

Mr. EDWARDS. I would like to ask Mr. Giordano a couple of questions.

It has been stated here, and in other hearings, that marihuana is not necessarily addictive, that all marihuana users don't go on to heroin and something stronger. But isn't it also true that in your convictions and your cases that you have found in most every case, or a substantial portion of every case where you have heroin involved, that the heroin user at some point in time has been a marihuana smoker?

Mr. GIORDANO. Yes, Mr. Edwards. I would say about 80 percent of the addicts started on marihuana.

Mr. EDWARDS. For whatever reason they advanced to heroin?

Mr. GIORDANO. Yes. There has been a recent study in California, which I think will give some idea of how many of those that do start with marihuana go on to something stronger, which is something that we have never said that everybody that smoked marihuana went to heroin. We have said it is a stepping stone because it leads them on to something stronger.

In 1960, the California Statistical Division checked all of those persons that became involved with the State authorities in relationship to marihuana. By 1965 they found that one out of every eight had gone on into stronger drugs within that short period of time.

Chairman BLATNIK. Will you yield? One of the eight would be about 12½ percent, the percentage that went on.

Mr. GIORDANO. In that period from 1960 to 1965. These are the ones that they were able to check out also.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Giordano, let me see if we can pinpoint a little more clearly where organized crime is in the field of narcotics, marihuana, LSD, barbiturates, and so forth. Concerning heroin, organized crime is heavily involved there, is it not?

Mr. GIORDANO. Yes, it is, Mr. Edwards.

Mr. EDWARDS. How about marihuana?

Mr. GIORDANO. We haven't any evidence that organized crime—when I talk of organized crime I am talking about the Mafia element, or Costa Nostra—we have no evidence that they are involved in marihuana. What we have found in the last few years is that those individuals that are dealing in marihuana—and practically all of the marihuana is coming from Mexico—are becoming better organized, more highly organized. But they are not the syndicate group.

Mr. EDWARDS. How about LSD, barbiturates, and that sort of thing? Can you state as to that? Mr. Finlator is here.

Mr. GIORDANO. Just from my information—I have no evidence that they are involved. Mr. Finlator may have some specific evidence.

Mr. EDWARDS. Would you repeat?

Mr. GIORDANO. From my own information I have no evidence that they are involved. Mr. Finlator may have some evidence showing that they are.

Mr. EDWARDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman BLATNIK. Any other questions?

Mr. Erlenborn?

Mr. ERLBORN. I would like to take a moment to say that I have read both your statements, Mr. Giordano and Mr. Hendrick. I think both of you make a very compelling case for the merger of the Bureau