

Mr. McCARTHY. The Chair thanks the gentleman for his statement.

Doctor, I would like to ask you, you alluded to the ample data that are available on the problem of alcohol-driving accidents. Why do you think it is that this ample data did not result in appropriate legislation?

Dr. HUELKE. Because it has recently been shown, using our data no less, by Dr. Seltzer, a psychiatrist at the University of Michigan, that in the first hundred accidents, of the drivers that were at fault—if you are alone and go into a tree, he considers you at fault—50 percent of these people, from our data we know 50 percent had been drinking, 24 percent had not been drinking and 26 percent we do not know. So more than half of the drivers at fault in fatal accidents had been drinking.

He studied all of these drivers and found that 37 percent of them were alcoholics by psychiatric definition and that an additional 13 to 15 percent were prealcoholics. Prealcoholics are the young people, the teenagers and those in their early twenties who are developing such a drinking pattern that it looks like, if they keep it up, they are going to become alcoholics.

But studies have never been done on the progression of an alcoholic, especially in studies of alcoholism among teenagers, so they do not know. That is why they put these people in a prealcoholic category. Probably they are truly developing to be an alcoholic.

So what do we do with these people? This is a real problem. Throw them in the cooler for 10 days, and let them dry out? The first thing they do is walk across the street from the jail to the bar; these people are alcoholics. They are dependent on alcohol. Dr. Seltzer has found that alcohol is only a symptom of deep-seated psychological problems in every one of them, including suicidal tendencies in a good share, paranoiacs, schizophrenics, and that the alcohol just happens to be an obvious sign of their psychiatric problems.

These people need treatment. Now where do we put them? Where do we get all the psychiatrists to work in institutions to try and rehabilitate these people? If one gets into an alcohol retreat for a few months, that does not do a thing.

Mr. McCARTHY. Well, my question was why is it that these people are permitted to drive? I mean, I recognize the need for their rehabilitation, but I do not believe that is something that we can get into here.

Dr. HUELKE. Because if you take their license away, they are going to drive anyway. Studies have shown——

Mr. McCARTHY. They will drive anyway?

Dr. HUELKE. Yes.

Mr. McCARTHY. Without a license?

Dr. HUELKE. Sure. You are only caught once. You may not get caught again.

I think it would be interesting to find out how many people in this room have, in the last year, ever had to show their driver's license because they were driving an automobile.

You have to have some sort of offense before this happens, and most people hardly ever are caught; let's face it.

Mr. McCARTHY. Do you have any figures on the number of drivers in the United States without licenses?

Dr. HUELKE. No. This figure came through the Michigan area. Do you know that?