

Dr. LEE. The evidence is that smoking has increased among young people. We are supporting two studies now to try to determine really some of the basic reasons for this. I think one of the problems is that we do not have an adequate understanding of what motivates individuals, particularly young people, to initiate smoking. Once it is initiated, it is a habit that is difficult to break.

Chairman BLATNIK. I would be interested in knowing just what the results have been. I am not criticizing, but just am pointing out the difficulty of reaching the students. Certainly you can't preach or moralize.

Dr. LEE. There is one important point on this, Mr. Chairman, and that is with respect to LSD. Recent scientific evidence points to chromosomal damage leading to birth defects, or potentially to birth defects and the possible hazard of leukemia later in life, similar damage also occurs with excessive radiation. The presenting of this scientific information both through the efforts of the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control and the general dissemination of this information to young people has apparently been one of the significant factors resulting in what appears to be a decreased use of LSD recently among college students and among young people. So that the making available of the scientific facts in this case at least has perhaps contributed to a decrease in use. We are doing, as Mr. Finlator indicated, studies and surveys of LSD use in the college populations to try to determine what kinds of students use it, what their motivations are, so we can develop better programs of education.

Mr. EDWARDS. Would the chairman yield for a moment?

Chairman BLATNIK. Yes, Mr. Edwards.

Mr. EDWARDS. On the subject of smoking and the studies that have been carried out, I wonder if maybe we have been missing the mark. My daughter in the seventh grade is taking a course in health, Mr. Chairman, and she has been conducting a survey in her own school as to why young people smoke or get interested in smoking. I think it might be very helpful for the great Department of HEW to get down to the school level and find out some of these things. Some of the very basic reasons popped up immediately from young teenagers still in junior high school and they might be very helpful to you.

Chairman BLATNIK. Well, I have run into fourth-grade smokers, real smokers, not those just experimenting with smoking pulverized cigar bark like some of us used to do in school. Now one thing that will have to be clarified will be this whole matter of the relationship between the enforcement, effectiveness of enforcement, and the effectiveness of treating this problem as a medical problem and getting into the whole field of the chemical-pharmaceutical relationship. For example, should the Attorney General have the responsibility of making the determination—this is not for you to answer—but should the Attorney General have the responsibility of making the determination of what is a dangerous drug or should this be left to the Secretary of HEW with his vast scientific resources and research departments, Public Health Service, and what not?

You point out on page 12 there will be an exchange of information between the National Institute of Mental Health and Food and Drug Administration, just as your bureau is now doing, which will be available to the Justice Department equally.