

I was wondering about the extent of the distribution of information about the pill. How many are getting proper information regarding its use?

Dr. GUTTMACHER. In absolute honesty, Mr. Javits, I cannot tell you of the million women in the medically indigent group getting birth control through subsidized sources, what percentage are given actual insight into the potential dangers of the pill. I cannot tell you. We certainly know our doctors are thoroughly instructed in these potential dangers. We assume that in conversation with patients, they pass on this information to them. Certainly, if questioned, they would. If they are not questioned, whether they would point out the dangers, I cannot in all frankness say.

Senator JAVITS. Now, do you know whether this booklet to which the Chair referred—

Dr. GUTTMACHER. You mean the Salhanick booklet?

Senator JAVITS. No, the little one, "So Close to Nature." Do you know whether this is still in distribution? I see it is copyrighted in 1965, Meade, Johnson and Co.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. I do not know.

Senator JAVITS. Mr. Chairman, I would respectfully suggest that a request be made of this company to find out if it is in distribution, or what are the conditions of its distribution, the size of its distribution, and so on, that that may be made a part of the record.

Senator NELSON. Yes. I would assume you would want it from all companies, because each of them puts a piece of literature out. I have seen other pieces of literature in doctors' offices myself.

(The subsequent information was received and follows:)

MEAD JOHNSON LABORATORIES,
Evansville, Ind., February 26, 1970.

HON. JACOB K. JAVITS,
U.S. Senate,
Old Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JAVITS: During the hearings of the Senate Small Business Monopoly Subcommittee which were in progress February 25, you asked Dr. Alan F. Guttmacher, President, Planned Parenthood if our booklet, "So Close to Nature" was still being given to patients. Dr. Guttmacher replied that he did not know.

You asked that we inform the committee whether or not the booklet is currently distributed so that information might be placed in the record.

We withdrew "So Close to Nature" from circulation in November, 1968. No additional copies have been printed nor distributed by us since that time.

We do appreciate your interest and hope this letter will answer satisfactorily your question to Dr. Guttmacher.

Sincerely, DONALD G. HARRIS,
Marketing Administration.

Senator JAVITS. I think, if I may say so to my own chairman, I think we ought to base this solidly in fact and be sure that the facts support the conclusions which we make. I think the distribution of information is really something of great importance that this committee has a duty to go into, since we have undertaken this investigation. It is this committee's duty to give the pertinent information which they develop. Do you agree with that?

Dr. GUTTMACHER. We have to separate fact from conjecture, and this is a realm of difficulty. We know the facts about thromboembolism. I think this is pretty uncontested. We know the facts about