

might properly say are unwilling to work. And among these are a good number who lack the energy to work due to unmet nutritional needs. These are my experiences. These are the statistics I have been working with.

Senator PERCY. I think Mr. Hicks has been very fair in putting in category 1 with the blind and the mentally ill, also the untrained. A man who cannot read or write cannot even be a gas station attendant.

For those who are untrained, Mr. Dumpson, is it your feeling again that these are essentially lazy children or parents who did not want their children to get an education, or is it something in society beyond the control of the untrained today that brought about their condition of inability to adapt to a sophisticated economy and to make their way on their own? Is society to blame or is it, again, laziness, disinclination to do anything by the individual?

Mr. DUMPSON. It certainly would be, in my judgment, Senator, the social system, and particularly the inadequacies of the educational system that have (a) not provided the motivation, that have not devised the curriculum that addresses itself to the needs of the society in the 1960's and 1970's. It reflects in large parts of our country the discriminatory practices in education—that means that segregated education, of course, that means inadequate, low-quality education. For the most part, I am saying that the causation be in the socioeconomic deficits of our system, outside of the individual, and over which the individual has little or no control.

If we want to address ourselves to the so-called functional illiterates and why they are there, it means reorganizing the educational system rather than looking at the individual as a person who just does not want to avail himself of educational opportunities.

Senator PERCY. Many people who oppose social welfare use such terms as "socialism"—that is sort of a nasty word in a free economy and society. They leave the impression that much of poverty exists because of laziness and all of those characteristics which conjure up mental images in the minds of the white and black population that work and go out and do their job and earn their money and support their own family. When they conjure up such an impression, it creates a resistance factor then in society to social welfare work.

Do you feel that those people perform a disservice to society when they constantly castigate the poor in terms of the lazy and those who want a ride on someone else's back?

Mr. DUMPSON. Yes, I do. I think some do it unwittingly, lack of information, with the absence of facts. As to the term "socialism" when used as an epithet to discredit a program in our political system, I am reminded of the fact that, when the Social Security Act was enacted by Congress, there were a series of court cases, and I believe sections of that act had to go to the Supreme Court. One of the charges made against the Social Security Act of 1935 was that it was "socialistic." I doubt that even those who characterize large sections of the poor as being lazy and indolent, and so forth, would be willing to give up the social security system as we now have it.

Senator PERCY. Could I make a short statement and then ask Mr. Hicks another question?

My own experience in social welfare work is miniscule compared to yours, Mr. Dumpson. You know I have come to you through the years