

sex psychology has on the human being. A great many crimes, major crimes are committed by men for the purpose of obtaining money to spend on a woman or for the purpose of boasting about his doings and to excite admiration and from that we can go on down until we find a great many incidents where that has considerable to do with the misdeeds of man and woman. That is particularly true of the female delinquent with whom you come in contact and so I would do that. Of course I am not here as a professor on this subject; I am endeavoring to very frankly give you my observation of what I think about it and I disclaim as I have said before, putting myself up as an authority.

I think that a policewoman of course should have some understanding of the fundamental rules of law with reference to the authority to make arrest; with reference to the procedure in a criminal case; with reference to the rights of a person charged with crime, because I have always found that every person can be equipped in the way of detection of crime without seriously infringing on the civil and legal rights that are guaranteed every citizen before the time of an arrest and so she should be familiar with those things.

As a matter of fact a policewoman's work is much more difficult than that of a policeman and much more difficult than that of a detective, and I think requires a great deal more ground work; a great deal more ability than to be a detective. Now the ordinary detective in a metropolitan city carries on his work more or less by rule of thumb. If a major crime is committed, he says—now who has been around here, who are the safe-blowers who have been around here. By that meaning someone who has been in jail before, whose pictures are up in the rogue's gallery and he goes to the various victims and says can you identify any of these people. It is more or less by rule of thumb. That part of his work which requires intelligence and considerable ability comes when he has made the arrest, and that ability must manifest itself in actual information from the prisoner whom he has arrested; in other words—by obtaining a confession by shrewdness, etc. The ability of a detective is manifested in that way. Any man can be a detective and become successful and efficient according to common standards; five years on the force, if he goes around the metropolitan city long enough to become acquainted with the smaller fry of the under-world because it is from the small fry of the under-world that he gets his information regarding the big fry. So that any man can become an average detective in five years but every woman can't become a competent policewoman in five years or five hundred years. It requires some native ability to start with. It requires some ground work to start with. It requires some knowledge of sociology, and that of course may be acquired through study or schooling or through observation. But you can't become observant, you can't take advantage of those things which you observe unless you have first some native ability and intelligence. You can't do it.

Now the future of the policewoman in numbers is dependent entirely upon the success of the policewoman of the present day and so you women who are here today engaged in police work have a larger task than the very difficult task of correcting juveniles and preventing crime. You have a task of creating a public sentiment which will in time bring about an enlargement in numbers of the policewoman and an enlargement in the scope of her work, and the creation of a great deal more recognition than she now receives; and so if I leave you with one thought, I would like to leave you with this one.

I don't think than any person can die happily unless she or he has done something constructive in the world—has done something. To go out and meet success in business and acquire a large fortune means nothing because you usually acquire the large fortune and success at the expense of others and perhaps you never come in contact with them but you exploit someone in the obtaining of a large fortune and that is success by today's standards. But that isn't real success. Real success is in doing something for your fellow men and women and so you should in no sense envy the woman who is a private secretary to the captain of industry who receives five times as much salary as you do, he is not creating anything. She is not intentionally hurting anyone but perhaps the captain of industry that she serves is exploiting someone. Segregating some seventy per cent of the wealth of a country into the hands of some thirteen people doesn't make for happiness. Any individual who is doing something constructive, such as preventing crime should be satisfied, should be happy in the doing of that work. Suppose you only saved one girl in all your life, you have done something. You have made possible the happiness of one family and the future family of that girl. Just one girl—and think of all the girls that you might save. Now that is a fine work but in the carrying on of such fine work you should every day endeavor to equip yourself better. If in addition to helping someone, you can put the iron hand of the law on someone who is injuring society, you are doing con-

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DIVISION III—OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS RELATING TO CHILDREN

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE FEEBLE-MINDED

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We plan today to discuss only two of the problems of the feeble-minded: outside supervision of committed cases, and the question of who should be committed, or at least for whom the child welfare boards should file petitions for hearings. While the discussion of concrete cases is probably most helpful, we wish first to briefly outline the problems met in order to have a basis for some interchange of ideas.

There is a great deal being said today concerning our obligation to the community in protecting it from an increase of the feeble-minded, and from the results of anti-social acts of certain of these persons. This is well to bear in mind, and there must be thought and study in order to establish policies which will tend to lessen these dangers. But when we come to the feeble-minded person as an individual the question is—What is our obligation to this person who through no fault of her own is unable to cope successfully with the complexities

of life? Until we take that attitude—and in fact I might say there must be not merely a sense of duty, but a feeling of friendliness and real personal interest—we will never succeed in outside supervision. When we have that point of view we will know that this does not consist merely in asking the family, neighbors or police concerning the conduct, or giving frequent words of caution to the ward; that it does not mean merely finding work, even if further care is taken to see that wages are paid and a savings account started; that even taking time to assist with shopping is not everything. These are a part, but the great thing is that the person supervising must be a sympathetic friend who is interested in the likes and dislikes, joys and sorrows of the ward, and one who will try and see that life for the feeble-minded person has an amount of pleasure proportionate with the work and drudgery perhaps unavoidable—not pleasure based on what you enjoy, but suited to the intelligence with which we are dealing. I am stressing this attitude because I feel we are so likely to speak of *the feeble-minded* as an abstract topic and forget that each is an individual differing from every other. As a whole, they are a group incapable of showing resentment of being considered *the feeble-minded*, except by anti-social acts.

