

Minutes of Hearing - HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE - 56th
ASSEMBLY SESSION - March 1, 1971

91

Present: Smalley, White, Swallow, Valentine, Homer, Poggione
Prince, Glaser, and Wilson

Absent: None

Guests: Marthlena Callahan, Parent and Taxpayer; Sharon Greene,
Nevada Hospital Association; Robert Kelso, Blood Ser-
vices and Community Blood Bank Council; Mr. Van Schilen,
Blood Services; Shirley Wedow, Parent Teachers Asso-
ciation; Al Cernens, Carson City Health Department;
William F. Furglong, Carson City Sheriff's Office;
Dr. Ravenholt, Health Department of Las Vegas; Dr.
Salvadorini, Pathologist; Mr. Firth, Logician; Mr.
Olsen, Assemblyman.

Meeting was convened by Chairman Wilson at 3:10 P.M.

A.B. 159: Permits treatment of minor for drug abuse without
parental consent.

Since Mr. Olsen was a co-sponsor of this bill, he spoke in be-
half of it. He was representing the Clark County Welfare
Board, of which he is Chairman. He said he was also here as
Chairman of the Narcotic Fact Finding Committee. Over the past
several months the Narcotic Fact Finding Committee has been
investigating the problem of narcotics in Clark County. There
were approximately 7,000 youngsters on drugs. Recently, the
Clark County School District ran a similar investigation and
found approximately 7,000 also. Less than 10% of these youngsters
are receiving care or attention. The state nor the county
has anything to offer in the way of treatment. In Clark County
there is an organization called "Focus", which operates on the
same basis as Alcoholics Anonymous. The key to this is that
they can get help without being revealed. An organization
like this could not be established unless A.B. 159 were passed.

Dr. Ravenholt said they wanted to treat these youngsters when
they come in and in certain emergencies, we are treating them
anyway. He knew this was jeopardizing his practice. He also
said there are youngsters that come in who are just traveling
through and do not live with their parents and some do not
even know where their parents are. He suggested an amendment
to this bill for Line 3 to state: "any physician or surgeon
licensed in this state may perform diagnostic procedures re-
lating to the illness.

Mr. Swallow questioned him on the family consent.

PAGE 2

Minutes of Hearing - HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE - 56th
ASSEMBLY SESSION - March 1, 1971

Dr. Ravenholt said that 75% of the youngsters get their parents consent for drug treatment but there is a small fraction of kids in the state whose relationship no longer exists with their parents or their parents are not residing in the state of Nevada.

Mr. Swallow suggested an amendment saying the child could be treated if the parents refuse to act.

Dr. Ravenholt explained how these youngsters were treated. He said they treat the complicated illness that goes with the drug problem, and the drug problem is treated mostly at this time by counseling and advice.

Dr. Salvadorini, Pathologist, said that as it has been pointed out, this is a critical problem and they have to be helped. You say this treatment without parental consent will disrupt the family but if they are 17 or 18 and if they do not have a good relationship at this point, you are not going to get them any closer. Perhaps, if the child agrees, the doctor could call the parents in and discuss the matter with both of them and this may bring them closer together.

Bill Furlong, Under Sheriff of Carson City, said that in a metropolitan area you may have many youngsters whose parents are not available, but in this local area you don't find much of that. He felt the parents should be notified and make them aware of what is happening with their child.

Dr. Ravenholt said it is difficult to think about the usual case if the real problem isn't the usual case. If only 2/10 of 1% of those kids are without parents in the State, that is a very small percentage but it is an important percentage. We would like to be able to help that small percentage of kids without legally jeopardizing ourselves.

Mr. Olsen stated he had a copy of facts on this matter. (Attachment 1)

Mr. Wilson told the guests the committee would consider all of the suggested amendments and act at a later date.

PAGE 3

Minutes of Hearing - HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE - 56th ASSEMBLY SESSION - March 1, 1971

A.B. 226: Permits minors to donate blood without parental consent.

Dr. Salvadorini stated that at the present time, kids under 21 need their parents consent to donate blood. He told of one particular instance at the University of Nevada where a student was hurt and needed blood badly. He had a very rare blood type that one of his fellow students had also. The fellow student was unable to donate because his parents did not live nearby so he couldn't get their consent. Dr. Salvadorini suggested lowering the age to 18.

Mr. Swallow asked what is there to prevent a child from giving as much blood as he wants for money.

Mr. Van Schilen, Blood Services, stated that they would be reluctant to lower the age below 18 for this very reason. The Blood Services has very high standards and they would not allow this. Usually when a child is 18, however, he leaves home and should have enough sense by then not to donate just for money. After questioning, Mr. Van Schilen explained what the procedure is before a person can donate blood. First of all, the vital signs are checked, which is the blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and respirations. They are checked for venereal diseases, and plasma quality.

Mr. Prince suggested an amendment for the age to be lowered to 18. Mr. Prince made a motion for a Do Pass as Amended; Valentine seconded; motion carried unanimously.

A.B. 227: Exempts services involving human blood from strict liability.

Robert Kelso, Blood Services and Community Blood Bank Council, stated every test possible was given before blood was transfused. Even after all of these tests are given, there is still a possibility of serum hepatitis. He felt the bill had a purpose of limiting the liability of physicians, hospitals, banks and other persons or entities engaged in human transplants or transfusions to those instances where they have been guilty of negligence or wilful misconduct. It is designed to eliminate cases of liability without fault and thus make advanced scientific developments and techniques available to the general public, even though the physician must calculate a certain element of risk in prescribing those procedures. Serum hepatitis is a disease which is transmissible by the transplantation of human organs from one person to another or the transfusion of blood or its components and is undetectable.

