

I am a little puzzled by that.

Dr. FREEDMAN. You are sharp. I took that out of context from a paper I was writing on LSD abuse. And it is time to find out a lot. Some very good medical journals wrote editorials about "findings" of chromosomal damage which have been used to back up, I think, some very stupid bills on drug abuse. But if you establish genuine scientific criteria, all you can say is, gee, that is interesting. And maybe in 10 years we will know whether there is or isn't such damage; whether it is or isn't significant to health and reproduction—if truly scientific research is wanted and funded. As a doctor I am perfectly aware that a drug may have unanticipated consequences. So you weigh risks and gains. And so by scientific "findings"—I mean scientists and journalists can use their findings politically.

I don't want to be permitted to play God, and that tendency is what I am leery of. And I am pointing out that just because a report is in a good journal doesn't mean that it also carries biblical weight.

There is no substitute for data, for inquiry, and perspective. And science is full of the history of violent controversies and opinions. So I am simply saying, just because somebody gives you a scientific-looking paper, that isn't enough. You have to adjudicate; you have to find it out, you have to have a company of peers and equals who look at your data and may say yes or disagree or point to unanswered questions or unjustified premises.

Senator NELSON. I take it in speaking of LSD it is just accidental that you used the word "leery"?

Dr. FREEDMAN. Yes; I tripped up on that one, sorry.

Senator NELSON. I want to thank both of you for excellent presentations and very valuable contributions to the hearing record. We appreciate your taking the time to come here today.

We will now recess until next Thursday, August 7, at 9:30 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 a.m., the subcommittee was adjourned, to reconvene at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 7, 1969.)¹

¹ Testimony for Aug. 7, 1969, appears in pt. 14.