

But certainly drugs are just an incidental factor. They are one form of acting out, a form of protest that adolescents and youth take. And adolescents and youth have been protesting against their parents' way of doing things from time immemorial. Disrespect for property, acting on impulse, lying, stealing, have been other ways in which youth have expressed themselves in the past. Now this doesn't in any way lessen the importance of making laws, appropriate laws for the control of potentially harmful drugs.

Chairman BLATNIK. Doctor, we have a few more questions and we want to give the minority an opportunity to ask questions. But we have to take a recess at this time to answer a rollcall on the floor.

(A short recess was taken.)

Chairman BLATNIK. The subcommittee will please resume session.

Mr. Edwards, I think you were recognized next. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. EDWARDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Doctor, it is good to have you with us today. I think you have given us a very clear statement. I fully appreciated the fact that you don't want to appear to come here and tell us how to reorganize the Government, as you put it.

And yet I think your views are very helpful to us in trying to reach some conclusion. You have talked quite a bit in your statement about the need for expanded research, educational programs, demonstration projects, and experimentation, going into the schools and trying to talk to these young people before they get off the deep end when it comes to drugs.

Is the Justice Department the right Department to carry on that program?

Dr. BARTON. Once again, I don't know enough about the interior workings of the Justice Department to know what it is that they do best. My impression would be that the punitive aspect might receive priority.

And this is the concern that we have, that the frame of reference for the educational process that brings together physicians and social scientists be the familiar one, which is HEW, where they have learned to work collaboratively over the years and do have common interests.

Mr. EDWARDS. Put yourself in a junior high school student's place for a moment. Some of us can barely remember those years. But what would impress you the most, someone talking to you from the health standpoint, or with a health background, or someone talking to you from a law enforcement criminal background?

Dr. BARTON. I think if you are talking about drugs and their effects on people, this is a part of the general health package. If you are talking about how the body works and how it is influenced by various stresses and products as, in social studies, you talk about social change and how change affects youth and what some of the stresses are. These are the logical places to start, rather than simply to say it is bad. This is what we should not do. Kids learn better by learning what they might do and the reasons for certain actions. They always want to know why.

Mr. EDWARDS. And the "why" should not be "If you don't do it, you will go to jail," is that a fair statement?