

Do you want to sit up here, Congressman Button, with the witnesses? If you do, come on around.

Dr. George, I am going to start off with you today. You have been highly recommended to the committee.

Mr. Hawkins?

Mr. HAWKINS. I would be remiss, personally, if I did not also say, in line with the recommendations and testimonials to Dr. George, that Dr. George was formerly a constituent of mine in Los Angeles, where she contributed greatly to the development of our community, and she is highly recommended, I am confident, by those who worked with her in Los Angeles, including myself. Certainly, it is a personal privilege to me to join in the welcome of Dr. George, and I wanted her to know I am not going let these other people say such nice things about her without expressing my appreciation for what she is doing in Cleveland. It certainly is in line with what she did in Los Angeles.

Chairman PERKINS. That is another compliment, Dr. George.

We are interested to know about this Women's Job Corps, what condition it was in when you took over, and how it looks today.

STATEMENT OF DR. ZELMA GEORGE, DIRECTOR, WOMEN'S JOB CORPS CENTER, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dr. GEORGE. Thank you very much for this privilege of speaking to this group. I have been reading some of your minutes of the last meetings, and there doesn't seem to be much left to say. But I am happy for the privilege of being here.

I can hardly wait to hear myself speak after all these introductions.

I am here, really, in the interest of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, which is the prime contractor for the Cleveland Job Corps Center.

Contemporary society is awakening to the danger which lurks in the insulation which is being constructed by adults and youths between themselves. The imagined enemy in both cases is the other one. This is an irony. Each knows, at least below the conscious level, that his very future is in the other.

Twentieth-century youth has developed right in our midst, a new creation—the world of youth, a youth culture with identifiable, distinctive characteristics we cannot ignore.

This world of youth is the home of the emerging adult who is suddenly an imposing figure, not yet mature, not yet wise, but often most serious and quite dissatisfied with things as they are.

His new world is not just an unhappy accident, it didn't just happen to a certain segment of our population. It is a global phenomenon, which is self-conscious and very powerful.

In South Korea it toppled a government. In the United States this world of youth initiated, almost single-handedly, the Negroes' revolution for human dignity. In other words, it is capable of unbelievable violence and antisocial behavior as well as of positive, constructive action.

Whatever its origin, whatever its future, we have in our midst a youth culture, worldwide in scope, cutting across ethnic and geographic lines and social and economic classes. And it commands our attention.