



OSHA Clarifies Requirements For Medical History

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration clarified its requirements for including genetic background information in the medical histories of workers covered by some its standards. The agency emphasized that none of its regulations requires genetic testing.

Dr. Eula Bingham, head of OSHA, said that she was concerned that the recent New York Times reports of genetic testing by certain companies might be mistakenly construed as reflecting a federal mandate. "There is absolutely no OSHA standard that requires genetic testing of any employee," she said. "I feel we must clarify this issue so that workers know where they stand and so that employers know precisely what is and isn't required."

In certain OSHA regulations there is a requirement that employers offer a medical surveillance program within which the physician shall obtain a medical history which includes "family and occupational background, including genetic and environmental factors." Such a history is a routine part of standard medical practice and is designed to identify factors important to the worker's general health status.

Dr. Bingham stressed, however, that the agency neither requires nor advo-

cates the exclusion of otherwise qualified workers from jobs on the basis of genetic testing. "Exclusion of workers as a result of genetic testing runs contrary to the spirit and intent of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970," she said. "It wrongly puts the burden of controlling toxic substances on the worker who is denied employment because of a supposed sensitivity. Employers should make the workplace safe for all workers, rather than deprive some workers of their livelihood in the name of safety."

Dr. Bingham noted that a directive will be issued soon to all OSHA field offices to make sure that the agency's compliance personnel are aware of the limited requirements and intent of the medical surveillance provisions of the regulations in question.

In addition, OSHA has asked the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to do a comprehensive study to help determine the scientific merits, if any, of the genetic testing reportedly being conducted by various companies. If the agency learns that the limited requirement for gathering genetic information are being widely misinterpreted by industry as a mandate to exclude workers on the basis of genetic testing, OSHA may act to revoke or amend the relevant provisions.

At Holy Shrine

American UN Ambassador Donald McHenry smiles as he walks in his socks, holding his shoes before entering the Moslem holy shrine "Dome of the Rock" in the Old City. Earlier the envoy had luncheon discussions with three Palestinian leaders and expressed "understanding" for their views on the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

UPI Photo

The Consent of the Governed

by M. Carl Holman
President, National Urban Coalition

The other night, a collection of old friends and associates found themselves in sudden and sharp disagreement over registration, the draft, the proper limits on the CIA — and where on the map America should draw the line between peace and war.

A day or two later the question of what ought to be done about registration of the draft, for men and/or women, was put to another group. Most of the members of this racially and ethnically diverse group were in their 20s and 30s. Most of them happened to be women.

Their responses to the question were candid, thoughtful, in some instances explosive. Here again friend sometimes disagreed with friend. On some things, there was rough consensus. Almost everyone agreed that registration was almost certainly a prelude to the military draft. And even those who felt that either men, alone, or both men and women should enter the armed forces and be prepared to fight, expressed opposition to having the age level set as low as 18 or 20.

One young mother wryly suggested that the draft should be targeted at those "55 years of age and older." The laughter which followed was laced with the bitterness expressed by others who assailed what one described as "old men doing their macho thing again," preparing to send young people off to die.

"They won't get any child of mine," one woman said. "Look at the way they picked them up off the street and sent them all the way to Vietnam. And then our boys come back bodies and minds messed up, can't get jobs and nobody cares. I say let em register us in a B-Classification. Be there when you leave. Be there when you get back."

But what was the most clearly shared bond among this group was a feeling of being had, of being pushed along to decisions by politicians and the media with no real opportunity to weight and measure choices. Even those women who were not opposed to the drafting of women for combat expressed this feeling.

However the political system operates in the Soviet Union, there is evidently a strong enough residual notion in this country that some stronger effort to seek "the consent of the governed" should be sought before all options are locked in.

A year from now there may be less concern about the outcome of today's controversy over the Olympics, or what is happening in Iran or Afghanistan, or the early primary elections. If we survive, there may still be some of the current worries over unemployment, the cost of living and the relative chances for individuals and nations of having a brighter future.

But all and any of this is likely to come out better — at least in this country — if there has first been a more open possibility of opportunity for frank discussion, disagreement and dissent.

Back in the 60s those who used cattle prods on non-violent protestors came to learn that human beings are not so easily driven or frightened as cattle. It is a lesson that the powerful — no matter how benign or well-intentioned — should never be allowed to forget.

Black Official To Lecture At Central

Robert N. Jones, group president and director for Ethicon, Inc., of Somerville, New Jersey, lectured to marketing students at North Carolina Central University Wednesday and Thursday, February 27 and 28.

