

Dr. CHAMBERS. Six million have used them—above the age of 13—and 1½ million have used the amphetamines recently.

Senator NELSON. Have used the prescription drugs?

Dr. CHAMBERS. Prescriptions, yes, sir.

A million and a half have done so recently, we believe within the last 30 days, and probably 750,000 now are currently regular users of these drugs.

Some 16 million people above the age of 13 have used nonprescription stimulants of whom as many as 3 million having done so recently. Probably as many as 500,000 people use one of the nonprescription stimulants every week.

As I indicated in my introductory remarks, I would also like to share with the subcommittee my recent experiences in interviewing known drug users concerning their use of amphetamines and related drugs. I believe the subcommittee should be aware of these users and the implications of this use as these users are normally excluded during even carefully designed general population surveys.

If they are identified they are less likely to respond honestly to interviewers who are not known to them. Of equal importance, these types of users make no pretense to claims of use to diminish fatigue or to lose weight. They choose drugs to use solely for their potential for producing euphoria.

During last year, Leon Hunt, a mathematical epidemiologist, and I were asked by the Drug Enforcement Administration's office of Science and Technology to conduct a study among known drug abusers relative to the potential for abuse or nonmedical use of various legally manufactured psychoactive drugs including the amphetamines and related drugs. As the final report of this total research effort is available to the subcommittee from the Drug Enforcement Administration, I won't take up your valuable time in a full elaboration of the study. I will abstract from the study those findings which I believe are most relevant to your current inquiry.

In brief, the study called for us to review the drug history records and to interview random samples of narcotic abusers and abusers of nonnarcotic drugs who were undergoing treatment for this abuse in nine cities. Records were reviewed and drug abusers were interviewed in the following cities: Miami, Fla., Greensboro, N.C., Washington, D.C., Atlantic City, N.J., New York City, N.Y., Des Moines, Iowa; Kansas City, Kans.; Phoenix, Ariz.; and San Francisco, Calif.

A total of 3,598 records were reviewed and 935 drug abusers were interviewed.

Our analytic technique was first developed to describe the epidemic nature and spread of heroin in a community. The technique collects the year of first use of a drug and groups these experiences to determine if the event is occurring randomly or is the result of contagious transmission from one user to another. The following results and generalizations should be of special relevance to your current inquiry.

Sixty-two percent of all the drug abusers we interviewed had histories of abusing amphetamines. However, among drug abusers whose primary drug of abuse was not heroin, the prevalence of amphetamine abuse was as high as 85 percent. Of interest, 63 percent of all abusers of amphetamines had been introduced to the drugs by their friends or