

in anything, but do you see improvements being made right along, and what should be the role of the FDA in all of this?

Dr. GOLDZIEHER. Well, sir, there was an article some few months ago by Carl Djerassi in *Science*, which pointed out a critically important fact; namely, that it will probably depend on the United States—which has the people, the technology, the money—to lead the world in the development of better contraceptive methods. The problem that has been generated, Senator, is that the present restrictions on research, which have been promulgated by the FDA, are so prohibitive both in practicality and in cost that they are going to shut off a lot of the potentially useful contraceptive research in this country.

I can tell you personally that a company as large as Du Pont withdrew from our clinic the testing of a new compound, because they considered it prohibitively expensive under the current FDA regulations.

I can tell you that under the current FDA regulations the development of another promising compound is being delayed and may never come to fruition, because a company has to think whether they can afford to spend that much money on a product which is far from the point where it looks as if it might make the grade. We know that, of 100 compounds that get screened, not 10 percent will ever make the grade.

I am terribly concerned that good clinical research in population control methods is going out of this country, because it is becoming impossible to run clinical trials here because of restrictions and expense. I feel very strongly that we need a new orientation and fresh blood to solve this whole problem.

At the Senate meetings on S. 2108, Senator Tydings' bill to establish a National Center for Population and Family Planning, I suggested that such a Center or its equivalent should take over the FDA's responsibility for development and monitoring of safety and effectiveness of all contraceptive methodology, and that it should not be subject to the unfortunate mechanisms which hamstring this agency today.

I think for someone who is concerned with the population of the world, and the pollution problems and the environmental problems that Senator Nelson spoke about, nothing can be more urgent than to take a really careful look at whether the good intentions of the present FDA mechanism are not in fact the greatest obstacle we have to contraceptive development, and whether unwittingly the FDA now is the Vatican's best ally.

Senator DOLE. I certainly assume that everyone who appears here are men of honesty, integrity, concerned about the public health, welfare, and all these things, but I find it almost impossible to reconcile the testimony, your testimony, with testimony of, again, Dr. Williams and other testimony, where almost completely opposite views—perhaps you are the pro-pill witness and Dr. Williams anti-pill and Dr. Wynn somewhere in the middle.

A woman perhaps sitting in the audience, trying to decide whether or not to take the pill today, will certainly be confused by this. How do you reconcile this, and how do we, as laymen?

We are not experts. I think you point in answer to question 7 that the best person to ask about the pill is your doctor.