

particularly when they form on the street corners and choose as their common objective the destruction of people and property. Nevertheless, it seems to me, the power of such spontaneous groups, as well as of planned community groups, and school groups among youth, can be mobilized for education, for social control, and for desirable social change.

We have in progress now a study in Chicago along this line. It is in its fourth year. It is an experiment to see whether by utilizing the power generated by such groups we can reduce the delinquency rate on the Southside of Chicago. We have an area a mile square as our experimental area and one matched in economic and population characteristics on the Westside as a control area. One aim is to see the extent to which existing group forces can be invoked for positive rather than negative ends. The results are not in, but it sounds like a good idea at this time.

COLONEL AUSTIN: Dr. Seashore, could you make a quick response to the earlier question, as to whether suicides have resulted from sensitivity training?

DR. SEASHORE: Oh, yes, I did want to react to that, because there is a rumor going around that it is risky and damaging to undertake sensitivity training activities. The facts appear to be that people who come to sensitivity training courses are, by and large, as healthy and normal as people at large. The occurrence of psychotic or neurotic disturbances is at a rate no different than is common in the general population, and for most people it is a healing and not a disturbing experience. It may be true that someone may have committed suicide during or after such a session, but then, people have done that right on their own home grounds and in their own homes, and in your offices, perhaps. I do not think there is a hazard of this kind connected with sensitivity training conducted by qualified professionals.

QUESTION: Dr. Seashore, regarding the insurance company studies that you described, what did the parent company do with the results? Were there any implementing actions of any type? If so, how did they go about implementing the results?

DR. SEASHORE: In that case the study was undertaken jointly by the company and my own institution, because we shared a common interest in certain issues. Now, their interest was obviously one of practical application. They hoped to learn something that they could use.