

I must modify that to say also that we have initiated some national effort programs, and the two classic examples are in the child development, educational development, known generally and popularly as Headstart, which was the first major effort initiated——

Mr. ROSENTHAL. This has nothing to do with the consumer program.

Mr. BERRY. This is correct, but this was the national priority program that the OEO initiated in the very beginning of the war on poverty.

The second major program is in providing legal services to the poor throughout the country, and we have made grants totaling some \$19 million to communities all over the country for the establishment of service programs providing legal representation to the poor.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. The point I was trying to establish, at least in my own mind, is that in most of these things you react to local community initiative. But yet don't you have the responsibility for the overview from the Federal and national level, for seeing that what happens in Watts could happen in New York or Detroit or in Washington? Don't you have that understanding much more than the local community groups do, and if that be so, why don't you start these programs at the top and suggest to the communities that these are good programs rather than wait for them to initiate programs?

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, this is a basic philosophical idea that has been debated both with our own organization and, I think, it is debated generally, as to how much Federal laying-on-of-hands as to the direction in which the people should go should be continued.

The community action program, as it was conceived by Congress, as we have sought to administer it, was the new dimension of what we called creative federalism, in forming a partnership between local community responsibility and Federal Government assistance in carrying out that responsibility rather than tell the communities what they ought to do and how they ought to do it.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Well, picking up the point that Professor Caplovitz suggested, somehow you learn that the rioters in Watts took most of their wrath out against the merchants who were engaged in the worst type of practices, don't you think you should rush back and suggest to the folks in Harlem that maybe we ought to do something about it here and now and prevent a recurrence of what happened there?

In other words, you have the communication, you have the overview. This is where the Federal Government has something that local and State governments do not have. You have representatives all over the country.

Mr. BERRY. No, no; we do not.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Well, we should.

Mr. BERRY. Well, if Congress provided us with the money and the direction and the legislation that would enable us to have such a large army of representatives all over the country——

Mr. ROSENTHAL. You mean if you learn something in Los Angeles, you do not translate it into a recommendation for Chicago or Detroit or New York?

Mr. BERRY. Yes, sir. We attempt to translate that information as we gain it, and to other agencies of Government to make it known what are some of the critical ills or weaknesses in the system that prevail in a local community.