

We might do well to consider this ancient advice. There are a number of obvious ways out of our current dilemma. First of all, it lies within our scientific capability to answer many of the questions raised at these hearings, given sufficient funds and direction. Some programs designed to obtain valid answers are under way, others are awaiting support, and many remain to be written. The need for expanded research to find new contraceptive methods and the means to make them widely and rapidly available is too patently obvious to pursue further.

Much of this progress, of necessity, lies somewhere ahead of us. What can be done today? Remove all the archaic legislation on abortion and sterilization which would free both women and their physicians and correct the current social and financial inequality of care. Then, support the programs needed to implement the demands which will immediately and inevitably arise as a result of these reforms. Pass legislation dealing with population problems and their solutions. Provide funds for the training of people to work in these programs at the professional level, but, much more importantly, at the paraprofessional and community levels. It would be unrealistic to think that even with unlimited funds immediate solutions could be obtained to the many and varied problems we face, but the next steps are clear.

Senator NELSON. Thank you very much.

Let me say that one of the reasons stated for calling the hearings was specifically to get additional research funds into this field. One of the great tragedies is that the pill has been on the market for 10 years and neither the medical profession nor NIH, nor anybody else has outlined, in detail, the protocol of studies that ought to be made, and come to the Congress with requests for funds for it. I would think that very possibly, out of these hearings, that is what the results would be.

You refer a number of times in your presentation to the panic, and so forth, caused by these hearings. We still have a number of witnesses to go. Planned Parenthood and a number of other groups. Is it your opinion that the American public should not know the facts that have been developed in these hearings?

Dr. CONNELL. Absolutely not. They should be publicized, I agree, As I said before, the only thing that I disagree with here is the matter of balance.

Senator NELSON. Balance in what way?

Dr. CONNELL. Of the total impact, the total time devoted to particular topics. I think that most of what has been said here about the oral contraceptives is absolutely correct. But as I say in my testimony, I do not think anybody has looked concretely at the millions who are taking them happily and safely and what will happen to them if, for any reason, they could not continue to do so. This is what, as clinicians, we are beginning to see.

Senator NELSON. Of course, we have not completed the hearings.

Dr. CONNELL. I realize that. I said to date.

Senator NELSON. I suppose on the first day of the hearings, you could have made criticism that was much broader. I was pointing out that you cannot hear everybody on the same day.

We have Dr. Kenneth Ryan, chairman of the Department of Reproductive Biology of Case Western Reserve University appearing today; we have Dr. Paul Meier, of the University of Chicago; we have Dr. Alan Guttmacher, president of Planned Parenthood, who will be accompanied by Dr. Mary Lane, staff physician, Margaret Sanger Research Bureau, on our list for tomorrow. We have