

same thing for their Earth-shattering date, party, or whatever. "That is different, this is a \$500,000 deal," we argue. "But," the young person says, "This is the chance of a lifetime to really impress someone that will change my whole future."

What have we done? Instead of preparing ourselves spiritually, physically, and emotionally we try to substitute an artificial booster or tranquilizer. We do not deal with the real problem.

Let me illustrate. Four weeks ago a young man was released from a certain penal institution. While he was there he got under a lot of tension. So the doctor gave him some Valium. As the tension built so did his intake of Valium, legally. He was released, having completed his sentence, with a legal prescription and is using 40 to 50 milligrams of Valium per day. He is "free" from jail, but he cannot function in the "straight" 8-to-5 society.

Let me add he was 8 years in the penitentiary.

The 40 to 50 milligrams of Valium does not handle the additional tension, so he has added a little alcohol to help out. Now he is in danger of violating the conditions of his release.

What is the problem? Is it tension? Or do we need to dig a little deeper? Then give the individual the coping mechanism to deal with the problem. I have had only 20 minutes with this individual and discovered his tension started when his wife divorced him while in prison. Maybe there was no way to save the marriage, but there is a better way of handling the succeeding emotional problems than a chemical copout.

I am not sure this legislative body can solve the problem, but I believe unless we are willing to see why we get pushed into using chemical substitutes we will continue to seek chemical solutions to emotional and spiritual problems.

Dr. Blum stated in an article in Look magazine, several years ago, in a discussion of various solutions to the drug abuse problem, "If we are looking for a drug to solve the drug problem we will fail. We will never solve the drug problem until we make up our minds what our minds are for."

Now to speak specifically to our experience with the amphetamine group.

By the way, since writing this, I had a man come in, his grandfather called me to visit him in jail, and when I got to talking as to what his problem was, I asked him, what can I do to help you.

I said, why are you in jail?

He said, armed robbery. I said, well, for what? Are you involved in drugs?

He said, yes, and I said, what kind of drugs? I said, I am not the law, not the court, not the lawyer.

What are you taking?

He said the truth, I don't even know what happened, but I had taken some speed and some cocaine, and we had some liquor, and the next thing I knew, I was in jail.

When I woke up, I was here. I don't know what happened, and he is charged with armed robbery, but amphetamines is the basis of it. I found out since he was getting them through his mother.

We first began to see people coming in with this problem in 1967 and 1968. Not large quantities, but when a person had been involved