

SCRIPT OF SHANKER'S REPLY TO THE ALLEN STANG REPORT OF 11/12/75.

This is Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers.

Last month on this station, Allen Stang, whose commentaries are distributed by the John Birch Society, described the Child and Family Services Act of 1975 as a "Hitler youth bill" and accused those who support the bill of trying to subvert the country and set up a totalitarian society.

Mr. Stang is obviously trying to frighten parents and the public in general into thinking that the proposed child and family services legislation would destroy democracy by destroying the family. In actual fact, the bill would strengthen the institutions of democracy and the family by helping young children start off on the right foot and by making sure that they are ready for the first year of school.

But Mr. Stang doesn't discuss the actual bill that the Congress is considering. Instead, he talks about a speech made five years ago by the U.S. Commissioner of Education at that time. He doesn't say where the speech was given or in what context it was delivered. He attacks the ex-commissioner's suggestion that preschoolers should be tested and twists it into some kind of intelligence-gathering operation. Actually, all the commissioner was talking about was the same kind of diagnostic testing that kids receive now when they enter school. And this kind of testing has proven to be extremely beneficial in making sure that children get the kind of attention they need to do well.

Mr. Stang also attributes to me a statement that I never made. He says that I described the purpose of the proposed child and family services legislation as "molding the child to fit the social needs of the nation." Such a statement does not appear in the official transcript of my testimony before the Congressional committee which is considering the bill; likewise, I have never suggested in my speeches or columns that the purpose of the legislation is to mold children to the nation's social needs. On the contrary, I have emphasized over and over that early childhood education programs are valuable for the children themselves--it gets them off on the right foot. This is the most important social need that the bill, as we envision it, would meet.

Of course, the bill would meet other social needs as well, but such multiple benefits are the hallmark of good legislation. One of the additional needs that the bill would address is the problem of working mothers who now must rely on inadequate, and often expensive private day care facilities if they want to take a job. In many cases, these women do not enjoy the luxury of deciding whether they want to work or not: the choice is between working or going on welfare. By providing quality early childhood services, available to all preschoolers, we could help end this waste of human energy.

Mr. Stang correctly states that the bill would apply to all children, but then he misleadingly adds: "not just to those who have genuine problems." The reason for making early childhood programs available to all is the same

as the reason for providing public schools for all, namely, that everyone should benefit equally from important public programs. If the early childhood bill were restricted to poor children only or to so-called "problem children" only, it would not attract any widespread support and would probably be a failure. We say that if the program is legitimate for some children, it's legitimate for all children and should be set up to include all.

Today we have a unique opportunity to upgrade the nation's educational services at all levels. One of the most important levels, by general agreement, is early childhood education. The public schools have the room and the resources to do the job. It's time we gave them a chance.

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November 17, 1975

Mr. Albert Shanker  
American Federation of Teachers AFL-CIO  
Continental Bldg.  
1012 - 14th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Mr. Shanker:

The Allen Stang Report for 11/12/75 (produced by John Birch Society Features, Belmont, Mass. 02178) is duplicated on the enclosed tape. It was aired from 12:00N to 12:05PM on this station.

Certain remarks were made by Mr. Stang to which you may wish to respond and, under the Fairness Doctrine provisions of the Federal Communications Commission, we hereby offer you airtime, at no charge, in which to do so.

We would appreciate hearing from you within three weeks of the receipt of this letter and tape if you would like for us to reserve airtime for your use for this purpose.

Sincerely,

*Donna M. Laurino*  
(Mrs.) Donna M. Laurino

Encl.—As above.

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## TRANSCRIPTION

### SIDE ONE

This is Allen Stang. Stick around.

Over the past couple of days we have been taking a look at the so-called Child and Family Services Act of 1975, introduced by Congressman John Brademas of Indiana and Senator Walter Mondale of Minnesota, which is now moving quietly through the Congress. We saw that this bill would give the government almost total control over American children, and that it would apply to all children, not just to those who have genuine problems. We also saw that such so-called voluntary federal programs have a way of becoming mandatory and that your toddler could be forced to participate. This could very easily be accomplished by lowering the age for compulsory education from 5 or 6 to 2 or 3. So the logical question arises of what would be done to the children in the government development centers this bill would finance around the country.

Well, for instance, on April 14, 1970, the late James E. Allen, who at the time was U. S. Commissioner of Education, proposed the following plan in a speech at a convention: "Under the plan, there would be available in the school district central diagnosis centers to which at age 2- $\frac{1}{2}$  a child would be brought by his parents or guardian. The purpose of the center would be to find out everything possible about the child and his background that would be useful in planning an individualized learning program for him. This would be accomplished through an educational diagnosis, a medical diagnosis, and home visits by a trained professional who would in effect become the child's and family's counselor. By the time the tests and home visits were completed, the center would know just about everything there is to know about this child, his home and family background."

Which boils down to mean that the government would know just about everything about you. Needless to say, this is a favorite technique of dictators, from

Stalin to Hitler to Castro.

Also according to the Allen plan, a team of government professionals would use everything they found out about you to write "a detailed prescription for the child and, if necessary, for his home and family as well." The home prescription would be "every bit as important as the prescription for the child himself. If a home is contributing negatively to the child's development, it too should receive attention and aid."

Remember that this plan came to us from the U. S. Commissioner of Education himself, and variants of his plan are already in operation from California to Illinois to Maryland.

And along these lines, Albert Shanker, boss of the AFL-CIO American Federation of Teachers says as follows about the Mondale-Brademas bill: "Our organization views the Child and Family Services Act as a program for the total development of the children and for the professionals who work with the children for the purpose of molding the child to fit the social needs of their nation". And, needless to say, Adolf Hitler said the same thing in Germany. In America, as in Nazi Germany and Castro's Cuba, the social needs of a nation would be determined by the totalitarians at the top, not by the parents. Indeed, the parents would be controlled along with the children.

(I'll be back in a minute).

As usual, your reported asks - where are the so-called liberals and the so-called revolutionaries who claim to be fighting the Establishment's attempt to enslave us. Why do they not protest about the Mondale-Brademas-Hitler youth bill? And be with me tomorrow when we take a look at the incredible fact that the government schools are using drugs to condition your children.

This is Allen Stang - Think About It.

The Allen Stang Report is produced by the John Birch Society Features.

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