

She further stated that, after the first visit, no significant examination was made of her physical or emotional condition.

During that year, before she came to us, she was often deeply depressed, had visual hallucinations, was delusional in her thinking, and attempted suicide on three separate occasions. She was hospitalized each time.

On February 2 of this year, we referred her to a local detox unit, and they referred her to a local residential treatment program. She withdrew after 2 days, but our followup determined that she remained detoxified for 2 months before she returned to the doctor's office for more pills which she received.

On May 4, in the presence of one of our workers, she wrote a letter to the doctor, and told him of her addictive history with the pills he had been giving her, and pleaded with him to never give her pills even if she begged him.

I wish that I could say that this is an atypical and overly dramatic case, Mr. Chairman, but this sad story is unusual only in the sense that this young woman came for help.

When amphetamines are involved in an established pattern of drug abuse, deep depressions, aggressive acting out, paranoia, suicidal tendencies, and resistiveness to change are the common traits.

Mr. GORDON. Mr. King, may I ask you a question concerning the doctor you mentioned. Does this practice include only obesity cases?

Mr. KING. To the best of my knowledge, yes, sir.

They are not really obesity cases in the sense that many of the clients seeing him are thin.

He sees more people who you would characterize as underweight than you would characterize as overweight, in my opinion, from the people I have seen coming and going from his office, and from the people he has seen who have come to us.

This is only one doctor who illustrates the problem. He is not the only doctor who practices medicine in this fashion within our township.

Mr. GORDON. And is he and the others also found to be the principal sources of speed?

Mr. KING. Yes, sir, of the young people we have seen in the program, a very large majority of them who have problems with amphetamines, obtain their amphetamines from one of these three doctors.

Some of them obtained their amphetamines from two or three of these doctors.

Mr. GORDON. How many cases have you had during the past year or so of amphetamine abuse?

Mr. KING. Coincidentally, our capacity for our program in the course of the year, the number of clients we can effectively work with, is 800, which happens to be the weekly caseload of one of these doctors.

Out of those 800 people, roughly 30 in the course of a year are characterized as having a problem with amphetamines in conjunction with other drugs.

Out of those 30, only about 3 obtained their drugs illicitly.

Senator NELSON. Of the 30 that came to your clinic, only 3?

Mr. KING. Yes. Of those we were able to contact through outreach and bring into our program.