

Proceedings from
The First
Connecticut Conference
on
✓ CRIMINAL VICTIMIZATION
OF OLDER PERSONS

April 19, 1978

RAMADA INN, EAST HARTFORD

SPONSORED BY

THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT ON AGING AND

THE CONNECTICUT JUSTICE COMMISSION

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INTRODUCTION

NOEL E. TOMAS

Mr. Tomas currently serves as Special Assistant to the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department on Aging. He has a wide reputation in the area of victimization of older persons having convened two 6-state conferences -- one on "reducing crimes against the elderly" held in October, 1973, the second on "the cheated elderly consumer" held in March, 1975. He was instrumental in bringing about the national conference on "crimes against the elderly" held in June, 1975 by American University through the U.S. Administration on Aging. He has spoken on the topic before many national and local organizations such as the Gerontological Society, American Society of Public Administrators and the National Bi-Centennial Conference on Justice and Older Americans. He has written many articles and papers, several published nationally on the topic of victimization of older persons. He was Chairman of the Hartford City Commission on Aging where the first study about the problems of crimes against older persons was conducted in 1970. He served as Executive Secretary of the Hartford Commission on Aging and concurrently as Assistant to the City Manager. His degree in journalism is from the University of Missouri-Columbia and he has been a government reporter on the Kansas City Star.

The Connecticut Justice Commission and the State Department on Aging are co-sponsoring this conference today to bring together members of the criminal justice and social service communities to discuss solutions to the problem of criminal victimization of older persons. My name is Noel Tomas, and I will be your moderator for this mornings session. I am the Special Assistant to Commissioner Ratchford whom you will hear from shortly.

We are not gathered here for our pleasure nor to celebrate. And I cannot say welcome. Bringing you the conference charge I do so out of necessity. It is testimony enough that we are here because of our mutual concern about the victimization of older persons. The attendance today exceeds the space we reserved. More persons were turned away today who wanted to attend. Why we must be here is an indictment against our society for we have let a cancer grow. We have shown as a society that we care not for our elderly although some sectors are beginning to shape up of late. We demand eternal youth and worship it with hysteric idolotry. Like religious fanaticism our young have inherited. Young and middle aged life are more important to us than later years.

There is an animal like instinct that causes predominantly young offenders to stalk the weak, particularly the old, attack them, steal from them, cheat them, molest them and show their contempt for them. And most persons stand by while these atrocities go on. There are those of us in

this gathering who have seen the results of such atrocities. I have reviewed many cases of criminal victimization beginning when I first joined the Hartford City Manager's office and I held the chair at the Hartford City Commission on Aging . . . the memories are vivid. But persistently our society goes on worshipping the deity of youngness, sensual beauty and have yet to hear the cries of our precious elderly. They too are beautiful people. They hurt and suffer. They must share our freedom from fear. They should not be discriminated against when our services are offered.

This is a forum then that should never have had to be held. I condemn what caused this need but I must support fervently the business we are compelled to conduct. I ridicule those who say there is no proof for our concern for the old for they really do not suffer inordinate amounts of victimization in our society, rather they are the least victimized. Yet when such newspapers as the Philadelphia Enquirer kept daily records of crime victims, more than two of every ten crimes committed were against the old. In this nation 1 in every 10 persons is old. As researchers examine the urban centers where victimization of the old appears more concentrated they are now finding certain categories of crime occur against the old at rates that exceed the normal rate among the general population. Concentration of population of old and poverty have direct relationships in the street and burglary crimes committed against those persons. It is unheralding indeed that this nation first heard at the national level about the attacks on the nations old.

On October 28, 1971 when I appeared with witnesses I located from Boston, New York, Baltimore before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging we said to our contemporaries criminal victimization of the elderly is an unacceptable outrage and must be stopped. We have yet to stop it. People have heard our pleas across the nation but only use bandaids and public relations to halt the crime and still the fear. The offender has a better than even chance of not suffering at all from what he commits. For the first time then in Connecticut history we have convened to hear to speak of our indignation and to search for answers in action. With those admonitions, I urge you here today to listen, to think, to act with resolute purpose to scourge this criminal cancer from our community to bring our old safely back into the mainstream of our society and to do so with conviction, with trust for our services, and with zeal that our American dream will live on not only for our young and for us in our working years but for our elderly.