Mr. Smalley asked about these cases where there is a RH Factor and they are given the wrong blood type. He wanted to know what the liability would be for this.

PAGE 4

Minutes of Hearing - HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE - 56th
ASSEMBLY SESSION - March 1, 1971

37

Mr. Kelso said that in this instance, it is pure neglect and would then be put liable.

Mr. Firth, logician, did not feel it was in the power of the Legislature to decide whether these people should be liable or not if serum hepatitis is contacted.

Dr. Ravenholt suggested amendments for this bill as follows:

- (1) Page 1, Line 2 - after "distribution" and before "or" insert "donation".
- (2) Page 1, Line 3 - after "derivatives" and before "for" insert "or human organs".
- (3) Page 1, Line 4 - after "injection" and before "or" insert "transplant".
- (4) Page 1, Line 7 - strike "strict" and after "liability" insert "except for negligence or wilful misconduct".

Mr. Wilson said they would think over the suggested amendments and act at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

A prominent Clark County educator estimated that ten percent of the students attending Clark County schools are users of drugs and narcotics, in one way or another. If true, this would mean 7,000 youngsters are involved on a regular basis. If all of them were apprehended at the same time, they would overflow every single penal and detention facility in the State of Nevada. The estimate was made by Glenn Mackie, assistant principal of Cashman Junior High School. Mackie was just one of more than 30 persons who provided information for a Narcotics Fact Finding Committee, chaired by attorney Arthur Olsen, in which this critical situation was investigated and reviewed. Although his educational duties are at Cashman, Mackie's involvement with drugs extends beyond the boundaries of the neighborhood school -- he is acquainted with it, and juvenile users throughout the area.

Over a period of two months, the Narcotics Fact Finding Committee held two organizational meetings, nine regular two-hour weekly sessions and one special meeting to review this problem. Assisting with information and recommendations were law enforcement officials, health department staff members, prosecutors, psychologists, those involved in rehabilitation, physicians, judges, juvenile authorities, drug users and teenagers themselves who are present and former addicts.

A list of those participating is attached as Exhibit "A".

Mackie's estimate of the number of drug users was perhaps the most conservative estimate of all those who discussed the problem. Some of the students who talked freely about the problem, while admitting that not all students were regular users, said that drugs of one form or another were available to 100 per cent of the youngsters. Estimates of those who have

experimented with drugs ran as high as 90 per cent. Some admitted trying the experiment, not like the effects and declining further experimentation -- not on moral grounds, but for much the same reason that a child won't eat spinach.

It was not the intent of the Committee to conclude that Clark County has a drug problem. That appears to be a foregone conclusion. The Committee studied the problem with respect to a solution. The opinions of law enforcement, and prosecution, to a degree, are that more policemen and prosecutors are needed to apprehend and send offenders to prison. Law enforcement has been expanding here since the conception of the county, but continues to lose ground to narcotics use. Perhaps the present approach is wrong. If narcotics use can be likened to a disease, it is not the remedy to control the disease after it strikes that the Committee sought, but the vaccination that would prevent the disease from occurring. While they are reluctant to speak out publically on the subject for political reasons, some of the top law enforcement officers will readily admit that a new approach to narcotics control is needed because the present methods are not doing the job.

Let us assume that Glenn Mackie's estimate of 7,000 juvenile drug users is correct. Then, what would be the estimate of adult drug users in the county? No one can estimate, but here are the figures on arrests and convictions for 1969 as provided by Ray Gubser, chief deputy, Clark County Sheriff's Department:

Total arrests	1,800
Juveniles	224
Guilty of offense charged	23
Guilty of lesser offense	3
Cases pending	541
Acquitted or dismissed	181

Of the political law enforcement entities involved in making arrests, this is the breakdown:

Arrested by Sheriff's Department	1,100
Arrested by Las Vegas Police Department	740
Arrested by North Las Vegas Police Dept. . . .	43
Arrested by Henderson Police Dept.	33
Arrested by Boulder City Police Dept.	3

If we may assume that as many, or more, adults are using drugs on a regular basis as juveniles, then perhaps 10 per cent have been detected and investigated to the point where an arrest was justified. Most of those persons involved in directly dealing with the narcotics problem agree that punishment does not appear to be a serious deterrent to the use of narcotics.

Mackie contends that money no longer is a problem to the teenager who wants to experiment with drugs. In some circles, the pills are passed around much the same as a package of cigarettes. Certain kinds of peppills can be bought in California for as little as 15¢, and retailed here for as much as \$4 each. It has become a "social thing" now where students might meet on their lunch hour, or after school, for a pill session. Mackie's estimate is that there are two "pushers" for every seven users. What does have a deterrent -- but some serious legal implications -- is the threat of pumping the stomach of a suspected drug user.

The public health implications of the drug problem were presented by Dr. Otto Ravenhold, Clark County Health Officer, and Charles Emery, a member of his staff. They say that any foreign substance injected into the blood stream has some kind of effect, and that includes peanut butter and wine which they said was being injected between the toes of some of the youngsters. There are many other things being used that "you wouldn't even suspect. Anything can be injected, and it has a reaction."

