

Dr. CONNELL. I think so. As I say, I have given you a very concrete answer as to the fact that I think it is valuable in that I have already done it.

Senator NELSON. I am not talking about what is done in a good clinic or by a conscientious doctor. Obviously, two-thirds of the women, according to the survey, were not told anything. It might be well, therefore, to have in their hands a listing of the side effects.

I am not at all convinced that an ordinary person can carry around in his head the half dozen or eight or nine different precautions or cautions of side effects or indications for calling the doctor. It seems to me he ought to have it in his hand where he could see it.

Dr. CONNELL. I think that it is perfectly reasonable that a patient be told symptoms requiring medical consultation.

Senator NELSON. Do you agree, then, with the FDA Commissioner's statement in his letter of January 12 to 318,000 physicians, in which he says that: "In most cases, a full disclosure of potential adverse effects of these products would seem advisable, thus permitting the participation of the patient in the assessment of the risk associated with this method."

Dr. CONNELL. I think within the context that I mentioned in my testimony, which does not include a total listing of the items on the back page of the document from which you are reading, within the confines of what I said before, I think this is an excellent idea.

Senator NELSON. Thank you.

Go ahead.

Dr. CONNELL. Finally, I would like to make just a few comments on the part of the heretofore silent majority—women. The fact that I have chosen to pursue an active and exacting career while at the same time electing to produce six children, should be my most potent evidence for my overwhelming belief in the larger role to which women should aspire.

I know personally the excitement of feeling new life moving within my body; I have known the never-to-be-equalled thrill of seeing my own firstborn child; I know the private dreams and fears that all women have as they watch their children growing up. These joys and sorrows are the right of all women and should be denied to none.

However, I am equally aware of the happiness and fulfillment that comes with being part of the larger world, of making some contribution, no matter how small, to society as a whole, as well as to my immediate family.

With the advent of effective contraception, women, for the first time in history, have been able to plan their lives, space their children, and look to their futures with confidence. How vividly I can recall the countless women whom I have seen in the course of my career—active, creative, productive for the first time in their lives, cut down by an unwanted pregnancy, either because of lack of or failure of contraception.

This is always a tragic thing to see. Such a misfortune can perhaps be considered partially tolerable when it happens to a woman from the middle or upper class. When it befalls, as I have seen so often, the woman who has just begun to establish her identity as a