A future victimization conference has been proposed to hear from our elderly. Unfortunately I will not be with you during those important hearings since my present service in Connecticut will be ending in November. That conference must be a hearing dominated by the elders of Connecticut. Those who have been victims should be a witness to their suffering and point fingers at those whom they feel should protect them or reduce their suffering. The public must hear as well as service agencies, and all must be increased and demand and produce action.

I wish to introduce Commissioner Ratchford. . .

OPENING REMARKS

COMMISSIONER WILLIAM R. RATCHFORD

Mr. Ratchford currently serves as the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department on Aging, the first cabinet level department in the nation (1969). He was appointed by Governor Ella Grasso in January, 1977. He served as the Governor's Chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee to Investigate Nursing Homes in 1976. He served as the Minority Leader-at-Large of the Connecticut General Assembly from 1972 to 1973. He was speaker of the Connecticut General Assembly from 1969 to 1972 (two terms). Prior to that, he served as Assistant Majority Leader from 1967 to 1968. He was a State Representative from the 109th Assembly District of Danbury from 1963 to 1974. He was the 1974 Democratic candidate for Congress from the 5th Congressional District. He was Chairman of the 1970 and 1971 Democratic State Conventions. He served as President of the National Legislative Conference in 1972 to 1973, and he served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Council of State Governments during those years. He is a member of the Connecticut Bar and his law degree is from Georgetown University Law School.

I congratulate this group for gathering at such an early hour in the morning. I think that it may be cruel and unusual punishment and perhaps it is an appropriate conference to review this. In listening to the litany that Noel described I think it is important to know what types of people we have represented here today. We have judges, prosecutors, court personnel, social workers, we have those who work for various programs for the aging and those who work for the housing projects across the state. More significantly, representatives from various aging groups in the Hartford area are here today.

The starting point for a solution to any problem is obviously one of concern. I think we are especially fortunate in Connecticut in having as our Governor an individual who has expressed consistently her concern for problems of the aging and has attempted to provide solutions for them. During the past few years the budget for the Department on Aging has increased 100%. A commitment to new housing in the state of Connecticut for the aging has been expanded dramatically to the tune of \$20 million dollars. In the area of home care designed to keep people out of institutions that commitment too is expanding rapidly as we say to our older Americans it is not enough simply to live longer, our commitment to you is that your life will be a better life as well as a longer life. Significantly and specifically in the area we discussed today the Governor has shown her concern in encouraging first, through our Blue Ribbon committee to investigate nursing homes, and then with legislative action, action designed to curb abuse in nursing homes and also action designed to curb abuse in the community through the adoption of an elderly abuse bill. This very

session, she is backing further legislation that she will discuss with you, designed to curb the plight of the victims of crime and to resolve these problems. I know this concern is a very real concern, not only because of activities that occur on our streets and in our projects but more significantly because of the real concern that exists in the minds of 460,000 people who are over the age of sixty.

A starting point is concern on behalf of those who serve in government. And I am pleased this morning to introduce someone who served both in a legislative activity as Secretary of State, as a member of Congress for four years. But more important over the past three years has shown every working day a concern for those who are over the age of sixty, concern expressed most significantly through action. A Governor who cares about the aging in the State of Connecticut . . . our Governor, Ella P. Grasso.

WELCOME

GOVERNOR ELLA GRASSO

Thank you very much Bill, for your kind introduction and I would like to add my own personal commitment to that which Noel has said and Bill has said and to welcome you to the First Connecticut Conference on Criminal Victimization of Older Persons. Certainly the dedicated and concerned officials and staffs of the Connecticut Justice Commission and the Department on Aging have done an outstanding job of organizing the meeting and persuading you to attend. You represent disciplines that are deeply involved in this situation, and can work to explore the problems.

