

Congress, when the elections were held a number of newspaper reporters came to me and said, "Things are going to be awful for you now because the Republicans have increased their numbers in the House."

I went through the records of the individual Republican members, member by member, and said to the press that I did not see on the basis of the records that we would be substantially worse off just because Republicans had been elected.

Then along came the rent supplement program, and all of us know that the number of Republicans who voted for that was very small, which is really a terrible blow to colored people in this country, in that they are depending on that program to try to break out of some of the slum conditions in which they live.

I have, for example, from Albany, Ga., where a hundred-year-old Negro church is embarked on a program of providing 100 units of rent supplement type housing for Negroes who now have to pay as much as \$60 a month for—\$60 a week for adequate accommodations without the conveniences that they ought to have.

Now, the church proposes to reduce that rental fee to \$50, and it would do it if the church got the money to have this rent supplement project built.

If a vote is cast against the rent supplement, it is a vote cast against that particular church in Albany, Ga., which is trying to make it possible for colored people to get decent housing at a decent price.

We had an awful problem with the food stamp program, and the question, as you gentlemen know, was whether Mr. Sullivan's amendment was going to prevail which would knock out that requirement that there be a State subsidy of 20 or 30 percent.

I cannot remember which it was.

I am sorry to say, when I looked down in the well of the House, I saw people for whom I have a high regard, Republicans, voting against the amendment. The story was different on the rollcall.

The same might be said for other programs I mentioned. I bring it up merely to say that the posture of the OEO at this point, is exactly like the posture of these programs which have either been emasculated or threatened because of the changes in the congressional seats in the last election.

I say to you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, that there is a direct relationship between these votes against the things that make it possible for people to have a better life in this country and some of the incredible, brutal, and stupid things that we see in the cities that have exploded.

Now I don't think we can get anywhere by attacking these programs for partisan reasons. I think that if we are going to really act in the best interest of the country, and we have some alternative program to offer, it seems to me that we ought not to throw out a program which is in operation, but we ought to have whatever the alternative ready, and be able to demonstrate that it is really going to meet the need.

I was listening to this colloquy here on the vocational schools, for example.

Now I have lived in Minnesota, Mr. Quie. I lived in the good city, St. Paul, and as a matter of fact my first son was born there, and I know, and I am sure that anybody living in the Northwest knows, that