According to Ravenholt, "Kids will take 'dare' trips, and these effects vary from exhilaration to complete despair. The world of drug taking by the young is marked by fantastic extremes, and many of the youngsters know more about the effects of drugs than the doctors do." As to motivation, Dr. Ravenholt gave three factors for drug uses: 1. experimentation; 2. make you feel good or keep you feeling good; and, 2. escape from intolerable conditions. He said it is amazing the amount of punishment the body can take from junkies who shoot all kinds of foreign substances into their blood stream.

Dr. Ravenholt feels it is unfortunante that the State Board of Pharmacy does not have an investigator who can follow up unusual drug purchases. He feels that manufacturers should have a self-policing policy which would enable them to keep track of drugs from the time of manufacture to the ultimate consumer. Some European countries have this policy now. Methedone clinics are appearing and providing a partial solution, but in order to be successful these and any other clinics must operate with the cooperation, and not the harassment, of law enforcement. Junkies are not stupid people, according to Ravenholt, they are usually very bright persons. He feels that there are dozens of addicts here who need help, probably many of them marginal cases who are holding down responsible jobs. Unfortunately, they will not seek help at a clinic where they will be identified with narcotics through their appearance there (See Exhibit "E"). Many probably are getting help from private physicians.

District Attorney George Franklin described marijuana as the "social assassin" of our society and lamented efforts to reduce the penalty for possession from a felony to a misdemeanor. He contended that by doing this, it will convince the users that

it is not as harmful as the critics say it is. He said that there are six million alcoholics in the nation today, but 12 million pot heads. One of the great dangers is that marijuana is accepted as the sociable "in" thing today.

He said that he does not know of a single first offender who has served a day in jail after a court appearance. He feels that the Juvenile Court judges are entirely too lenient and the judges fail to hand down commensurate punishment for the narcotics offense.

Nevada's easy divorce law as given as one of the sources of the juvenile problem by John Mendoza, Judge of the Juvenile Court. He said that 70 per cent of the youngsters who come before him are from broken homes. He said that one of the solutions to this would be the requirement that a man marrying into a family be required to adopt the youngsters. Then he would have a legal and moral requirement to provide for the family. There is no such requirement now. Mendoza said that the Gault decision has revolutionized the juvenile courts by giving youngsters all of the constitutional guarantees of an adult. He said that there are cases now of 15 and 16 year olds being hardened criminals. In the past year there was a 500 per cent increase in narcotics and a 250 per cent increase in violent crimes. Youngsters now are committing robberies instead of stealing cars and starting fights. He said the availability of weapons from the parents is partially responsible for this, "but nobody appears concerned about this."

Judge William Compton feels that the U. S. Supreme Court has destroyed the basic principle of Juvenile Court. Prior to the Gault case, Juvenile Court was handled more like a hearing rather than an adult court. He feels that the "guilty" or "not guilty" approach is not in the spirit of the Juvenile Court.

Compton said the basic character of the child is determined before age five. He cited one successful experiment in Charleston, S. C. He said a law was passed enabling parents to be arrested for allowing their children to be out after curfew, and they spent the night in jail with their children. He said that juvenile crime dropped 85 per cent under this plan. He said stricter enforcement of curfew, and truancy laws, cut down on other crimes because many of them are committed while being a truant or a curfew violater. Compton said that in the past 18 months the judicial workload in Clark County increased 42 per cent.

Also stressing the importance of the family and the training at home of the youngster was Robert (Moon) Mullen, Municipal Court Judge. Parents are reluctant to admit that their youngsters are wrong, or have done anything wrong. He said that many parents expect the schools, law enforcement and the neighbors to do the job that they didn't do in the pre-school age. Mullen said that the narcotics problem isn't any better or any worse on the Westside than it is in the East part of Las Vegas. It's just as easy to get narcotics as it is to get cigarettes or liquor anywhere in the U.S. He said that over the past year he had about 30 cases of parents contributing to the delinquency brought before him, but all had to be dismissed because you can't get a parent to establish the age of a child.

Another who feels that the parents expect too much of the schools in the realm of training is Jack Schofield, a special education instructor with the school district. He said that the breakdown of the home is a chief contributing factor to delinquency. The teachers can't raise the kids, Schofield said. He estimated that the average high school teacher handles 180 to 200 youngsters per day.

Among the law enforcement officials who participated, it appeared unanimous that stricter controls are needed to punish those parents who allow their children to get into trouble. One of those was Dale Hoffman with the Las Vegas Police Department. He said there are presently no laws that will punish the parents. In his career he said he has arrested only 35 adults for child neglect. He feels that most of the juvenile problems originate in the home. He said that juvenile authorities take a problem child, place him in an institution to try and straighten him out, then when they feel there has been some success, the child goes back in the same home where the problem originated. Some youngsters have been known to voluntarily come to Juvenile Home because of intolerable conditions at their own home. He suggested a mental hospital or clinic for the young delinquent.

Another police officer (LVPD) was Herman Moody who contends that acid (LSD) is easier to get than marijuana. Moody doesn't feel the problem on the Westside is as great as it is in some white areas, Charleston Heights for example -- which Gayla Pefley said is referred to as Heroin Heights. Moody said that the schools were cooperating to the best of their ability, but that the schools are not getting the narcotics enforcement that they are entitled to. They permit the police to come in and lecture on the dangers of drugs, but it takes a special kind of person to be effective, one that is young enough for the students to associate with but mature enough to know what it's all about.