I should like to reiterate my own strong and personal commitment to the cause of the elderly. It has been manifested not only in the establishment of the department, not only in the budgetary changes that we are so proud have been instituted, but in work for legislation to provide compensation to victims of crime. It is a measure which will offer much needed assistance to the elderly who most especially are victims of crime. The program which will be administered by an independent agency carries a \$100 deductible and a \$10,000 maximum for compensation. And this will serve as one indicator of concern and commitment.

Last year as you know we passed new legislation to provide greater protection for the elderly. A law that went into effect on January 1 creates reporting and follow up procedures in cases of abuse. The initial complaints are referred to Ombudsmen in the Department and then if their investigation indicates that further action is required the complaint goes to appropriate agencies whether they are social services, health, probate court or the prosecutor. Another statute mandates jail terms for persons convicted of serious crimes against the elderly.

Every victim of crime suffers trauma and travail. But these hardships are very difficult for our older people. They suffer longer physical injury, they're so fragile, the shock, the hazard, the very real long term difficulties that come from something that is cherished, some object that is so meaningful being taken away. For others there is still a lifetime ahead but for those . . . that radio, that picture, that television set has most important and most significant meaning.

I think we know that too many of these people live in areas where there is danger to them. We know that too many of them are vulnerable. Too many of them live in isolation. And it is to you that we turn to work to find with the parameters of this meeting all of those solutions that will help to remedy the questions that need to be answered in parent abuse to make the elderly more effective as witnesses, to get them involved in crime prevention, to find the solutions for law enforcement, in dealing with vandalism and harassment, perhaps more severe penalties may be required or expected.

Your expertise will help to frame the parameters for further action that is so important. I think that we all know that here in this room and in this larger state of which we are a part there is a deep and sound and abiding commitment to the protection of all of our citizenry. Most especially for those fragile people, the truly beautiful people, despite the fact that this seems to be an age of youth I think that more and more we are mindful not only of their heroism and of their strength but of our very real personal, individual commitment and that of society. So I will bid you welcome and I will look forward with such interest to those things that working together we can achieve so that they may live their lives without fear. Thank you very much.

CONTINUATION OF REMARKS OF
WILLIAM R. RATCHFORD

Noel, in his opening remarks made note of the fact that those of us involved in the planning of the conference wish quite frankly that such a conference was not necessary. I can tell you from my experience . . . first, as chairing the blue ribbon committee to investigate nursing homes and now as Commissioner on Aging, that regrettably such a conference is necessary. We have here representatives of the Chief Prosecutor's office . . . I know that John and I on one occasion reviewed cases where there were severe injuries to individuals in nursing homes and it became a question of whether or not prosecution was necessary under the new elderly abuse reporting law that was mentioned in her remarks by the Governor. We came across a case within the past few months where in a particular family it was a low income family with severe needs a grandmother had become disruptive as a result of perhaps senility and that family's inability to cope with that situation resulted in that frail woman being chained to a bed for the better part of a year. We know that across the state, even though in most instances abuse does not exist, where it exists we must get to the causes of it and we must as a society provide solutions so that it does not reoccur.

Our hope is that through this conference, through working with the professionals and through working through the invited guests from the various aging programs in the greater Hartford area that we as professionals can frame not only the issues but begin to propose some solutions. There then will be a follow up conference for the aging network throughout the state as they examine these problems as posed by the conference and more significantly look at some possible solutions. Our hope today is as we hear from experts not only from this state but from across the United States that there will be a candid discussion. Is there a problem? And what is the extent of the problem? . . . is it a problem only in the publicity or is it a real problem? And if it is a real problem and I sincerely from my work know that it is, what can we as a society do to see to it that solutions are afforded?

On behalf of the Department on Aging I welcome you to the conference. I, too, look forward to the results and I certainly thank the Connecticut Justice Commission for their active involvement. We are now going to hear from the Executive Director of the Justice Commission . . .

