

(The documents referred to are entitled: "Drug Dependence: Its Significance and Characteristics" and "The Association of Marihuana Smoking with Opiate Addiction in the United States" and are retained in the files of the subcommittee.)

Mr. HOLIFIELD. The thought occurred to me a few minutes ago when we were discussing the likelihood of a person going from marihuana to heroin or other narcotics, the thought occurred to me, do you have any statistical data or any personal observation you would like to make in regard to the development of a pusher of marihuana being led into pushing these heavier drugs?

In other words, a young fellow of high school age who starts making a few dollars by pushing marihuana, and he may be picked up and given a light sentence and starts his police record.

Do you have any evidence that they frequently go into pushing the stronger drugs?

This seems to me to be probably an important thing, if true.

Mr. GIORDANO. Mr. Holifield, in recent years this has developed. At one time in the past the individual selling heroin generally was not involved with the sale of marihuana. It was a different type individual.

We now find at the level of the large trafficker on the streets, that they sell both heroin and marihuana. A good example I think of how people are now dealing in both is Danny Escobedo, the notorious individual of the Supreme Court case. We developed a case against him in Chicago. He was just sentenced to 22 years. He was dealing in heroin and marihuana.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. I know that this occurs. I was wondering if the young people who start selling marihuana graduate into pushers for narcotics. Do you have any evidence along that line?

It would seem natural to me if they made money illegally pushing marihuana that they would gradually get acquainted with people who want something a little stronger, or they might be lured into pushing it in order to make even more money than they could make by pushing marihuana. It would seem to me that there would be a progression there.

Do you have any evidence, when you catch these pushers, of how they started? Have there been any studies, such as did you start with heroin, other opiates, or did you start with marihuana and LSD and that type of thing and graduate into the pushing of narcotics?

Mr. GIORDANO. I can give you an example as far as the sellers who are addicts. Sixty percent of the cases that we make are made against nonaddicts. Forty percent are addict sellers.

When I am talking about an addict seller, he is a seller, and he just happens to be an addict also, because they are selling an ounce, a half-ounce, two ounces, half-kilo or quarter-kilo quantities. Better than 80 percent of all the addicts get started on marihuana. Marihuana was the thing that started them on the way to heroin. Lexington made a study of 2,000 individuals and reported 80 percent of those 2,000 started on marihuana.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. That is quite an important statistic. It seems to me the previous statistic given us was 12.5 percent of the marihuana users graduated to narcotics. This 80 percent of the narcotics users, of that 12.5 percent that started with marihuana, it seems to me is a significant indication of how they got that way.