

Dr. Blau also points this out in an article on unwanted children appearing in a population crisis book. He made it clear that "a pregnancy may be unwanted and yet good affectional attitudes may develop after the birth under the influence of the child. Or the reverse may happen—the pregnancy is wanted, and then the baby for one reason or another is rejected."⁵

There is no evidence to support Dr. Guttmacher's contention that unwanted conceptions result in abused or battered children. I have had a lot of experience with battered children since I investigate them in my community. Try to take a battered child away from his mother. It is difficult. She has a certain complex personal relationship with that child which she wants to retain. There is no evidence to show that the battered child could have been predicted in advance and prevented by an abortion.

It seems to me that we are in a treacherous period in our country's history. People today are bracketed with pesticides as environmental pollutants. People in prominent places prefer to limit numbers of children rather than numbers of automobiles which are a direct cause of air pollution. If a recent governmental figure really wanted to act on air pollution, he would not say "let us limit families to two children." He would say "let us limit families to one automobile." Reducing automobile traffic by half would immediately reduce air pollution by half. Paul Ehrlich is proclaiming to our nation that the United States would be better off with 100 million less people. It is natural to wonder who they should be. We also have with us the slogan of the unwanted child. I think it should interest you, Senators, that at the world population meeting in Belgrade about 3 years ago, our American representative, Mr. Lorimer, made the same point: "We have 200 million people now, we will have 300 million by 1980. Wouldn't we be better off with 100 million people less." The Russian delegate's response was, "What is the matter with you Americans, don't you like people?"

Here I would like to suggest that the road to social maturity is wanting the unwanted human being and that the road to responsible parenthood is not technology but the inculcation of responsible attitudes. As Professor Westhoff pointed out in population: "The Vital Revolution" (Aldine Press)—and General Draper supports this—for "family planning effectiveness * * * the problem of motivation rather than only information about (birth control) methods appears vital."

PANIC AND THE PILL

The charge of "panic promotion" has been leveled against these hearings. Such charges should not distract you from the responsibility you have undertaken, the protection of the health of American women. These charges appear to be but one more name calling technique designed to protect and preserve the salvation aura of the pill. There is no evidence to support these charges.

Women who have dropped the pill as a result of these hearings are, in all probability, women who were never told of the dangers of this pill prior to going on the pill.

⁵ See reference 5 of Bibliography.