Perhaps some of the most startling information was presented by some of the teenagers and former addicts who participated in the panel discussions. Two of the adults were a young married couple who had kicked the habit. The woman said she started out at age 16 as a "garbage hipe," someone who is so

poor they will take anything. She started the drug taking on a dare, and partially out of curiosity, in San Francisco. She started on speed, and went to pills and then to heroin. Then she moved in with a chemist who was making speed for her and gradually cutting down on the heroin quantity.

"If I had known what it was, I wouldn't have done it," she said. She said she has been off of heroin since March, 1968, with the exception of two fixes. "I can get codeine pills from any doctor in town. The same doctors will provide weight control pills." The woman indicated that an adequate educational program might have been a deterrent to her habit.

The man said he started smoking marijuana at age 11 when he was in reform school. He said that dope is easy to get in prison, if you have the money, and that there is plenty of it at Half-Way House, a drug abuse clinic. At school, the boys congregate in the toilet and someone with a stick will offer it around. You will resist, and resist and finally give in. Then, later, you will go to the toilet to meet the other boys specifically to participate in the community pot smoking. He said that he graduated from apple wine to grass to heron. In a single year he estimated that his heroin habit cost \$300,000, and that this was financed by stealing. His feelings on the problem is to find a cure before the individual gets started. Instruction among small groups would be most effective.

One Western High School girl said that 75 per cent of her friends use pot, and she admitted smoking it twice on a weekend. "There is constant pressure on you to use dope. They really bug you about it until you try it once. They smoked pot on the lawn in front of the school. You could buy anything on the school front lawn."

A sixth-grade boy said he was approached by a friend who suggested he "turn on" with cigarette lighter fluid. The girls said that a number of the students came to class, obviously "loaded" on something -- but the teachers couldn't care less. They thought the "mod squad" approach was an effective one because nobody trusted anybody, but that still wouldn't prevent the youngsters from buying the drugs from a friend or someone they know. The junior high school girl (Gibson) said she recalled seeing a film of drug use in a physical education class, but did not recall many of the details of it. As far as a teenage recreational center was concerned, they felt it would be wrecked by persons selling dope.

This "wrecking" opinion was disputed by another panel of teenagers who felt that the youngsters would police such a facility themselves to keep out dope peddlers who might try to use it for sales. These teenagers felt that athletics were over emphasized in recreational programs -- that there was nothing to do for those who didn't want to play baseball. Their recommendations were for a place where teenagers could congregate and be left alone. One suggestion was for a city park, and another for a recreation facility on Mt. Charleston for outdoor activity. "Kids just want to sit around and talk," was one of the teenage observations. They felt that a meeting place was essential -- a place where they could gather without being roused for being suspected of smoking pot.

The personal experiences of two parents were described by Mister A and Mister B. Mister B said his 17 year old son started out by smoking pot and later was involved in stealing. Strange persons started hanging around the house. Mister B said that Ray Ben David (operator of Focus) "saved my boy's life." For a fee of \$1,000, the youngster was put in Synanon -- but not after running away once in defiance to going there.

Mister A described a similar family problem and how he handled it. "All outside contacts must be eliminated. It takes every moment of every day. Even the telephone conversations had to be eliminated." Mister A said that two of his boys were using them now. He emphasized the seriousness of the problem.

But, what is being done? There are a number of programs operating on a limited basis which are attempting to solve the problem. One of these which deals directly with those who are drug users is Focus (See Exhibit "D"), which was described by Flora Dungan, wife of Ray Ben David, a former long-time drug addict who is trying to prevent young persons from the life he led. Mrs. Dungan said that none of the laws passed by the legislature have ever stopped anyone from using drugs. (54 bills dealing with narcotics were introduced at the last session of the legislature) Mrs. Dungan is one of those who urged a change in the law from a felony to a misdemeanor because the problem is one which should be taken out of the criminal approach and rehabilitation intensified. The trend now is for the younger children to experiment with drugs. She feels that there is a communications gap between the students and the police, prosecutors and even family physicians. It takes younger people to talk to younger people on the hazards involved, and this is the principle of Focus.

Essentially, this is what Focus provides. Young former drug users discuss their problem and how they kicked the habit. The peer group is the only one that will get through to the kids. Mrs. Dungan believes that the approach to the laws is also wrong because pills, hereoin and marijuana are all lumped together in

the laws, but the effects are far different. "We are not telling the kids the truth about our laws."

Another program for teenagers called "US" is operated by two VISTA volunteers named Michele and Imo, and provides a meeting place for youngsters. If the teenagers want only companionship, this is available, but other creative projects are encouraged such as group discussions. There are 50 to 100 who attend regularly, but as many as 200 may be in and out of the facility at 900 S. Commerce Street during an evening.

The program provides field trips on Sunday to a different place each week. Old movies are shown Sunday night. Monday through Thursday there will be discussions, instruction on candle making, jewelry making, leathercraft and workshop. On Friday night a dance is held and Saturday night a jam session. Craft counselors mainly are volunteers from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The program operated mainly on donations. "These kids have no trouble articulating on what they want," the couples said, and attempts are made to provide it.

Another program aimed at preventive occupation was described by Hugh Follmer, M.D. It is an off-shoot of the Boy Scout program, but the connection there ends. Follmer said that the program originated as a result of a survey which showed that teenagers chief interest was in careers. Adults with a vocational specialty were recruited to help and instruct teenagers in this area with excellent results for a small program.

