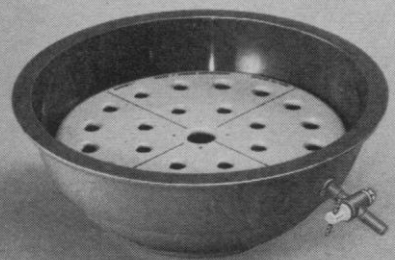


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This estimate does not imply that the women need federal services, but merely that they need contraception.

Harkavy and his colleagues are right that family planning for the poor is not a means of population control. It is not even a "first step" to that goal. But until now this has not been clear; the government has been sold a risky program as part of a population-control package. This program invites charges of genocide, dissemination of dangerous drugs, and subversion of moral standards—ironically, it now appears, for the purpose of "health" and a dubious welfare goal. The insensitivity to such risks, as well as the paradoxical confusion of goals, is exemplified by Senator Gruening's support of the statement that (6) "... whatever might be the long-range adverse effects of the pill ... women prefer to take their chances. They would risk any possible ill effect rather than become pregnant."

JUDITH BLAKE

Department of Demography,
University of California,
Berkeley 94720

Public Health Service Grants

During a period of tight money, smaller contributions to nonprofit organizations, and decreased congressional appropriations for research, it would appear natural for an investigator to ask: "Do I stand a better chance of getting my research grant application approved by the Public Health Service or some federal funding body if I submit a moderate or small budget?"

As part of a study of the priority system for reviewing PHS grants, it was decided to determine if there was any relationship between the amount of support requested by the applicant and the priority assigned by the review group. A group of executive secretaries of PHS study sections which are the scientific review bodies were asked to select samples of relatively large requests (4 or more years at an average of more

References and Notes

1. The principal documents under discussion are: O. Harkavy, F. S. Jaffe, and S. M. Wishik, *Implementing DHEW Policy on Family Planning and Population* (1967, mimeographed; available from the Ford Foundation, New York); *Report of the President's Committee on Population and Family Planning: The Transition from Concern to Action* (Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1968); and *Hearings on S. 1676, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Aid Expenditures* (17 volumes of testimony concerning "the population crisis").
2. Statement by President Johnson at the 20th anniversary of the United Nations at San Francisco, 25 June 1965, and swearing-in ceremony of John W. Gardner as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 18 Aug. 1965 [*Congr. Rec.* 113, 6494 (14 Mar. 1967)]. The complete text of the 1968 Republican platform appears in *Congr. Quart.*, 9 Aug. 1968; the reference to population is on p. 213. "Family planning: A basic human right," speech of Senator Joseph P. Tydings, *Congr. Rec.* 115, S. 4848 (8 May 1969).
3. N. B. Ryder and C. F. Westoff, "Relationships Among Intended, Expected, Desired, and Ideal Family Size: United States, 1965." An occasional paper published by the Center for Population Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, March 1969, no pagination.
4. Tabulation from basic data cards of the 1960 study.
5. From the interview schedule used in the 1965 National Fertility Study. Kindly supplied to me by Charles F. Westoff of Princeton University.
6. *Hearings on S. 1676, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Aid Expenditures*, 90th Congress, 1st session (2 Nov. 1967), p. 62.

than \$40,000 a year), medium requests (2 or 3 years at about \$25,000 a year), and small requests (2 or, if necessary, 3 years at less than \$20,000 a year). It is obvious that with inflation \$40,000 a year is no longer a large amount. However, the comparisons would still apply. Each voting member of a section assigns to each request a priority of 1 to 5 on the basis of scientific merit; 1 being the highest and 5 the lowest possible priority for each approved application. The individual ratings are then totaled, divided by the number of members voting, and multiplied by 100 to get the 3-digit priority.

Table 1 shows that 22 of the 33 disapproved applications were in the small and medium groups, whereas 45 of the 80 approvals were in the large and medium size. The large group had the best average priority. It is apparent that the size of the request has practically no

Table 1. Relationship of project size to approval rate.

Project size	Total	Disapprovals		Approvals		Average priority
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Large	36	11	31	25	69	224
Medium	27	7	26	20	74	260
Small	50	15	30	35	70	256

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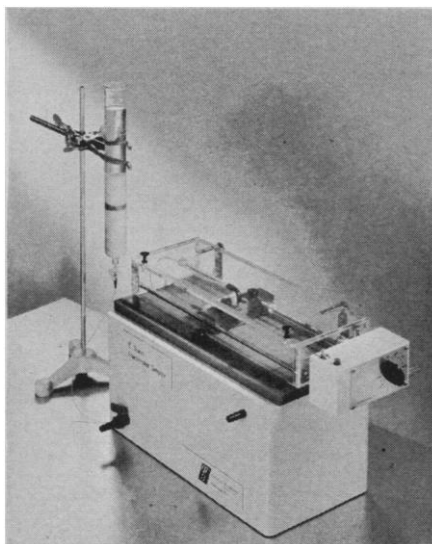
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effect on the approval rate. Since the applications selected for this study did not constitute a probability sample, it is not clear to what extent this statement can be applied to the entire group of research grant applications which are submitted to the Public Health Service each year.

NATHANIEL H. BARISH
*National Center for Health Services
Research and Development,
4040 North Fairfax Drive,
Arlington, Virginia 22203*

The Fit and the Unfit

The facts contained in "Draft caused drop in graduate science enrollments" (11 July, p. 162) may have been correct, but the tone was disturbing in its implications. The draft was held responsible for the removal of "able-bodied males" from graduate programs, "leaving only females, the aged, and a few physically unfit males." Thus, men who do not come up to draft board standards are labeled physically unfit. For what? And the aged: who are they? We, who are over 26 years?

The author's bias in his reference to female students as "only female" reappeared when he attributed to "a chemistry department" the lament that although it had been a coeducational department, the "entire incoming class for 1969 will consist of females only." That last "only" is only redundant. Until the facts show that aged and infirm adults comprise the bulk of graduate students, please report the situation with more accuracy and restraint.

SUSAN SCHIFF
*Lamb Hill Road,
Wells, Vermont 05774*

ACE Study of Campus Unrest

Judith Coburn's thoughtful article on criticisms of the American Council on Education study of campus unrest (11 July, p. 160) contains several minor inaccuracies and omissions.

1) It is incorrect to say that "the entire study was about disruption." The study focuses on campus unrest, and more specifically on protests, rather than on disruption alone. It therefore includes a variety of social and political activities like demonstrations, petitions, marches, teach-ins, strikes, and protest