

in the Criminal Code. This is a family planning matter and a matter of conscience between married couples and is not a fit subject for the criminal law of Canada.

Mrs. MACINNIS (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): Was there any opinion on whether it would be enforceable in its limited form or not?

Mr. BASFORD: I have not spoken to them; I just read a newspaper they publish. I do not know whether Mr. Prittie has something to add.

Mr. ROCK: Mr. Basford recommended we take the approach of Mr. Prittie; Mr. Basford's approach is just a soft-pedal approach in comparison. We have a choice of going either half way or all the way and if we go in any direction I think we should go all the way according to Mr. Prittie's bill and the recommendation of Mr. Basford.

Mr. BASFORD: I would agree. My bill was put in, in an historical concept of what had gone on in Parliament. When Mr. Prittie's bill first came up, it seemed that we were not going to get anywhere, and therefore some of us searched around for a possible way to get a bill that would be more acceptable to Parliament. In view of the fact that over the last year there has been a great shift of public opinion in this matter and I think a shift of parliamentary opinion has taken place, the very fact that it has been referred to a committee is a real breakthrough. I do not think we need to look for a compromise solution so to speak. I endorse Mr. Prittie's position completely and hope the committee will adopt it also.

Mr. PRITTIE: In answer to Mrs. MacInnis' question, all the organizations which have written to the government about it have simply passed resolutions asking that the three words in the Criminal Code be deleted from the code. As I said earlier, the Canadian Medical Association passed such a resolution at their meeting in Vancouver in 1964. I do not know what they might have done if they had a choice. But this is in fact what they did and so did the Canadian Bar Association.

Mr. STANBURY: I want to get the reaction of the sponsors of the bills to the problems of the sale of contraceptives as opposed to the giving of information. I think that several of the members have touched on some of the problems that Mr. Prittie's bill raises although I think it appeals in terms of simplicity to all of us who are interested in this field. But it seems to me there is a problem of medical acceptability of devices particularly. There is a problem of public availability. Perhaps, too public availability of some devices and the problem of offending against taste. Now perhaps all these things can be covered by way of regulation and by provincial legislation. The one thing I do not think has been touched upon today, in discussing these problems that are not covered by the bill, is the question of the places where such devices might eventually be sold and the degree of availability that all manner of contraceptive devices might have under Mr. Prittie's bill. I am sure that he has given some thought to this and I want to have his reaction to this sort of objection that is raised.

● (12: 10 p.m.)

Mr. PRITTIE: Yes. First of all, you have to make a distinction between different types of contraceptive devices. There are some, such as the pill, that you can only obtain upon prescription from a doctor. There is no problem here.