Aside from the program with the teenagers, Follmer said that society today is drug oriented. "Aspirin kills more people than any other drug in the country. There isn't a physician alive that hasn't killed somebody with the wrong drug at the wrong time and the wrong dose."

Another approach to the problem was provided by Richard Elson, a psychologist with the school district.

"Individually," he said, "the kids tend to clam up when asked about the problem. Group therapy sessions work best. Kids have all kinds of problems and turn to drugs for escape. The Hippie types have serious emotional problems. In treating these emotional problems, among three groups of teenagers treated last year through group therapy, all of them admitted that they had taken drugs." He said that the most vicious of all of the drugs is LSD -- which policeman Herman Moody said was easier to get than marijuana.

Elson described in minute detail an LSD "trip," which has a duration of about 72 hours. Most dangerous of all is the possibility of a full recurrence of the "trip" at any time within two years, and for reasons which science has not yet been able to explain. Brain damage occurs within the first six hours of the swallowing of the drug. He said that no person should make a major decision within six months after taking LSD.

Elson gave the following synopsis of an LSD trip. Within 20 minutes there is a quickening of the heart beat and faster and deeper breathing. At 40 minutes, you lose concepts, not knowing if your thoughts are your own; you are disassociated with yourself. You see things that aren't there, and see things differently that are there. The natural body clock goes out of kilter. These effects continue to build up for up to six hours. A person can have homicidal or suicidal tendencies during this buildup, even from taking such a small amount as could be mixed with the glue on the flap of an envelope. The individual may feel that he is going insane, and the only escape is to kill himself. At the peak, some persons think they can fly, and kill themselves in the attempt. The major effects are complete in 20 to 24 hours, but there is a hangover period of from 24 to 48 hours in which the individual is completely depressed. By 72 hours,

the trip and after effects have run their course -- with the exception of the recurrence.

California is the LSD capital of the country, according to Richard Robinson, the local enforcement agent for the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. He said that anyone with a chemistry background can make LSD in the bathroom. He described the source of most drugs in the problem area as being Mexico for marijuana and brown Heroin and the wholesale houses for the pills, sometimes shipped to drug stores in Mexico and sold there. Operation Intercept, the program last year whereby cars crossing the Mexican border were searched, was basically designed to make the Mexicans aware of our desire to stamp out drug traffic between the two countries. Some of the drug experimenters -- those who ran down below the border for the weekend -- were impressed by the program. The Federal Bureau is hoping to get two more agents here at the start of the next fiscal year.

Presently there are about 24 officers investigating drug use in the various political entities of Clark County, Officer Lem Burtz of the Las Vegas PD, said that recent purchases of narcotics have come from persons as young as 13 years.

Recreation programs by the city of Las Vegas and Clark County were described in one session by Patrick O'Neill, county recreation supervisor, and Wes Howery, city commissioner and Convention Authority member. O'Neill outlined the seven year old county program, pointing out that there are now seven lighted baseball fields. The county also operates a day camp program in Lee Canyon during the summer for eight to 12 year olds. O'Neill now is enlisting the assistance of young people in planning the type of program they want, which he hopes will turn out to be imaginative and creative in nature. Past programs, he said, have been patterned after what the adult thinks the youngster should be doing in his spare time -- which was one of the chief complaints aired by the youngsters.

"Kids are

interested in a place where they can communicate." The innovations are being undertaken by a county recreation staff of only two persons, plus some part-time summer help.

Howery read off scores of arts and crafts programs conducted by the city during the summer. He said that \$200,000 grants had been made to Clark County and Las Vegas by the Convention Authority. He said that some teenagers had approached him with what he thought were "unreasonable demands." He said they wanted their own building, unsupervised, for their own activities and no other use. He said that request was denied, but did not elaborate further.

The approach taken by O'Neill for participation of the younger people in planning their own activities has long been the successful formula employed by Sy Ogulnick, operator of Children's Campus and the Youth Hotel at the International Hotel, Ogulnick is probably the most experienced youth worker in the area. He spent years in California operating summer camps, and is still operating such a facility in Northern California. The success formula is to get the youngsters completely involved in planning their own activities, in small groups.

Much of the municipally-operated recreation programs are aimed at athletic events. If you don't play baseball, there's nothing to do. Many of the mediocre and poor performers in athletics tend to shy away from sports because they don't like to look bad. Perhaps these non-sports oriented teenagers could be called the silent majority. Their needs and desires are seldom recognized. It is in this area where attention should be given, and not at an additional expense, but by diverting monies to other forms of activities, preferably outdoor, which are not keyed to athletic competitiveness. Summer camps with such activities can be operated for minimum expenditures.

Throughout the discussions held by the Narcotics Fact Finding Committee, many persons attended one or a few sessions, either as a guest, or because they had heard about the group and were interested. The one aspect of American justice that bothered a number of the average citizens was the ready access to bail and release by the narcotics offender. Many could not understand why bail was available to persons arrested for this offense. And, they were bothered that many of these people could go back to selling narcotics while awaiting trial, which could run into months. George Franklin provided the answer to the problem of the release of the dope peddler, or narcotics pusher. "It's simple. Just change the constitution," he said facetiously. But, perhaps there is another approach. Flora Duncan suggested taking the addict out of the criminal field and stressing rehabilitation. Such a procedure would require medical treatment such as is provided now by the federal government at narcotics hospitals in Ft. Worth, Texas, for men, and Lexington, Ky., for women. If addiction to narcotics could be classified as a contagious or infectious disease -- and there are plenty of cases to link drug use with hepatitis -- then offenders could be detained without bail by the Clark County Health Officer under provisions of NRS 439.500. (See Exhibit "B").