REMARKS OF
WILLIAM H. CARBONE

Mr. Carbone currently serves as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Justice Commission, the State's Criminal Justice Planning Agency. He was appointed by Governor Ella Grasso in December 1976. The preceding three years he was Chief Regional Planner for the South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board (SCCJSB), the regional criminal justice planning office serving seventeen towns in the New Haven area. While with the SCCJSB he worked closely with area police departments in the development of programs to improve multi-town crime prevention effort, police patrol and investigative management techniques, and police handling of juveniles. He was instrumental in the development of the Case Incident Regional Reporting System (CIRRS), the first regional computerized law enforcement information system to become operational in Connecticut. Before becoming South Central Connecticut's senior regional criminal justice planner he served as a research analyst with the New Haven Department of Police Services. He received his degree, cum laude, in modern languages from Providence College. His graduate studies degree is from the University of New Haven in Public Administration.

What you don't need at this point is another person to welcome you this morning. But I do want to say that it was a very distinct honor for the Commission to join with the Department on Aging in this conference and to work with such a sincere and dedicated group of people that Bill Ratchford is very fortunate to have. It's a fine example of where two state agencies can join in a mutual objective and end up with something much like what we have this morning. We want to see a few things come out of this conference, some of which has already been stated this morning in the Governor's remarks and Commissioner Ratchford's remarks.

We are a criminal justice planning agency in Connecticut and as such it is our job to continually examine our criminal justice system from a standpoint of determining what its problems are and trying to solve those problems and set goals and standards to measure our performance against. It is very important that as we do this, we not lose sight of what our objective should be, and that's to make the criminal justice system as fair to the victim as it is to the defendant. We know certain things for fact; elderly people, while they may constitute a small segment of the overall population in the municipalities, have been victimized perhaps as much as three or four times as often as other groups of citizens. Because of that, I think there is reason to have special interest in the way the criminal justice system responds to elderly people. So it is my hope that today all of you can together examine the problem as well as the resources that the state of Connecticut has to deal with it, and develop some solutions.

There are many things going on right now that I think put Connecticut in the forefront of criminal justice system efforts to make itself more victim oriented. We are very fortunate to have within our Judicial Department several programs which I think we can be proud of. We have a project that is attempting to relieve the burden of jurors who put so much time into their work without any compensation and with delays, enormous confusion, and sometimes total disruption of their lives. We are trying to end that by implementing a new system that will effectively manage how they are used, with the objective of helping them rather than simply improving the system or procedure. Also we have a program in Judicial known as the Restitution Services Unit which we are very happy about. That project tries to get offenders who have been convicted to restore the loss that the victim incurred as a result of the crime being committed. Many times those victims will be elderly people they have lost something that is of great value to them sentimental or monetary as the Governor pointed out.

Additionally, we have in Connecticut one of the finest Economic Crime Units in the nation under the leadership of Warren Gower and Joseph Gormeley. That unit has not only tried to investigate and bring about conviction of those who try to con and fool our citizens but also has had a prevention campaign trying to educate elderly people in particular who are so often the victims of those sorts of things. We are also fortunate that in one of our largest cities in the City of New Haven we have a victim services unit the objective of which is to identify the victims of crime and try to link them with various social service agencies in accordance with the needs that they may have. We have representatives from that group here this morning as well so they can share their experiences in assisting elderly people with you.

I think the problem is so pronounced and in spite of what we have done in Connecticut our mission is still way ahead of us. Last year, when Congress renewed the Crime Control Act they bowed to pressure, which was properly put on them by the American Association of Retired Persons and the National Retired Teacher's Association, and they amended the Crime Control Act. The effect of the amendment was to require state criminal justice planning agencies much like the Justice Commission to give special attention to the needs of elderly victims of crime as a condition of receiving Law Enforcement Assistance Administration funds. As a way of responding to that amendment we have worked with the Department on Aging in bringing this conference together, in the hope that out of this can come some solutions. Solutions that perhaps can be implemented through LEAA funds that we will make available.

