

lems of juveniles and youth in our society that lead them to have used drugs, including marihuana, and it is one that is being widely used today.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Watson.

Mr. WATSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Dr. Goddard, I differ about 180 degrees from my friend from California and my friend from Washington. I think you have a responsibility to the public not to discuss your own personal philosophies about these things because the parents of all teenagers are, I think, directly influenced by any judgment that you make.

Frankly, I believe the main trouble that you had in this particular instance is that you qualified your answer in reference to the use of marihuana.

Now, let me ask you this: You cited the fact that we have had 140-percent increase in the use of marihuana among young people in California alone. Further, you stated on page 5 of your prepared testimony that marihuana has been involved in nine out of every 10 investigations by the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control.

Despite those figures, you tell the American public that you would still advocate a reduction in the penalties for the possession of marihuana?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. WATSON. Despite those figures, you still advocate it?

Dr. GODDARD. What I have been trying to ask is that we review this whole matter. We feel that the major emphasis, the major effort should be on the control of sale and distribution and that there is an anomaly here.

Mr. WATSON. I don't want to interrupt you, but I think our problem is that you have qualified so many of your answers. I would like to get some "Yes" or "No" answers as far as possible.

You would still say, despite the tremendous increase in marihuana, despite the fact that nine out of 10 of your cases had involved marihuana, you would still recommend that the penalties for possession be reduced despite those figures?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. WATSON. Secondly, you made much ado about the long-term effects, and not knowing what the long-term effects are I am sure you are aware of the short-term effects.

Dr. GODDARD. Yes.

Mr. WATSON. Of course, we can only speculate what period would be required for you to determine what the long-term effects are. On the basis of the short-term effects and the detrimental effects as you have outlined, you would still recommend again that there is no more danger in marihuana than there is in alcohol?

Dr. GODDARD. This is not a question that I can answer with "Yes" or "No."

Mr. WATSON. Well, you have recommended it, have you not?

Dr. GODDARD. No; I have said it is dangerous to compare drugs of different pharmacological classes. Because I was asked the question, I compared the actions of the two and I have said that alcohol is a great problem for our society. In terms of the health problems, it is a greater problem than marihuana.