

I am not an advocate for propoxyphene or any other particular drug, but a biomedical scientist who recognizes a critical need for a method of effective evaluation of human toxicology. DAWN is a valuable but blunt tool, not designed for this purpose but so often misused because it is the only instrument available. It is not good enough alone for toxicologists' purposes. A cool, continuous examination of toxicological facts as they become available through a prospective monitoring system is required, together with improved laboratory practice and applied research. The overriding purpose should be better medicine and improved public health through the dispassionate work of medical examiners, coroners, and toxicologists. They are the ombudsmen of public health, and their professional efforts deserve better than ill-considered interpretation resulting in hasty, self-defeating legal regulation.

Thank you.

Senator NELSON. Thank you very much, Dr. Finkle. We appreciate your taking the time to come and present your testimony today. It will be included in full in the record, of course, along with the memorandum you have submitted and along with the other documents.

I want to thank all of the witnesses very much for appearing here today.

As I said earlier, the record will be kept open for 2 weeks for submission of any additional testimony or documents.

Again, thank you very much.

That will conclude the hearings.

[Whereupon, at 1:05 p.m., hearings in the above-entitled matter were concluded.]

[The prepared statement of Dr. Bryan S. Finkle, together with a memorandum for the record, biographical data, and letter to Dr. Sidney M. Wolfe, follow:]