

When they can't come they are calling up and saying, "I have a sore throat" or "I have to stay home and watch the baby." It may be a very little thing to you but to those of us who know that they have a very poor concept of time it is an extremely important step.

In the beginning the family is called upon as soon as the child misses a class. The parents learn we care. Prompt attendance and family responsibility on the part of the parent and child letting us know when a child cannot attend are all part of our program. Now, under the OEO we have completed one summer program and one school year program. You will find the results of these programs on pages 7, 8, and 9. Can I take just a moment now or would you like to ask some questions before I go into the evaluation, the little evaluation we made of the results of the test.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you very much. I have a 12:30 appointment. I have to leave in just a minute. Let me ask you about the Headstart program. Have you had any experience with it?

Sister BAPTISTA. In our own city, no; I have not because I am involved with this program. The only experience I have had with it are assignment I have given teachers when I am teaching in an area where there are several Headstart programs going on.

Mrs. GREEN. You personally have not been involved in it?

Sister BAPTISTA. I have not.

Mrs. GREEN. As an educator, may I ask you, without the experience in the program itself, from the standpoint of the child and a good education, do you think that it makes better sense to have two different agencies directing the education, one directing it with different rules and regulations and salaries and everything else when the child is 4 and then another agency directing it when the child is 5, the education of the child again with different arrangements, different salaries, different teachers, different rules and regulations? Do you have any judgment?

Sister BAPTISTA. That is something I have thought about very often. I don't think as far as the salary is concerned it would make a lot of difference. I would not be affected by it if that is what you mean?

Mrs. GREEN. I will use a case I have used before as an example. In a city school system where a teacher is employed and paid with funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity, which would be 90 percent Federal funds, and has 20 youngsters in Headstart and has two aides helping her; and another teacher in the same building with youngsters from the same families, the same social economic level, is a kindergarten teacher and is paid by the school district fund.

Because of the ceiling put on by the voters her salary is less than the Headstart teacher who has 20 youngsters during the entire period, whatever hours in the day she is there, plus two aides.

The kindergarten teacher has 30 youngsters in the morning and 30 youngsters in the afternoon with no teacher aides. This is a specific example of two agencies, one an agency directing the education program when the child is four and another agency directing the program when the child is five. From an educators standpoint does this make good sense?

Sister BAPTISTA. Let me tell you this, please. I happen to be a great advocate of young children's education and how important it is. I really feel very strongly about this particular matter.