

D. Thus, it is reassuring to see that student leadership still exists and that this University and its friends have established the Milford Whitehill Seminars to provide full and formal recognition of the vital contribution made by student leaders to the intellectual life of the college community.

1. As a teacher of law, I found that dialogue was the most satisfactory instrument for learning, challenging the instructor as well as the student.
2. So I will confine my formal remarks to serve as a frame and focus only — and then turn the seminar over to you and your questions.
3. While I share your interests in all the great issues confronting our nation today, and I am most willing to discuss them with you — this is the age of specialization and my specialty is State government. While I share all Americans' concern over Vietnam, the threat to the dollar, foreign policy and domestic peace, the only problems on which I can speak with any expertise and act with measurable effect are those confronting Maryland.

II. The major problem confronting Maryland is the major problem challenging every state with a large urban center. It has been said so often that it has become a cliché — the problem of America today is the problem of its cities.

A. However, for all its validity, this is a dangerous generalization for it invites oversimplification and a monolithic approach to solutions.

1. Harvard political scientist James Q. Wilson best summarized the fallacy of this generalized approach when he wrote: "Speaking of urban problems has real dangers for it lends to the substitution of effect for cause and thus the misdirection of remedial action." Although there is general agreement as to the evidence of urban problems — blight, poverty, pollution and traffic congestion — Wilson correctly cites that "slums and bums and cars are not the causes of problems, they are the symptoms, and if we tear them down or clear them out or ban them from one place, they will inevitably reappear somewhere else."

B. Genuine resolution, and urban renewal rather than removal, depends upon the accurate identification of root causes.

1. Essentially, problems fall into two broad categories — structural and social.