Dr. Otto Ravenholt, county health officer, believes this plan has merit, providing there was a facility to detain these people where they could be treated for their addiction, other than a city or the county jail. Alcoholism long ago evolved into a disease which required medical treatment. Perhaps the same approach could be taken for narcotics for those already regular users.

But still, the emphasis should be placed on deterring youth from that first experiment. The schools have no narcotics

educational program at the present time and have shown little interest in establishing one. Dr. Hugh Follmer said that the Clark County Medical Society several years ago offered the school district a factual program on drugs and narcotics, but got no response. Both the Las Vegas Police Department and Sheriff's Department have narcotics educational programs, but then again, there is the credibility gap between the teenagers and the adults. There is one successful program operated by the sheriff's department called the Junior Deputy Program. It was found that youngsters in the sixth grade were most receptive. They were old enough to understand, but young enough to be impressionable for law enforcement. It is perhaps at this age bracket that a narcotics educational program should be mandatory, possibly as a part of an overall hygiene class. There certainly are enough persons interested in such a program to provide at least a once-a-month curriculum.

The false assumption by many parents that there is a common set of values between themselves and their offspring has spread the generation gap. The various ages of society do not hold to similar concepts of life or common goals. A common meeting ground between adults and many teenagers cannot be attained, leading discussions between the two to frustrations, anger and misunderstandings. Juveniles will defend their use of drugs on the basis of the pleasure derived, and this pleasure is important. They are critical of adults for their obsession for money.

Juveniles are constantly searching for new and exciting experiences. Those who have attained this excitement and pleasure stand high among their fellow teens for their accomplishments. It is the attitude of some that life is short and that all of the pleasures should be experienced. They do not agree that mastery and achievement is paramount to the individual, an attitude that likely could be attached to the Vietnamese war, and that doubt that many young people have of ever reaching a mature age.

Parents, teachers and counselors then experience difficulty in working with juveniles who have values very different from their own. We must avoid overreaction in dealing with the juvenile because young people have a tendency to exaggerate their problems for their shock value. To underreact is just as dangerous. Failing to respond to the realistic dangers in the name of tolerance is destructive permissiveness which the juveniles interprets as a "lack of caring." Some common ground must be established between the two. It is this common ground that can be most elusive.

The solution to the narcotics problem is echoed in its simplest terms by those who are dealing with it. The police agencies want more men; the juvenile authorities want more probation workers (they are hopelessly understaffed now for their case loads), the judges want more judges and the school district wants more teachers. All of them continue to lose ground. What is needed is a new approach at establishing this common ground of interest which will divert the enormous amount of young energy toward meaningful objects of self creation and accomplishment which will project them into self esteem in the eyes of their peers.

The Convention Authority has committed itself to a \$2.2 million expenditure for an athletic stadium on the basis of its involvement in recreation. But, recreation for whom? For youth? Certainly not. At the maximum use of two football teams playing each other there would be 22 young people involved, and that comes to \$100,000 per youngster in the stadium. The stadium was conceived and pushed to a conclusion for the use and benefit of adult spectators.

The Convention Authority as of the end of the current fiscal year will have surplus funds of about \$175,000, down about

\$100,000 because of the strike in March. The operating and maintenance fund will have a surplus of \$50,000; \$11,000 in the advertising account; \$280,000 in the capital fund (which is earmarked for architectural fees for expansion); \$288,000 in the bond interest and retirement fund (not available); and \$560,000 in the bond reserve fund, of which there is an overage of \$60,000 to be used for architects fees.

In addition, the authority spent \$36,000 to support the Las Vegas Symphony Society; \$60,000 for the Fish and Game Commission for stocking Lake Mead and the Colorado River and \$210,000 in grants to the political entities, allotted on the basis of population. So far, the Convention Authority by means of its statutory provisions (see attached Exhibit C) has done nothing toward the operation of a recreation program or facility. Interpretation of NRS 244.640 leaves this very discretionary. There is much to be desired and much to be done for the young people in Clark County with existing budgets, facilities and personnel. Innovation and experimentation in the prevention and rehabilitation of teenagers and narcotics should be undertaken now. Past procedures have not been adequate and should be discarded.

During the current year nearly 10,000 youngsters will pass through the Juvenile Home either enroute to the court for punishment or to child counseling. Based on the average time demand, a juvenile court probation officer can spend only about 15 minutes with each child. Out of these 10,000 juveniles, 60 per cent are returnees. Ten per cent are in new trouble before their cases go to court or before they receive counseling. There are 25 persons working on narcotics enforcement in the county, but only 18½ doing counseling work at the Juvenile Hall. In the past year, only 626 juveniles were processed for narcotics offences, or less than 10 per cent of the number of regular users estimated by Glenn Mackie. Unfortunately, all of the 10,000 who are

processed through the juvenile facilities are prospects for dope use.

The committee has these recommendations:

1. We need more crisis counselors to fight narcotics from a standpoint of rehabilitation rather than prosecution. These would be persons trained at spotting the symptoms and work with the juvenile to solve the personal narcotics problem, rather than to turn them over for prosecution.

