

the Client Specific Planning Program of the National Center of Institutions and Alternatives, based in Washington, also appeared before the Committee to explain its approach.

Client Specific Planning requires the offender to be held accountable for the crime. Controls and "paybacks" are two aspects of each plan. Each plan *must* demonstrate the means by which the offender's actions will be monitored (e.g., urinalysis, supervision, etc.), so that any deviations from the court's order will be immediately detected. "Paybacks" may be restitution directly to the victim or indirectly to the community. In no case is the public safety to be compromised. When necessary, the Center may recommend some form of incarceration. (This occurs in about 15 percent to 20 percent of cases.)

The sentencing goal of retribution is achieved through long-term, unpaid labour (community service), financial restitution to the victim or substitute victim, and/or payments to victim compensation funds.

Rehabilitative goals are also established in the plan. Although this goal is given a secondary emphasis (compared to accountability and retribution), it is addressed comprehensively. It may involve in-patient or out-patient treatment (for addictions or other serious problems) and/or counselling for financial, marital, employment or other difficulties. These rehabilitative components are coordinated with other elements of the plan.

The Center claims that its clients have a lower re-arrest rate than offenders whose cases are disposed of otherwise. Compliance with the plans is high.

c. The Committee's Opinion and Recommendations

The Committee was impressed with these approaches to sentencing alternatives. Their goals are consistent with the purpose of sentencing the Committee has proposed. The Committee has considered the balance which must be struck in utilizing alternatives to incarceration wherever appropriate and ensuring that sentencing dispositions communicate to all offenders and the community the seriousness of breaches of the criminal law. **The Committee would like to see further application and evaluation of these approaches in Canada.**