Having outlined our attitude, I should state what type of person is to be counted for outside supervision. Speaking in terms of intelligence quotient, we would say that ordinarily this should be over 50. Chronologically we are speaking of persons who are near enough physical maturity to do work which requires a development of strength and muscles; socially we have in mind those who, while they may have offended against society, are of a nature to respond to kindness and supervision; frequently this must mean that there has been a period of training and discipline in the institution. But even if both mentally and chronologically the person is of the right age, and if there is a stable and responsive nature with which to cope, a great deal depends upon the environment provided. And this is what the child welfare board members must watch carefully. Sometimes the home with the added watchfulness of a member of the child welfare board is satisfactory; sometimes it is not, or perhaps there is no home. In such a case, if the girl is of a nature to be successful, she should not be penalized. There ought to be an effort made to find appropriate work with satisfactory living conditions within the county. And we must give warning that once settled is not settled forever. "A new broom sweeps clean" is often especially true here. But as the novelty wears off, and we come down to dead level monotony the early standards are not reached, and there begins to be dissatisfaction on the part of the employer, and restlessness of the employee. Sometimes this wears off, but again there must be shifting in order to secure a renewal of earnest endeavor. And always we must remember that though on the surface the person may be just as others, that really there is the childish mind; if this is borne in our thoughts we may save ourselves much exasperation, and our ward much bewilderment and unhappiness.

Just here I should call attention to the effect of the law permitting sterilization, upon the policy of outside supervision. This is not a panacea, nor does it mean that every feeble-minded boy or girl can now return home. The question of environmental adaptation is not affected one whit. What it does mean is that where the environment seems to be suitable and to have a fair promise of success, we do not have to consider the result of a possible evasion of supervision. Where the state might have been burdened with another illegitimate and possibly feeble-

minded child, the chance in the parole of every girl was great because when misconduct was discovered it was often too late—and the question of overpowering a weak will was not a difficult procedure for an unscrupulous man. Now with the probability of a good environment and supervision the chances are not great; if very definitely delinquent, return to the institution can be arranged, but if only a slight lapse the results are not so far reaching. Thus many a girl, and boy also, can be satisfactorily paroled after such an operation, when it could not have been so considered previously.

We wish our institution, so far as the moron is concerned, to serve largely as a training school where good work habits and good personal habits may be given our wards—and having remained there one, two, four, five years until these are learned we hope to have the cooperation of the child welfare boards in paroling every boy and girl, man or woman who can with your interest and supervision be entirely or largely self-supporting and an asset to the community because of honest labor and earnest effort made to contribute something of value to community life.

It would seem perhaps that we are going at the question backwards in discussing who should be committed after discussing outside supervision. It is true, however, that our conclusions on this subject are largely the result of our attitudes of mind toward the question in general. If we can see that commitment is of advantage to boys and girls who are sufficiently high-grade to be self-supporting, but still not able to keep in the straight and narrow path because of inability to really comprehend the social code, we may come to adjust our concept of the feeble-minded. Too many of us are prone to think a person of attractive appearance and pleasing manner cannot be feeble-minded regardless of inability to understand directions, to learn in school or to conform to social standards. On the other hand some place every delinquent in the group of feeble-minded.

In considering for whom a hearing in feeble-mindedness should be asked, we must keep several points in mind: intelligence quotient, if such has been previously secured; school record; work record; conduct; environment and family record.

If the intelligence quotient is below 70 there should be little hesitation in feeling supervision is necessary for the person who has come to the attention of your board. This in itself implies lack of conformity to social standards. Between 70 and 75 I. Q., the person may still be considered feeble-minded, other conditions tallying with this diagnosis. Above 75 I. Q., only extreme failure in adaptation with the inability of those interested to plan adequately for care without commitment, would cause us to consider the person feeble-minded as defined by the laws of Minnesota.

If no test has been given prior to the filing of the petition, the other conditions must be considered in order to know whether we are justified in thinking we are working with a feeble-minded person. One who is really feeble-minded is rarely able to do satisfactory work in a standard seventh grade. This does not mean that many are not in the seventh or eighth grade. Frequently we find they have been advanced in grade in order to sit in larger seats as they get older; sometimes they are able to do the subjects requiring only memory, and so because of effort are classified in the higher grade, and the more difficult portion of the work omitted; teachers are likely to mark these pupils not upon actual accomplishment, but upon effort; sometimes the grading is based on mentality, and though the

higher grade is the classification and the work is satisfactory, all of the pupils are subnormal and subjects are planned accordingly.

