

planning, or something like that, or too busy to give them the advice. Is that right?

Madame St. Aubin: Too busy most of the time. You can imagine, we had one doctor . . .

Senator McGrand: Wait a minute. I don't think you have to go to a doctor to get information on family planning. You can get it from any public health nurse.

Madame St. Aubin: Yes, but before they came we did not have that service in Pointe St. Charles. That is why we formed the group, and we finally formed the planning clinic. We had to give the information. We had one student doctor with us who did give the information on family planning, and then the people would go to the clinic. The association in Montreal sent the information by mail.

Senator Fergusson: Mr. Chairman, actually I do not think some of the discussion has been very responsive to my question as to sickness being one of the real causes of poverty. I would like to pursue it in this way. For instance, if a man is sick he cannot work; if he cannot work he cannot earn money for his family. Then his family will probably fall below the poverty line and have to go on welfare. So is sickness not one of the real serious causes?

Mr. Wilson: Sure, but that is arguing literally, and we could be talking in circles about sickness and poverty at 12 o'clock and at 6 o'clock and saying that sickness causes poverty instead of saying that poverty causes sickness. The reason I said that poverty could cause sickness was that you can just keep going around in circles. I appreciate your argument.

Senator Fergusson: I found it extremely interesting but did not seem to me to really respond to my question. Contrary to some things that have been expressed, and perhaps by the Chairman too, I do not believe we understand how these deprived people feel. I do not think we understand at all, and just because some of us may have been poor does not mean that we remember how we felt when we were poor. I think sometimes it is the very people—and we have learned this through some of our hearings—who through some good fortune or Horatio Alger experience have reached the middle class who are the hardest on those who have not. Have you found that this is so?

Mr. Rosenfeldt: I have.

Madame St. Aubin: Mr. Chairman, I would like to answer the question asked by Senator Fergusson

earlier. You were asking if sickness caused poverty. Right now unemployment is a very big problem in Quebec, and if a man looks for work and cannot find it he becomes very worried about his family. He could develop ulcers by worrying in this way and become sick. Then it becomes a circle.

Mr. Rosenfeld: May I try to answer the question too? I think we are trying to draw this too black and white. A certain percentage of people are unable to work because they are ill and this results in poverty. But the question that comes to my mind, working in education and with youths, is why is it that a large percentage of the children of these parents who are not sick end up poor later on?

Studies done across the United States have shown that education is no longer a strong determinant of what a child's economic status will be in the future. It has been shown that where parents earn less than \$3,000 and have not completed high school themselves, about one-third to one-half of their children will drop out of school and they will help form the poverty cycle.

Senator Fergusson: I have just one other question I would like to ask of Mrs. St. Aubin about family planning. It is in reference to the clinic of family planning. Do many clients come to that?

Madame St. Aubin: It was a condition when we got the clinic that we would bring 10 new patients in a week. We were supposed to do that for 7 weeks and we did it for 7 months. For 7 months we brought new patients to the clinic, and after a while it was no longer a problem. They had appointments for a month or two in advance. But then they find all kinds of reasons to close down the clinic. Now the city is telling us that they do not have the doctors for it. We are still fighting it because we think that the clinic should be in Pointe St. Charles.

Quebec are paying part of the cost, and it is their responsibility to provide the necessary doctors in the community.

The women attending the clinic not only receive counselling in family planning, but they also receive medication and tests, and so on. Things that cost too much money, the women in our community would not go and get except at the clinic where they are free.

Senator Fournier: There are two sides to many of the things that have been discussed here. I think it is going to take a long time before we understand the poor unless we have been poor ourselves. I think some