

money to train themselves or just assumed that from then on, they were going to get money.

Mr. REES. The New Jersey experiment will give you evidence on the work behavior of out-of-work teenagers, because there will be teenagers in many of these families. But, the sample is not so designed that every family will have a teenager.

Mr. LEVITAN. It is unfortunate that the 1967 social security amendments did not provide for studies on the effects of the work incentive provisions. It would be desirable to allow HEW to fund experiments with different types of formulas. Instead of the present monthly \$30 and one-third of earnings exemption States might be encouraged to provide different demonstration exemptions.

Representative GRIFFITHS. One of the things that I think everybody ought to keep remembering is that the Ways and Means Committee had already set it up so that States could arrange this themselves and States did not take advantage of it. They did not change their laws. They did not permit these people to draw welfare and work. The State, in my opinion, simply has broken down on the welfare system. This is one of the really great problems. It is one of the reasons, among others, why I think the Federal Government should take it over altogether. I would far prefer this to sending back unencumbered money to the States. It would make much more sense to me simply to take over the welfare system.

Did you have something else you wanted to say, Mr. Lesser?

Mr. LESSER. No; I would agree.

Representative GRIFFITHS. Since over half of the poor work, the great majority full time, and most of the nonworking poor are disabled or too old to work or are women, would a fuller employment policy do much to relieve poverty?

Mr. LEVITAN. Yes.

Representative GRIFFITHS. You would say yes?

Mr. LEVITAN. The lower level jobs would pay higher wages in a sustained tight labor market. However, in many areas, jobs are just not available. An example is eastern Kentucky, where the work experience and training program, under title V of the Economic Opportunity Act produced the only available jobs, paying \$250 a month. Participation in the projects was limited to families with children headed by a male.

Representative GRIFFITHS. You see, that is set up by Congress, runs all through HEW, all through the Labor Department. You just have to have a male in the family.

Mr. LEVITAN. It was just a question of not having enough funds, so they selected families headed by a man.

Representative GRIFFITHS. It is a myth.

Mr. LEVITAN. In eastern Kentucky, it is not a myth, Madam Chairman.

Representative GRIFFITHS. I mean it is a myth in this country that all women are supported by men.

Mr. LEVITAN. Income statistics will amply support your statement.

Representative GRIFFITHS. How many of the poor can benefit from job training, would you say?

Would you care to answer it, Mr. Lesser?