I want to leave you with the thought this morning that this is not the type of conference where we get together, do alot of talking, and then separate with no follow up action. It is my hope that you will reconvene and be organized hereafter and through the funding that we will begin to make available to you in the coming months, the sincere people who are gathered here to do something about the problem can develop effective action. With that I hope you have an enjoyable, productive day and that you can see the prints of it in coming months. Thank you.

REMARKS OF

PHILIP S. CORWIN, ESQ.

Mr. Corwin currently serves on the staff of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging where he has responsibilities since April, 1976 for housing, transportation, crime - especially prevention programs, minority groups, disaster relief, energy - especially rate reform and weatherization assistance, architectural barriers, pensions and hearing arrangements. He came from the staff of the Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau and was counsel for indigent criminal defendants in the District Courts of Massachusetts. He was a research assistant in the Cornell University Department of Government. His degree in law is from Boston College Law School and he is a member of the Bar in Massachusetts and the District of Columbia.

Good morning, everyone. I appreciate being invited to speak today on behalf of the Senate Special Committee on Aging in Washington and I bring you greetings from the Chairman of our Committee, Senator Frank Church. I believe any discussion of crime against the elderly must begin with a look at what we know...and unfortunately we find out that we don't know very much about the extent of this problem. Looking at available statistical information the best information we have available which is not sufficient shows that nationwide older persons are still the least likely of any age group to be the victims of crime against the person or property. However, there are important caveats to remember in connection with these statistics. Older persons as opposed to the general public are more likely to be the victims of strangers rather than people known to them or members of their own family. The rates for some crimes against the elderly are rising much faster than for the population as a whole. Further, when elderly persons are the victims of criminal attack they are likely to suffer injury which has lasting physical effect and because they are living on small fixed incomes the financial effect of monetary losses are much greater upon them than for younger persons. We also find that elderly people are much more vulnerable to certain types of crimes...for example, purse snatching against older women. We find, also, that older female residents of the inner city particularly the members of minority groups have extremely high likelihood of being the victims of crime on the street.

Whatever the actual incidence of crime against the elderly the worse effect of this problem may be the fear which turns older people into prisoners within their own homes. As one very striking example of this, we are familiar at the committee with a project on the lower east side Manhattan which provides transportation services to the elderly of that neighborhood so that they can get to health care and social services. The fear of crime among these elderly is so great that the persons working for this project must go up to the doors of the apartments where these people live and escort them through their building back down to the street. The only way these people venture out of their homes is if they are assisted by younger able bodied people. The actual incidence in crime in this neighborhood is so high that when these attendants leave the van to go and pick up these people they lock the van so that the people inside won't be mugged while they're in the building helping the other people downstairs. So, that's a very specific example of both the seyre

incidents of crime in certain inner city neighborhoods and the terrible effect which fear of crime has on older people.

I think that much more data is needed about this problem. At the present, within the Department of Justice there are 54 different systems and programs collecting data on criminal activity. These systems are administered by seventeen different divisions, bureaus, and boards within the department. Yet only one of these 54 collection systems, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration's National Crime Survey, which incidentally is computed and compiled by the Bureau of the Census, correlates victimization to age of the victim. This survey has been suspended because of questions about its methodology. At the national level, we really have a very incoherent and inadequate system of gathering data on this problem. Attorney General Bell is taking steps within the department to gather all data gathering activity within a single Bureau of Criminal Justice Statistics and review the product within the justice. A review group within the department is at this moment preparing implementary legislation and reorganization plans aiming to include these within their proposals for the fiscal year 1980 budget. We of the Senate Committee welcome this very positive step toward obtaining a much better picture of the victimization of all age groups including the elderly nationwide and we also note that this new data gathering system which is proposed will not only look at who is being victimized and where they're being victimized and who is doing the victimization, but it is going to track the treatment of offenders by the criminal justice system to see how they're dealing with the persons who perpetrate crime. I think we have to look at both sides of this problem, who is being victimized, who is doing it and how they are treated by the entire system....if we are going to get any sort of effective handle on responding to it.

