

Mr. GORDON. One moment, please. I want to get that answer. Did you ask the doctor just now if he informs the women of side effects?

Senator McINTYRE. Yes.

Dr. KISTNER. Yes, of course I do.

Senator McINTYRE. In your own practice, let me repeat the question for benefit of counsel, in your own practice, Doctor, do you regularly inform a woman of those potential side effects and question her concerning any of those preexisting conditions before starting her on the pill?

Dr. KISTNER. Of course, this is good medical practice.

Mr. GORDON. Have you always done this, Doctor?

Dr. KISTNER. Done what, advise of the side effects?

Mr. GORDON. Yes.

Dr. KISTNER. Of course, I know you are going to read the testimony but that says complications.

Mr. GORDON. Let me read from testimony that you gave——

Dr. KISTNER. I know the testimony.

Mr. GORDON. That was in South Bend, Ind.?

Dr. KISTNER. That is right.

Mr. GORDON. You were asked the question "What do you tell them about Enovid when you prescribe it?" Then you said, "Well, my routine is and I hope I may be able to give my routine" and you talk about taking a thorough history, do a complete pelvic examination and so on and so forth, and then you say "in addition to this I will usually give her one of the prepared booklets that all of the pharmaceutical houses have in order to have her better understand exactly what is going on in the physiology, in her basic physiology. I like my patient to know what is going on and how the drug she has taken is effective in preventing pregnancy," and so on.

The question is then asked "To what extent do you go over with your patients the information contained in the package insert?" Your answer "I don't relate the package insert to the patient. The package insert is related to me" then the next question, "When you give Enovid to your patients in the manner which you prescribe, do you discuss with them the reports that appear in the Searle literature?" And then "Did you tell your patients about the reports that appeared in the Searle literature in the package insert regarding the occurrence of thromboembolic phenomena of takers of Enovid?"

"Are you asking me whether I initiated the conversation?"

"Q. Yes, whether you told your patient about it," as a part of your routine thromboembolic. Your answer, "I told her as a reply or the initiation of the discussion."

"Q. Well as an initiation, no. I did not."

"How would it come up if it came up?"

Your answer, "If the patient asked me that she had read there was some problem with blood clotting then I would reply to the question."

"Then what would you reply?" So on and so forth.

This was on direct examination. Then in the cross examination the counsel asked "But you never tell your patient there is a risk of this oral contraceptive pill?" Your answer "No, I do not."

"Q. Isn't that correct?"

"A. That is correct."