

been demonstrated at any rate to the satisfaction of the committee set up by your Food and Drug Administration to look into the matter. It has been established beyond any possible doubt in the minds of the British equivalent committee.

So if we accept that there is a clotting abnormality, then we have half of the picture of these clotting disorders already.

In Great Britain and also in the United States we have young women having strokes from abnormal clots in arteries. Abnormal clotting in arteries have been included in other sites, in limbs——

Senator NELSON. Excuse me. May I ask has there been a correlation indicating that those who are taking oral contraceptives have a higher incidence of the abnormality than those who do not?

Dr. WYNN. I am sorry, I did not get that. The abnormality of?

Senator NELSON. You were referring to——

Dr. WYNN. To stroke.

Senator NELSON. To thromboembolism at that moment?

Dr. WYNN. I was referring just now to stroke, peripheral artery disease and coronary disease.

Senator NELSON. Excuse me, is there a correlation between women who are suffering from stroke, atherosclerosis, and the incidence of those who are on the pill vis-a-vis those who are not taking oral contraceptives?

Dr. WYNN. Yes; that evidence is available in the April issue of the British Medical Journal of 1968. The authors of the article are Dr. Devlin and Dr. Vessey. There are other complications as well, and to a considerable extent the data confirm these observations, and I had a conversation with Dr. Sartwell last night in which he expressed as his opinion that the American data confirmed as far as he was concerned the British findings.

I have also the unhappy task of informing you that according to an unpublished British report which has been given to me by the one person best qualified to assess the situation, that there is already a significant increase in the development of acute coronary disease in young women taking oral contraceptives.

Senator NELSON. You say this is an unpublished report. Is it to be published?

Dr. WYNN. This will be published within the next 2 to 3 weeks. So I would like to pass on if I may to the next point. Or rather I should say that I would like to summarize this point that you asked me the significance of this data.

I do not know what the significance of the data is. I repeat this, that I am concerned, and every reasonable physician that I have spoken to on the subject is concerned. The Food and Drug Administration and the experts at the National Institutes of Health are equally concerned. We are not alarmed, and there is no reason why women should be alarmed at the results of my pronouncements.

We are seriously concerned. There is a great deal of difference.

We have to examine this situation. I listened very carefully to your words yesterday, when you were looking at the same proposition: Should we in fact be sitting here, with television cameras, and the world press, to discuss such an important subject?