There was a Harris poll taken in the Spring of 1977 which I think provides some cause, although limited cause, for optimism about crime as a national problem. The number of Americans polled who felt that crime in their own area was increasing, declined from a very high rate of 70% in 1975 to 58% in 1977. This is encouraging. However, let's note that half the people polled still feel that crime in their own area is on the rise. Also, for the first time in a decade less than half of the adults who were polled by Harris and his associates reported feeling more uneasy on the streets than they had the year before. This again is positive but there is still high percentage, up in the high 40% range, who feel that they are more uneasy this year than they were the year before. We are talking here not about actual incidents of crime but perception, and the perceived situation is still serious. Sixty percent of those Harris interviewed felt that crimes against the elderly were on the increase. Fifty-five percent of the persons 50 years and older who were interviewed reported feeling more uneasy than they had the prior year so that the drop for adults at large was not matched by older persons. That does not prove that any of these perceptions of dangers which were gathered in the Spring of 1977 were based upon actual experience within the community or based upon the very strong attention given to this problem in the media at that time. I'd also like to point out that some criminologists maintain that the long term outlook is positive regarding crime and in fact they based this upon the demographic aging of the population and note that peak criminal activity is generally correlated to the teen age years. As the population as a whole gets older, they extrapolate, the hope is that the amount of criminal activity will decline because of this.

Turning back to the activities of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, in regards to the subject the Senate Committee first focused on the problem of crime against the elderly in 1971 with a series of hearings one of which Noel referred to which were focused on the security problems of older persons living in federally assisted housing. I'm glad to note that since those hearings the Department of Justice and the Department of Housing and Urban Development have been working together and they've produced some very excellent studies...one of which I note particularly called Design Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space. These are based upon architectural and behavioral research and are geared towards creative housing environment for the elderly in which the opportunities for crime are diminished and the feeling of security is enhanced for the residents. We applaud this type of joint action by cabinet departments. The committee is also a very strong supporter of those provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1976 which require that states seeking federal anti-crime assistance affirmatively state in their state plans what they are going to do to help reduce the incidence of crime against the elderly. We also supported the provision to that act which makes available funds to neighborhood and community groups from the Office of Community Anti Crime Programs for local projects dealing with this issue.

The committee is embarking at this moment on a multi-faceted study of older Americans in the nation's neighborhoods. Our aim is to determine what type of urban policies can best help to stabilize urban communities, particularly in central city locations where so many of the elderly reside. It is our belief that crime prevention and reduction must be an extremely important part of this overall strategy. We have found that at present many of the elderly live reluctantly and in fear in such areas. They are forced there because of their limited income. However, we have also found that if they could upgrade the housing staff in these neighborhoods, if we can increase the services available to older people, that they would in fact like to remain in our cities because of the activity which takes place there, because of the proximity to social services, health services, the availability of public transit and the other amenities and services which a healthy city neighborhood can provide. We hope to embark a number of hearings beginning this summer directed at this topic. We're working very closely with the National Commission on Neighborhoods which was established by Congress last year and chaired by Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts. That Commission is holding a series of hearings nationwide throughout the year and will be reporting to the President and the Congress in January of 1979 with recommendations for national programs which can help to stabilize and improve city neighborhoods.

The Senate Committee on Aging is also in close and continuing contact with the National Committee on Crime and the Elderly. This is a coalition of major national organizations representing the elderly which has as its goal the development of national programs for crime prevention and victim assistance. The committee is currently sponsoring projects in six cities around the nation which have as their major goals:

- 1.) The mobilization of existing community resources to direct them at this problem.
- 2.) The education of older people as to how they can avoid being the victim of street crime and the victim of the most common frauds and con games and I can't say strongly enough how important this education and information dissemination is for effective crime prevention programs.
- 3.) Strengthening Neighborhood Watch and other community based prevention activities and
- 4.) They are hoping to improve the physical security of homes and housing projects.

