I would say that this distinction between assimilation and integration is a crucial distinction for all of us to understand. It is true of Scandinavian Americans, Polish Americans, Irish Americans, and Jewish Americans.

When we speak of Negro "integration," we use the term in a somewhat different sense. But I hope that ultimately we will be using it in the same sense. If I were a Negro I should want very much to have the same privileges, rights, and opportunities as all other Americans. But I should not want to abandon my own subculture. I should not want to tear up the roots that I have in the soil of my Negro ancestors and their cultural tradition. The trouble is that the Negro today is having to fight so hard for equal opportunities that in many cases he has become alienated from his own culture. He is still recognizable because of his skin but he has become alienated from his culture.

(8) In the case of the Jews there is a very genuine danger of their extinction as a subculture in America. Many Jewish leaders are deeply worried about it. I am not. I have the sense of my identity as a Jew. It is the window through which I look out at the larger house of American life and thought. But while I do not have these worries I understand those who do. They still remember that 6 million of their brothers and sisters were destroyed during the thirties and forties. They know there is still a great murderousness toward them in many parts of the world. They do not like to feel that, through intermarriage and through the loss of the Jewish faith, they face the possible extinction of the Jewish community in the United States. The Catholics are able to maintain a good deal of their identity partly through their religious rules. The Jews do not have that kind of religious control. They have to rely upon social pressures in order to maintain a certain continuing degree of cohesiveness. Fundamentally I do not myself believe that the avoidance of intermarriage is a crucial condition of the continuance of the sense of identity. To me intermarriage is a part of the expanding horizons of our world. It has characterized American life from the beginning, and I would say that the problem of identity will now have to be a problem that each individual has to face. He has to find his roots where he can, and he must not feel that he has torn those roots simply because of the freedom of marriage choice which is one of the great institutions of America.

(9) I now come to another problem, of creativeness. A good part of the creativeness in the intellectual and scientific, educational,