In checking the work record, we must ascertain not only the type of work done, but the frequency of change and the satisfaction given. If a feeble-minded person is employed at something which he is capable of doing well, and the environment is agreeable, he may remain for years. The usual record, however, is frequent changes with periods without work. The "jobs" may vary, from domestic or farm labor to that in laundries or factories, always being of the type which does not require initiative and judgment to any great degree.

Sometimes the person who perhaps should be committed because of feeble-mindedness is not delinquent, though more frequently delinquency has been a reason for drawing the attention of the child welfare boards, or other social agencies. If grossly delinquent in a manner showing a particular lack of judgment, one may feel there is reason to question the degree of mentality, unless the other records are such that this could not possibly be the explanation. Where not delinquent, however, feeble-minded persons are likely to exhibit childish traits making supervision advisable. They are likely to be too susceptible to suggestion, so that they may be led into doing things not for their best interests; indeed they are frequently taken advantage of, and made the family burden bearer; while usually meek and yielding, there are periods of stubbornness and rebellion making it particularly difficult to deal with them since naturally the reasoning ability is no greater than that of a child. The typically childish mental attitudes are those which we expect in the feeble-minded, and when we meet them we may have some basis for suspecting we are dealing with such a person.

We must further consider the family and home environment. If this is poor with low living standards; if there are others who seem to exhibit some of the characteristics and inabilities here described; if there are those within the family who are delinquent—then we have reason for thinking that low mentality may underlie the whole failure in adaptation, of the one person in question as well as the family in general.

If all of the phases of life here outlined have been examined, the facts gathered must be considered in relation to one another. Having so considered, we have a basis for either filing a petition for a hearing in feeble-mindedness or for looking for some other explanation.

RECORD KEEPING FOR CHILD WELFARE BOARDS

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To the child welfare boards of the rural counties who have not the services of a stenographer or even of a typewriter, the keeping of records is apt to be an irksome and seemingly unnecessary task. Having served the family or the individual for their or his best interest, the need of recording such work is not always understood. Any task becomes irksome where there seems no aim or purpose in accomplishing. If we therefore first consider the why of a record, the how will seem more interesting and pleasant.

Records are a very essential part of our profession. In the first place, they have an economic value. Many of our cases are carried over a long period of time. An illegitimate child is usually considered a charge of the State Board of Control and therefore of its county representatives—the child welfare boards, until he reaches the age of sixteen—unless death, adoption or his removal from the State ends this responsibility. Delinquent, dependent and neglected children are sometimes committed to the guardianship of the State Board of Control, which guardianship, unless discharged, remains in force until the child has reached the age of twenty-one. Many county allowance cases are given over a period of years. Committed feeble-minded—especially cases of outside supervision, usually require life-time supervision. There are permanent placements of children which remain under the direct supervision of the child welfare boards year after year.

While we are most desirous of retaining the continued services of efficient, sincere board members, we know we may not always do so. There are bound to be changes—oftentimes frequent ones—in the personnel of the boards. Sometimes there may be an entire new board, yet they must carry on the work of their predecessors. If no records are kept, or even if only partial and incomplete records are kept, they have little or no knowledge of the work which has been done or which should be done. It then becomes necessary for the new members to gather again the history and information which is necessary in order to give helpful and intelligent service. You can readily understand how this would mean an expenditure of much time, energy and expense, which is unnecessary. On the other hand, with a complete record showing the history of the case, the new member can carry on intelligently, unhampered, and have more time to devote to the new work which might otherwise be left undone or delayed. Such delays often bring about greater difficulties which will mean a greater expenditure of both time and expense in solution.

Joanna is an unmarried mother. When first visited soon after the birth of her child, she was urged to file complaint against the alleged father, a young man, who lived in the same community. She promised but as often happens, not fully understanding the procedure or fearing publicity, she failed to do so. Due to the pressure of work, change in personnel, vacancy in the board and no record of the case, Joanna was not visited until a year or so later when there came a quest for a report from the Children's Bureau. The new board member then found that the alleged father had married another girl. Joanna was not well and was unable to support her baby adequately. Because of the alleged father's marriage she now refused to file complaint. She would have done so if great enough pressure could have been brought at the opportune time.

Mrs. Smith was granted a county allowance, upon the death of her husband, for the support of her four minor children. Soon after the allowance was granted it was found that Mrs. Smith had incipient tuberculosis and needed immediate sanatorium care. There was much chance that she would recover if she could be given immediate care. The board member arranged therefore, for her entrance in a nearby sanatorium and proceeded to make plans to keep the family together until the mother's return. There were two older children, a girl of seventeen and a son of eighteen. The children continued to live in their home. The allowance was continued and the children supervised by the oldest daughter with the help of the board member. This plan worked well while school kept. After school was out these healthy, active children were out on the streets a great