

sense of it but a dependency, which is just as bad as an addiction if the person is dependent upon a drug.

Now, let me ask you this: I think you have said that alcohol—you are not sure that one is any worse than the other—if one depends on anything it can become very serious. Actually, we have recognized in the law that marihuana is a drug and if there is a dependency on this drug it is a criminal act to sell it. Now, let me ask you this about LSD which is such a potential hazard: Should not this committee consider making possession of LSD a criminal offense?

Dr. GODDARD. Possession, Mr. Rogers?

Mr. ROGERS. Yes; possession.

Dr. GODDARD. I do not believe this committee should. I was asked this question by three committees of Congress last year. My opinion then, and still remains the same, is we should not make criminals of young people in our society who experiment with these drugs. Rather, we should focus our efforts in the drug abuse area, whether we are talking about marihuana, LSD, or whatever it may be, on diminishing the availability of it.

Then, an underlying problem that society has to examine is, why do these people experiment with drugs?

Mr. ROGERS. But we cannot get into that problem.

Dr. GODDARD. I don't think it helps.

Mr. ROGERS. Now we have said it is against the law to sell it.

Dr. GODDARD. Yes, and I believe that should be.

Mr. ROGERS. Don't we make it a penalty if they have opium or a hard drug, narcotic?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. And if there is a possession of it?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Don't we make possession of marihuana a criminal offense?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Isn't LSD worse than marihuana?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Well, it seems to me we have not controlled it very well or stopped the sale of it.

Dr. GODDARD. I would say we have not stopped the sale of marihuana very well, either.

Mr. ROGERS. That is right. At least we can do something about it when we find it in possession. So, I just hope you will review your position here. I think this committee is going to have to study the situation and we have to stop this free flow of drugs.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Harvey.

Mr. HARVEY. Dr. Goddard, does marihuana degrade driving skills more or less than alcohol?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes; it does degrade them differently and I have tried to point out this is one of the dangers of hallucinogens and marihuana, specifically because it distorts the time sense very markedly; seconds seem like minutes, so one's perception changes markedly.

Now, alcohol also influences driving skills, depending on the level of alcohol blood levels that are attained. Up to 0.05 produces relatively little changes in driving skills; after that, rather marked de-