

Q. Governor, how is your educational program on fair housing legislation coming?

A. I met last week with the State Interracial Commission to discuss the steps that we want to take to make certain that every citizen understands the thrust of the fair housing law that was recently enacted by the General Assembly. And I might state parenthetically that after reading some of the statements of fair housing activists, I think our educational efforts should be directed in their direction, in their sector, as well as in the sector of those who oppose the law. I'm very interested in seeing that what the law does is brought to the attention of the people. If it does go to referendum, they should know what's in it. I don't think the Interracial Commission should take an advocacy position with public funds, but I do think that they have an obligation to educate the people about what's in the act.

Q. Governor, yesterday, Judge Maguire forecast as an eventuality a law that would make parents criminally responsible for the actions of improperly supervised juveniles. What would be your reaction to such a law?

A. This is a very difficult subject. What do you mean by improper supervision? It's almost impossible to calibrate in any fashion that can be administered and understood by a court, what is effectual or ineffectual supervision. It may change with the environment of the child. It may change with the ability of the parent to supervise the child. It may change with the social position of the parties. I think it's a wonderful attitude to think about trying to control, to overcome, the old legal concept that parents are not responsible for the torts of their children. But I think that it's got an awful lot of difficult sides to it. There's no use creating a law that's unenforceable, and I just don't see how you could ever define the criteria rigidly enough to make it an effective law.

Q. Would you make the same comment on the Prince George's County suggestion that parents be held responsible for preventing their children from loitering during certain hours?

A. Well, now this doesn't quite apply to that. That's a much less broad approach to a problem. Here you are defining exactly what the evil, if you want to call it that, is that you're trying to prevent. You're trying to keep these children from loitering or from congregating in certain places at certain times. I think you could write standards around that kind of law. But a broad law related totally to the con-