

get the package? The literature that is going out is inaccurate. It is misleading 8,500,000 women in this country and it has been doing it for 10 years. It has not been corrected by the Food and Drug Administration, it has not been corrected by the medical profession; it has not been refuted by anybody. Here it stands. You refute it; I reject it.

You would not use this in your clinics. Yet it is being passed to women all over the country. At what stage do you consider the women's rights?

Dr. GUTTMACHER. I see your point. Well, I suppose if you had the, if the FDA had the, medical manpower and the budget, they could have submitted such literature, I am sure that if they criticized it, the drug company that put this out, I should think would make the changes which are suggested.

I think that you probably have no right to impose what should be written in such a pamphlet. But if there were some way of clearing all medical throwaway data with the FDA before publication for their criticism, it might be a very salutary thing.

Senator NELSON. I think it would be, but they do not have the personnel, nor, at this stage, so far as I know, the authority which is another thing that ought to be corrected.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. That is correct. But I do not think you can impose it.

I turn our attention to one other aspect of this situation, and that is what is happening the world over because the impact of these hearings has washed up on the shores of almost every country.

Senator NELSON. May I interrupt you? I apologize for interrupting you, but I wanted to get the—

Dr. GUTTMACHER. I am hurrying myself along and you are slowing me down.

Senator NELSON. I just have one more line of questioning. I read to you the statement of the Salhanick study sponsored by NIH. I suppose each individual has to judge himself, and you feel that the statement would not mean anything to women, and I assume you mean men, too. Let me read that once more. I do not think there is anything in there that any average person in America would not understand. I understand it; I have no medical training.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. You are the son of a doctor, sir.

Senator NELSON. But you do not get any genes or chromosomes for that.

Until recently, the metabolic effects of the sex steroids have been inadequately investigated, or ignored. These accumulated data and others suggest that no tissue or organ system is free from a biological, functional, and/or morphological effect of contraceptive steroids. Many of these changes appear to be reversible after short periods of treatment. But it is impossible to form judgments on the reversibility of some of the changes resulting from prolonged administration. This question becomes more important daily for the many patients who have already had long-term contraceptive steroid treatment.

Nevertheless, the consistency of such reports on such findings rejects the possibility that they are of no consequence and requires that certain questions be answered.

Now, that is not any medical statement to cause anybody any trouble. Perhaps the word "morphological" may be difficult but, as a