

people who are mentally retarded, handicapped, or whatever nice term is selected. The label is not the important thing. It's the treatment which is accorded to these people, and if, in the schools, you can mandate the teaching of material about drugs and drug abuse, then you've already co-opted some of what the schools are allowed to determine will be in the schools or will be kept out. I'm not certain, Senator Wesely, that this is the only or the best way to accomplish what this bill seeks to do. I think it is trying to do something which is worthwhile, and not too long ago, I don't remember whether it was 60 Minutes I was watching on a television program where they were talking about mainlining or mainstreaming retarded children. That meant to put them in classrooms with children who are called normal. When you separate children by labels into normal, retarded, or whatever the designation, and because of that designation they're treated differently, then I believe that cleavages are built into the society and then it becomes incumbent on those who are aware of these problems to do what they can to erase these cleavages. While a group of adults were discussing whether this mainlining ought to occur, one gentleman stood up and was talking to this group which seemed by and large sympathetic with the idea, and he asked a question to them when they were saying that's it appropriate for children to be exposed to those who have handicaps of various kinds, and be taught that this does not diminish the humanness, or the worth in value of these people as human beings. So then what this man asked how many of you in this room have among your friends and social friends retarded people? And not one could say that he or she had such friends. So, I believe there is a tendency to create problems and give the appearance that something is being done to come to grips with these types of situations, but in people's individual and personal lives there is a rejection of the idea that people who are handicapped or retarded are full-fledged human beings, and I think it ties in with some of what is said or thought now when the abortion issue comes up. It is stated that nobody has the right to say that a fetus should not be allowed to come to term merely because it may come into the world as a retarded child and be shunted from building to building, and treated in a subhuman fashion. That should not be a consideration. But then when these individuals do come into the world, they are not viewed as full-fledged human beings. They are warehoused. They are kept in closets. People are embarrassed by them. I've gone down into the cafeteria on occasion and watched the reaction, without letting the customers know that I'm watching them, that they have to some of the people that work in that cafeteria, and there's kind of a feeling like...uh, and trying not to show it, but I