

traceptives; this is the question I want to ask you. When you wrote this bill what was your purpose? Was it to legalize the selling of these so-called contraceptive pills or do you want to open the door to everything that has been banned up until today?

Mr. PRITTIE: Well, everything is banned today and what I have in mind is that it will be legal to give advice on means of contraception and to sell the means. Now, it is not up to me to determine what are the proper methods of contraception. As Dr. Brand suggested perhaps somebody else makes this decision. I am not competent to judge what is a good means or a bad means, but I want whatever means are effective and acceptable by society to be legally available to people.

May I just say, in passing, that I agree with the point raised by you and Mr. Matte. I prefer the term "regulation" to "limitation".

Dr. ISABELLE: But you did not answer my question concerning your reason for the writing of this bill. Was it to legalize your idea or was it to legalize certain means of contraception like the pills? In other words, to legalize the pills?

Mr. PRITTIE: No, I did not have the pills in mind particularly, but all acceptable means of contraception, which is much wider than pills. I cannot say in the future what new developments there will be and what will be acceptable. Someone else will have to decide that.

Mr. ROCK: I think it will be very clear to Dr. Isabelle that Mr. Prittie mentioned the fact that it is the Criminal Code which is to be amended. At the moment we may even say that 60 per cent of the people in Canada may be criminals indirectly in a sense.

Now, I want to get back to this family planning group. Many here are worried about the fact that they may possibly be giving instructions as to different types of contraceptives, but I always feel that these planning groups are the same as church groups, which give instructions to married couples and other couples. What they try to teach is mostly the rhythm system, rather than contraceptives. This is my concept of the instructions they usually give to family groups, and I understand from the Chairman that we will be having some of these groups here, so we will be able to ask them what are the instructions they tell the couple concerned to see a physician? I think we will find it out in due course.

Mr. HOWE (Wellington-Huron): I am wondering how soon this evidence can be available. There are some statements made by the two gentlemen that we would like to study more closely before the next meeting and wonder if the evidence would be available by Thursday, would it?

The CHAIRMAN: It depends on the number of committees meeting. I do not think there are too many at the moment. What I expect will happen is that next Thursday we will have the other two gentlemen present their bills and there will probably be a gap of some time before we are able to arrange further interviews with other interested groups. This will give members of the committee more than ample time to study all four bills together.

Mr. BASFORD: May I just make the comment, in parting, that the suggestion has been made that the Criminal Code should be used to control or regulate the type of contraceptives used or dispensed or sold. To me this would be an unwise course of action because we do not know what is going to happen in the future