

Senator DOLE. I would like to place in the record this Newsweek article with the poll on the pill.

Senator NELSON. We just asked to put that in.

Senator DOLE. That is fine.

The article does point out that a third of the ladies sampled did stop the pill because of publicity about these hearings. Maybe it is a good thing; maybe they should have all stopped, I do not know.

But I would hope, Doctor, that a man with your broad experience and expertise would be able to allay the fears of some people, with reference particularly to charges about cancer and some of the more serious side effects. You may have made the point, in my absence, that the pill is not perfect—not 100 percent safe. But you still feel, even after the testimony you have given on cross-examination, that it is still an effective contraceptive device or method.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. I think these hearings are the best argument in favor of the Tydings-Yarborough bill of anything I know. I think the Chairman agrees with me, because he is the best protagonist of that bill that I know.

Senator NELSON. I am happy to hear you say that, because I just testified on that bill, and I think these hearings will be very helpful in getting that bill passed and in getting substantial increases in funds for planned parenthood research.

One of the criticisms made in my appearance on the Tydings bill was that I thought the money asked for in the bill was inadequate.

Dr. GUTTMACHER. Thank you, sir.

Senator DOLE. Thank you, Doctor.

(The complete prepared statement of Dr. Guttmacher follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. ALAN F. GUTTMACHER, PRESIDENT, PLANNED PARENTHOOD/
WORLD POPULATION; EMERITUS PROFESSOR, MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE;
LECTURER, MATERNAL HEALTH, HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH; FORMERLY
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Mr. Chairman and Members of the Select Committee on Small Business, I appreciate the invitation to appear before you in the hearings on the birth control pill, the invitation tendered me as a physician of long standing and as President of the Planned Parenthood Federation. In the latter capacity, I probably have one of the largest birth control practices in the world, since in 1969 slightly more than 350,000 women attended 525 centers conducted by Planned Parenthood in 130 cities of this country (1). I assure you this is a responsibility which neither I nor my organization, particularly its National Medical Committee and its capable Medical Staff, take lightly.

Senator Nelson, I believe that the primary consideration for these hearings was the health of American women. I interpret your more specific goals to be twofold—to have potential users of the pill forewarned of its risks and to make the medical profession more cognizant of their responsibilities in its prescription. Unfortunately, and I assume you share my apprehension, there have been undesirable side-effects from these hearings. They have created a sense of great alarm. According to a Gallup poll reported in *Newsweek*, February 9, 18 percent of women using the pill had abruptly stopped using it and an additional 23 percent were "giving serious consideration to quitting." Nineteen highly qualified physicians, members of Planned Parenthood's National Medical Committee, described at a meeting at our headquarters on January 28, that the hearings had caused great distress among patients. One is forced to ask why?