

Mr. REID. I just wanted to ask the gentleman one question in response to his query which, as I understood it, is what is the alternative? My question has two parts. Is there not an alternative open to the President to place all of the graduate students and the graduates with a college degree in a larger pool, including 19-year-olds or 19 through 26, so that there would be an equal service liability for all from a much larger pool?

First, is this not possible for the President to do by Executive order and, second, might this not be a fairer and more equitable procedure in terms of fairer application to all men and in terms of mitigating the sharp effect that the present plan might have on the colleges, their teaching resources, and their graduate students?

General HERSHEY. I think it refers to the power which has already been delegated to the Secretary of Defense to make calls by age or age groups.

That is, it is possible. I have said it would create a certain amount of bedlam. I think it violates some things, the principle of making a boy who has lived up to 19, put him under the same exposure as a person who has lived up to 25, but this question of what exposure is quite a debatable question.

I would not pretend to know the answer. I think it is possible if the Secretary of Defense calls for individuals from five or six, or three or four, or two age groups, obviously if the age group that you had at 25 was called for on a percentage basis they would furnish less, especially if only taking 5 or 10 percent of them, than they would if you had a greater number.

Now, on the other hand, I do not believe that you are going to be inducting any 80 percent of any group. At the present time, and I realize that they will not be rejected mentally, I should hope not, to the extent that we have, I have to face the loss of more than half of the individuals who are sent up for physical, mental, or moral reasons, of the average group.

Now, these people will not be rejected for mental reasons, but I have no reason to believe that they are necessarily healthier than some of the other people of their ages. I will expect them to be much better morally.

I have said that it is very, very cumbersome and I did not believe personally that the gain would make up for the losses because when you take one boy at 19 and put him in the same liability of the fellow who has had a liability for 5 years and is now approaching a place where he has escaped that liability if he is not taken.

That is one thing I think had the Congress in the first place taking the oldest first because they thought that produced the greatest number because you got them before they got out. But it is possible under the law and under the regulations and the delegation has already been made to the Secretary of Defense, if they ask for only one age group, you tend, as I read the law, to establish a prime age group if you do that.

Mr. AYRES. Thank you, General Hershey.

I have a question for Dr. Harrington. What was your male enrollment in graduate schools before the accelerated draft in comparison with the present enrollment?

Mr. HARRINGTON. It has been increasing slowly. I am not sure I follow the question.