2. Obviously, more personnel is needed at the Juvenile Home. To assume that a counselor can accomplish anything on the basis of a 15 minute session is ridiculous.

3. A program is needed for parents' education on narcotics which could best be afforded by the Parent-Teacher Association. The program should stress the dangers, detection and means for rehabilitation. Perhaps the program should be a mandatory one for youngsters who are found to be regular users and are caught.

4. We need in-session training for teachers on the subject of narcotics. All of the teachers in the schools should get some training on detecting persons under the influence, but a corps of better skilled instructors for presenting regular classes and assisting youngsters with drug problems should be established. They could operate on a circuit principle among the schools.

5. A program of student education, starting in the third grade, and continuing through high school. (California presently starts such a program at this grade level.) The program should be developed with as much use as possible of school-age youngsters. The present programs, while well intentioned, are scare programs which are ineffective because of their approach.

6. A facility for medical attention should be provided who want it and need it, without fear of arrest for

patronizing such a facility.

7. A full-time Judge of the Juvenile Court is needed.

8. More school monitors are needed to route out those who are smoking marijuana or taking drugs at school, but outside of the classes.

9. There should be an educational program provided by the County for parents who find that their youngsters are on dope. The program could be similar, or operated in conjunction with the P-TA sponsored educational program.

10. It is apparent that a worth-while job is being performed by Focus and US. The United Fund agency might consider giving financial assistance to both Focus and US.

11. There is a need for a teenage-planned recreation program in which non-sports activities are stressed. The orientation should be for those activities selected by the youngsters themselves.

12. There is a need for a pharmaceutical detective. There are too many cases of pills being dispensed by druggists for doctors who have died, moved away or past due prescriptions.

13. There should be stricter liability for parents who allow their youngsters out after curfew. Perhaps a fine would be sufficient. The heads of the household should be liable for the support and care of the children who are members of the family they marry into.

14. Additional laws are needed for child neglect. A more liberal means should be established for determining the age of a youngster who is the victim of neglect.

15. Efforts should be made for additional federal aid in eliminating the source of narcotics. At this level, the fight against the source is conducted by one federal agent, who hopes to have two additional agents at the start of the fiscal year July 1, 1970.

16. This report is not intended to be critical of the school district because we know our recommendations would require state or federal funding to accomplish.

17. We feel that concerned parents and civic organizations could do much to assist in this effort to curb the use of narcotics among juveniles.

THE NARCOTICS FACT FINDING COMMITTEE
ART OLSEN, Chairman

Appearances

Session 1	March 18	A film and presentation by Charles Boix, Clark County Sheriff's Department; Ray Gubser, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Department.
Session 2	March 25	Otto Ravenholt, Clark County Health Officer; Flora Dungan, Focus.
Session 3	April 1	Mister A, father of two boys using narcotics; Charles Emery, Health Department; Dr. Hugh Follmer; Mister B, father of a boy sent to Synanon; and 3 teenagers.
Session 4	April 8	George Franklin, District Attorney; Richard Robinson, Federal Bureau of Narcotics; Lem Burtz, Las Vegas Police Department; Robert Runkle, Sheriff's Office; Dale Hoffman, LVPD.
Session 5	April 15	Ned Solomon, Clark County Juvenile Home; John Mendoza and William Compton, District Judges; Robert Mullen, Municipal Judge; Jack Schofield, Special Education Instructor, Clark County School District.
Session 6	April 22	Herman Moody, LVPD; and three former narcotics addicts.
Session 7	April 29	Patrick O'Neill, Clark County recreation supervisor; Wes Howery, LV City Commissioner and Convention Authority; four teenagers and Michele and Imo, VISTA operators of US.
Session 8	May 6	Resume
Session 9	May 14	Glenn Mackie, School District; Richard Elson, School District Psychologist.

EXHIBIT B

ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH 439.500

exposed to any contagious or infectious disease, dangerous to the public health.

4. To appoint quarantine officers when necessary to enforce quarantine, and shall provide whatever medicines, disinfectants and provisions which may be required, and the city council shall pay all debts or charges so incurred; but each patient shall, if able, pay for his food, medicine, clothes and medical attendance.

[Part 30:199:1911; added 1919, 221; 1919 RL p. 2892; NCL § 5264]

LOCAL HEALTH REGULATIONS

439.480 Local health officers: Supervision and jurisdiction. The county health officer shall have supervision over all matters pertaining to the preservation of the lives and health of the people of his county, except incorporated cities of the first and second class having a health officer appointed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, which shall be under the jurisdiction of the city health officer, subject to the supervision and control of the health division.

[Part 31:199:1911; added 1919, 221; 1919 RL p. 2892; NCL § 5265]
—(NRS A 1963, 942)

439.490 Abatement, removal of nuisances. Every health officer shall have authority to order the abatement or removal of any nuisance detrimental to the public health in accordance with the laws relating to such matters.

[Part 31:199:1911; added 1919, 221; 1919 RL p. 2892; NCL § 5265]

439.500 Contagious or infectious diseases: Duties of local health officers.

1. As used in this section, "dangerous contagious or infectious disease" means such diseases as the state board of health shall designate as contagious and infectious and dangerous to the public health as provided in this chapter.

2. Every health officer shall cause proper measures in accordance with the rules and regulations and orders of the state board of health to be taken to prevent, suppress and control any dangerous contagious or infectious disease within his jurisdiction.

3. All deputy county health officers and city health officers in cities of the third class shall report immediately to the county health officer every new outbreak of any contagious or infectious disease occurring within their jurisdictions.

