER. This is an extremely important point, Mr. Chairman. I think it is very important to understand that the same line of thought which you are expressing could apply to anything that is done for the poor and many people think that. In other words, if we start neighborhood centers for the poor, some people think that that is giving an unfair advantage and everybody ought to have that kind of service. If we start Headstart to try to help poor kids, in particular who have no start to try to get even, they say everybody ought to have that and the poor go back to where they were before.

So it is inherent in this legislation which the Congress passed, that the poor get extra help in many different ways of which the Foster Grandparents program is just one. The reason these programs have come into existence is because a group of people were concentrating solely on the needs of this special group in our society—the poor. If the Congress on the other hand makes the decision which you seem to be indicating that once a program is good everybody ought to have it, then believe me, there isn't enough money and the poor don't get it any longer. That was the history. That is why this got started in the first instance and that is why I wanted to respond to your statement.

Mr. STEIGER. Might I comment, Mr. Shriver, that I do not disagree with the need to concentrate on the needs of the disadvantaged and the poor in our society. That is, after all, exactly what the war on poverty is intended to do, but it seems to me that there are programs, and I would point to Foster Grandparents as one, which are not necessarily nor should they be necessarily limited to just the poor. I would not