

Mr. LEVINE. This becomes a constitutional issue and I am not a constitutional lawyer, Mr. Steiger, so that I will drop out.

Chairman PERKINS. The gentleman has consumed 15 minutes. We will operate under the 5-minute rule of going around the second time until the bell rings.

Sargent Shriver, the so-called Opportunity Crusade proposes to turn the Job Corps over to the vocational and educational systems. Is the Job Corps more than an ordinary vocational system or are the vocational educators geared to operate the Job Corps? What obstacles do you see in the way, that is, from the standpoint of reaching impoverished youngsters if the Job Corps were transferred?

Mr. SHRIVER. First of all, Mr. Chairman, I would like to observe that I think that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Division of Vocational Education, certainly should testify about that question as well as OEO. Certainly as well as I.

Chairman PERKINS. They have testified about this, against it. Go ahead.

Mr. SHRIVER. I didn't know.

Chairman PERKINS. Unequivocally.

Mr. SHRIVER. My experience with vocational education, at least in Chicago in the public schools, was that it was reaching a higher cut, a higher slice of people than what we are attempting to reach and are reaching with the Job Corps. In fact, we had eight vocational high schools in Chicago when I was there and in the first 2 years of high school the program for all the students in the vocational school was exactly the same as in the general high schools, except for foreign language requirements.

It was only after sophomore year that boys and/or girls in the vocational schools of the city were introduced into the vocational track, which they used to call them. I am not against that at all. As a matter of fact, that kind of vocational education expanded tremendously—I would say fourfold—while I was on the board. I always looked at it as more technical education than what the Job Corps is trying to do.

The Job Corps deals with the kind of kid who up to recently hasn't been able to get into a vocational school. We used to have elementary vocational education in Chicago called prevocational and that existed in other schools, but basically the Job Corps kind of kid could not get into it.

The Job Corps was started because of the failures of us all, not just the vocational education, to reach these youngsters and the Job Corps has developed in what I think is a unique program, a unique program in that it makes a new effort and a different effort to reach these youngsters, and the great things about it is, I believe, that it appears to be doing so well.

Prior to Job Corps most efforts to reach these kids were abysmal, 90- to 100-percent-failure programs. In fact, when we first testified on behalf of the Job Corps, there was evidence brought here in the State of New Jersey and State of California, to mention just two, which showed that their efforts had been a total failure. In other words, they had nearly 100 percent dropouts in programs attempting to reach these same kids.