

Mr. METZGER. Senator, there is always some basis for extortion. And this is in effect what it is. This is exactly what is denominated. In fact, in the bulk of prosecutions involving loan sharking, the actual crime charged is extortion.

Senator JAVITS. And so the loan is just a cover, really, for extortion?

Mr. METZGER. The—

Senator JAVITS. They finger somebody through a loan. They finger a fellow that is weak or inadequate, and they take him on an extortion basis.

Mr. METZGER. You have stripped the outside of it. That is exactly what it does.

Senator JAVITS. Did the loan shark offer you any protection for your store or premises or against other dangers?

Mr. DOE. No protection. The only thing I ever got off him was threats.

Senator JAVITS. You never were offered any, and you never sought any protection?

Mr. DOE. No, sir.

Senator JAVITS. Thank you.

Senator DOMINICK. Did you carry the amounts of the debts on your company accounts in your books?

Mr. DOE. No, sir.

Senator DOMINICK. Did the Small Business Administration look into your books at all?

Mr. DOE. No, sir; they did not.

Senator DOMINICK. Did you ever get physically beaten up by this person?

Mr. DOE. No, I did not.

Senator DOMINICK. Did he bring others with him in order to give an impression of muscle?

Mr. DOE. Yes, a number of times.

Senator DOMINICK. Did you recognize the others as well?

Mr. DOE. Yes.

Senator DOMINICK. When did you go to the district attorney?

Mr. DOE. In September of 1967.

Mr. METZGER. Senator, may I put a question to the witness?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, indeed.

Mr. METZGER. Mr. Witness, in September you say you paid \$14,000; is that correct?

Mr. DOE. That is right.

Mr. METZGER. How much was still owing, according to the shark, at that time?

Mr. DOE. They said I owed them \$5,800.

Mr. METZGER. Now, let me ask you this question, Mr. Witness.

At that period of time, did something happen to a member of your family?

Mr. DOE. Yes, it did.

Mr. METZGER. Will you describe the circumstances following that event?

Mr. DOE. I had a death in my family—one of my children. And this loan shark sent a big \$75 floral piece to the funeral parlor. He never showed up at the funeral parlor. But the night of my son's funeral,