

American women in good health give up the pill simply because they do not understand what is going on here.

Senator NELSON. I might say in reference to your comment about panic—I do not know whether that is the right word or not—some doctors were quoted in the paper 2 weeks after the hearings started that they were now seeing the first pregnancies from the hearings.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. That is a rapid pregnancy.

Senator NELSON. You have to be pretty panicky to get pregnant in 2 weeks, I think.

In fact, yesterday, Dr. Connell testified, and I think it was instantly called to her attention—we heard testimony from Dr. Connell, a very distinguished gynecologist, who runs a clinic in New York—

Dr. GUTTMACHER. Dr. Connell? I helped train her, so I think she is great.

Senator NELSON. Now, we received her testimony on the 17th of February. The hearings opened on the 14th of January. Her statement had to come through the mail and she also had to prepare it in advance. So, in less than a month, she was able to say, "Several pregnancies ascribed to stopping the pills because of fear have been seen."

So you have a situation in which doctors were supposed to have reported pregnancies before 30 days go by. Does that not give you a little pause about panic statements of the doctors themselves?

Dr. GUTTMACHER. This is a misinterpretation, I think, Mr. Senator. What has happened, of course, is that there have been a tremendous number of scare articles in the lay literature, quite sometime before these hearings were scheduled. We found that in some of our clinics, patients were not using the pill. The Margaret Sanger Research Bureau, which is one of the great institutions of the United States, noticed in 1969 a 9-percent drop in pill-users, and they have thousands of patients.

This was, of course, a reflection of a lot of the scare literature which got into the Ladies Home Journal and other volumes. So I do not think Dr. Connell or anyone else is insinuating that your hearings have impregnated women. I think the thing which has impregnated women is the scare literature which anticipated your hearings by several months.

I think this is the difference, sir.

Senator NELSON. That is the first explanation I have heard. I suppose we shall get some credit for people having dropped the pill 3 years ago.

Senator DOLE. Mr. Chairman, some of my own doctor friends have indicated that we might better be doing something else for the world. As a member of this committee, of course, it has been very interesting. Our own promotion of these hearings started in December, so we have had, really, more than 30 days.

There has been a great amount of publicity everywhere in America, including my own State, Kansas, concerning the hearings and