

I know very few Federal agencies which act quickly and objectively upon evaluations of their own programs. I think this is extremely difficult to do, given a whole variety of circumstances, but I do feel that the Congress has an unusual opportunity to move strenuously in the area of demanding this kind of evaluation and demanding action upon the results.

I would say one other thing, and I have been saying it for a long time. In the evaluation of human service programs, I find that from the university world on down there is a strange tendency not to ask the consumer of services what he thinks about them. There is a reticence to do this.

One can ask those who are in charge of delivering services what they think about those services and how they think they are affecting the people, but we draw back from asking the crucial question—what the people themselves think of the quality of resources that they are getting.

I would hope that the Congress would push for this kind of ongoing evaluation or market research of our programs.

Mr. QUIE. You make your point very effectively, and I hope we can make some headway in bringing this to a realization.

I thank you.

Chairman PERKINS. Don't you feel that without specific instructions from the Congress that it is elementary, on any agency, that where we have programs, after reasonable period of time, there should commence some evaluation? Do you likewise feel that way, Mr. Boone, without instruction from the Congress as to what public funds were being expended? Or don't you feel any good administrator in this country would believe that? You would not throw money down rat holes if you knew it was going down rat holes.

Mr. BOONE. Of course not.

Chairman PERKINS. You did not mean to state that various programs like the Job Corps should be delegated, did you, Mr. Boone?

Mr. BOONE. The Citizens' Crusade Against Poverty has taken no position on that.

Chairman PERKINS. I take it you are against the spinoff?

Mr. BOONE. Yes, we are against the spinoff, and I would like to make that distinction clear in any statement that we have made about delegation.

Chairman PERKINS. That is what I wanted you to clear up.

Mr. BOONE. This does not mean in our terms the complete separation of the program from the authority of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Chairman PERKINS. In other words, you still feel that the Office of Economic Opportunity should be maintained as presently constituted because it is doing a good job?

Mr. BOONE. This is the position of the Crusade.

Chairman PERKINS. You are making no recommendations to the committee to spin off any functions that the Office of Economic Opportunity is presently engaged in?

Mr. BOONE. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PERKINS. I think you have made a good statement. I did not think that your prepared statement jibed with one of your statements there about the delegation. It threw me off a little and I wanted to make sure I understood. I am delighted that you have come here