The visit was sponsored by the Black Executive Exchange Program of the National Urban League. The program sends black professionals and executives to lecture in traditionally black colleges and universities, in an effort to enhance academic preparation by exposing students to programmatic "working world know-how," according to BEEP officers.

During the 1979-80 academic year, approximately 400 black men and women will participate in the Black Executive Exchange Program with the support of their employers.

Jones is responsible for all aspects of marketing Ethicon's neurosurgery products, including forecasting, pricing, advertising, market plans, new product introductions, and material management.

He holds a degree in pharmacy from Howard University and the MBA degree in marketing from Long Island University. He was formerly employed by Merrell National Laboratories.

Jones is a member of the American Management Association, the Research Institute, the National Wholesale Drug-gist Association, and the Pennsylvania Hospital Pharmacists Association.

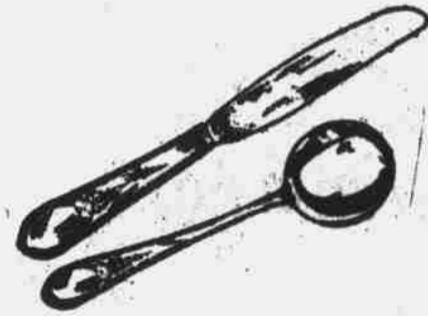
FACTS & FIGURES

Since 1965, the Consumer Price Index has more than doubled. Some items have gone up in price a lot more than that, however. The Porsche 911 sports car, introduced that year, now costs 500 percent more than its 1965 price.

The best investment in 1965, if you could have made it, would have been an ounce of gold. That precious metal is ten times more precious today than it was 14 years ago.

WANTED—REWARD

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surprising dollar values simply for the scrap precious metal content. For example, we'll pay anywhere from \$50 to \$75, for ONE large class ring in any condition. Our Buying Table will be set up at the Ramada Inn Downtown (I-40 Expressway at Duke St.), Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 8th and 9th from 10 A.M. till 6 P.M. We will be in the Duke Room. Follow the signs for quick immediate cash come on by. No appointment needed.

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POST OFFICE

The first regular air mail service for civilian mail in the United States started in 1918.

RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARINGS TO AMEND THE 1977-78, 1978-79 AND 1979-80 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, on October 15, 1979, the Durham City Council approved a program amendment to the 1979-80 Community Development Program; and
WHEREAS, on December 31, 1979, said program amendment was submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for review; and
WHEREAS, after reviewing said program amendment, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has directed the City to revise the amendment; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to the direction issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a revised program amendment has been prepared and submitted to the Durham City Council for review; and
WHEREAS, two public hearings to obtain citizen input on program amendments are required by the Durham Community Development Citizen Participation Plan in conformance with Section 570.303(m) of the Community Development Block regulations; and
WHEREAS, both public hearings must be held prior to submission of amendments to A-95 Clearinghouse review agencies and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF DURHAM:

- That public hearings be scheduled and advertised for March 17, 1980 and April 8, 1980 for the purpose of obtaining citizen input on program amendments to the 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80 Community Development Programs; and
- That the City Clerk be directed to publish this Notice in the non-legal section of the *Durham Morning Herald*, the *Durham Sun*, and the *Carolina Times*, ten (10) days prior to each of the two public hearings as required by Section 570.303(j)(3)(i) of the Community Development Block Grant regulations; and
- That the nature of said amendments is to reprogram Nine Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand, Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$955,650) from the 1979-80 Community Development Crest Street Neighborhood Strategy Area ("NSA") project budget in the manner proposed below:
 - that One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) be designated for interim assistance to the Crest Street NSA;
 - that One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) be designated for the purchase of land currently of undesignated location, upon which assisted low and moderate income family housing will be constructed;
 - that Two Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Sixty-Six Dollars (\$259,066) be allocated to the Parrish Street urban beautification project as included in the 1977-78 Community Development Program and Urban Renewal Closures Agreement for NC R-26;
 - that Four Hundred Twenty-One Thousand, Eighty-Six Dollars and Sixty-Nine Cents (\$421,086.69) be appropriated to the 1978-79 Community Development housing rehabilitation account; and
 - that Seventy-Five Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and Thirty-One Cents (\$75,497.31) be budgeted from the 1979-80 Community Development Block Grant Entitlement for prior year target area housing rehabilitation.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DURHAM THIS 6th DAY OF MARCH, 1980.

Margaret W. Rollins, CMC
City Clerk

Publication Dates:
March 6 and 28, 1980