4. All county health officers and city health officers of cities of the first and second class shall report to the state board of health, on blanks provided for that purpose, all cases of contagious or infectious diseases

EXHIBIT C

244.640

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

COUNTY FAIR AND RECREATION BOARDS:
BONDS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

244.640 County powers concerning recreational facilities.

1. In addition to powers elsewhere conferred upon counties, any county is authorized and empowered:

(a) To establish, construct, purchase, otherwise acquire, reconstruct, improve, extend and better fairgrounds, exposition buildings, convention halls, auditoriums, fieldhouses, amusement halls, public parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, golf courses, recreation centers, other recreational facilities and buildings therefor, and improvements incidental thereto;

(b) To equip and furnish the same;

(c) To acquire a suitable site or grounds for any recreational facilities;

(d) To issue bonds therefor, at one time, or from time to time; and

(e) To advertise, publicize and promote the recreational facilities of the county.

2. Recreational facilities shall be deemed to include, without limiting the generality of the provisions of subsection 1, such buildings, incidental improvements, equipment, furnishings, sites and grounds as are used for recreational purposes.

[1:383:1955]—(NRS A 1961, 300, 453; 1963, 99; 1965, 10)

244.645 Creation of county fair and recreation boards.

1. Whenever the board of county commissioners of any county desires the powers granted in NRS 244.640 to 244.780, inclusive, to be exercised, it shall, by resolution, determine that the interest of the county and the public interest, necessity or desirability require the exercise of such powers and the creation of a county fair and recreation board therefor, pursuant to the provisions of NRS 244.640 to 244.780, inclusive. After approval of the resolution, the county clerk shall:

(a) Cause a copy of the resolution to be published promptly once in a newspaper published in and of general circulation in the county; and

(b) Cause a certified copy of the resolution to be mailed by registered mail to the mayor or other chief executive officer of each incorporated city within the county.

2. In counties having a population of 120,000 or more, the county fair and recreation board shall be selected as provided in NRS 244.7802. In counties having a population of 30,000 or more and less than 120,000, the most populous incorporated city in the county shall be represented on the county fair and recreation board by two members, and the next most populous incorporated city by one member. In counties having a population of 11,000 or more and less than 30,000, and in which there is one or more incorporated city, each incorporated city, except an incorporated

Clinics Offer Immunity to Drug-Using Patients

Police, Press Will Not Get Names of Those Seeking Help at County Narcotics Facilities

BY RAY ZEMAN
Times County Bureau Chief

Immunity from arrest and publicity was promised Thursday to drug users who go to the county's new narcotics abuse clinics for help.

At a press conference Dr. Benjamin A. Kogan, director of the clinics, said, "Seeking treatment is not a crime or a cause for arrest."

He promised that names of those who call at the clinics will not be turned over to police or to news media.

The first two county clinics opened Monday at 621 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, and at 4920 S. Avalon Blvd. They are open without charge to anyone in the county.

Three more will be opened "as soon as possible" in three other areas.

45 Already Seek Help

Dr. Kogan, county medical services director, said 30 drug victims already have sought treatment at the Avalon Blvd. center and 15 in West Hollywood.

"It takes time to be trusted," he said.

On Jan. 20 the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously for a crash program to establish the clinics at an annual cost of \$1,465,936 with 166 positions.

Aside from the human tragedy involved, Dr. Kogan said such an expenditure is merely a drop in the bucket when one considers that certain drug users are stealing more than \$150 million annually in this county to buy narcotics.

He knows one man and one woman who spend \$200 a day, \$1,400 a week each for heroin.

Methods Proving Successful

In New York City, he said, an intensive crusade against narcotics is costing \$13.5 million a year.

The Los Angeles clinics are using methods which are proving successful in other areas of the nation.

"Traditional forms of handling drug abuse have failed," Dr. Kogan explained.

"For LSD and other nonviolent cases, the best way is a 'rap' session. We sit and talk, trying to get the patient to relax and understand."

Former drug users join in these discussions.

Supportive personnel include doctors, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, microbiologists and health educators.

Treatments vary, depending on whether the addict uses heroin, hallucinogens, barbiturates or other drugs.

The Synanon type of approach (getting advice from other narcotic users) is utilized but the patients do not live at the county clinics. All are ambulatory and merely make periodic calls.

"As long as we can keep in contact, we have hope of saving a patient," Dr. Kogan said.

Other Agencies Cooperate

If hospitalization is needed, the County Hospitals Department will cooperate. Also collaborating in the program are the Mental Health and Community Services Departments.

"It doesn't make sense to detoxify a man from heroin and then send him back to the area from which he came," Dr. Kogan said.

He said the county program may be expanded in the future to use "half-way houses" for assistance in withdrawal from heroin and other hard-core drugs.

"I have every reason to believe we have thousands using heroin in this county, but I don't know how many," Dr. Kogan said.

A prevention program is vital, he emphasized, and "high school is too late in the game" for it.

Abuse Termed Epidemic

Drug abuse has become an epidemic in this country, he said, and pupils in the fourth grade of elementary school have a sophisticated knowledge of it.

"The best program is preventive education in the second and third grades," he said.

County Health Officer Gerald A. Heibredner said the drug treatment centers operate between the hours of 2 and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Negotiations are under way for the next one to be established somewhere in the East Los Angeles area, primarily for Mexican-American drug victims.