Also, at the national level this committee on crime and the elderly is preparing guidelines for improving the criminal justice system's response to older victims and in developing training programs to help sensitize police departments to the special needs of older victims of crime. This national committee is aiming to wrap up its work and set all these strategies in motion by 1980 at the latest.

Governor Grasso in her remarks here mentioned victim compensation. The Congress has been turning its attention to this and has been acting on it. A comprehensive revision to the federal criminal code which was passed by the Senate last year and which is being addressed by the House of Representatives in 1978 established a victim compensation fund for payments to the victims of federal crimes of bodily violence or to their survivors with payments which would cover actual losses up to \$50,000. I think it is a very positive step, however, we have to keep in mind that most crimes committed against older people are not federal offenses....they are offenses under state and local laws. The Congress has turned its attention to assisting the states in victim compensation directed at these crimes. In September of 1977 the House passed a bill which will extend federal assistance to state victim compensation programs which meet certain minimum standards. As passed this legislation would underwrite one quarter of up to the first \$25,000 in compensation for medical expenses, loss of earnings/and similar problems. A counterpart to this bill is now being considered by the Senate and is expected to be reported out of the Judiciary Committee in May. The Senate Bill as introduced is more generous than the House passed bill and the Senate is also considering some provisions which are of particular importance to older victims....including compensation for essential property losses. It is difficult to predict the exact form of the final Senate bill or the law which emerges from the Senate House conference. However, I think I can say that the possibility of enactment in 1978 is very good considering that the Senate has acted favorably on similar legislation in the past and that officials of the Department of Justice endorsed this type of assistance program during 1977 hearings in the House of Representatives. I believe that this type of legislation can address the present disparities in the criminal justice system's attention to offenders rather than victims. It can be a first step to encouraging victims to come forward to report crime and to work with criminal justice authorities if they know that help will be extended to them and that the system will do its best to make itself understandable to them and to assist them in a humane manner.

Violent crimes do get more attention in the press and quite deservedly they shock our consciences. But I think that in any discussion of crime against the elderly you must look at the white collar crimes of fraud and abuse which are committed against older people. We don't have any authoritative figures on the incidents of these crimes but we do know that the losses nationwide run into the billions of dollars annually and that older people are particular targets of these schemes. The elderly because they are elderly, because they fear illness and death, because they are living on small and often inadequate incomes are primary targets for the unscrupulous who come on promising quick cures, quick profits and who operate in a manner which exploits the loneliness of older people. Although no violence occurs in the conventional sense in these crimes the results can be devastating and sometimes more devastating than any street assault. The widow whose life savings were stolen through the common ploy such as the pigeon drop or the phony bank examiner scheme suffers an irreversible financial loss far beyond the magnitude of a mugging on the streets.

Further, we found that being victimized by such a scheme can produce severe depression, can produce doubts in the older person of his own ability to function in the society and in this way can precipitate serious psychological decline which leads to physical decline. Education of the elderly as to the most frequent con games and consumer frauds is the most important first step in any prevention program aimed at these. However, I think the Congress can help with further assistance directed at a wider array of abusive activities. I'd like to speak about a number of these.

The Senate Committee on Aging embarked in 1976 on undercover investigations of medicaid mills. Now these investigations paved the way for the Medicare and Medicaid anti-firm abuse amendments and I think that they spurred the Department of Health Education and Welfare to set up an office of Inspector General within that department to start working and acting on these crimes. Our committee's investigation determined that at least 10% of the annual medicaid payments or one and a half billion dollars annually, were being diverted from medical care by fraud and abuse...now this is certainly massive crime against the government and the taxpayers...however... it is also a crime against the low income people...both elderly and non elderly who go to these medicaid mills seeking medical assistance. And Senator Frank Moss who donned derelict's clothing and went to medicaid mills in East Harlem and other areas to see for himself what was going on...described at the committee hearings on this that he found that 90% of the care...or so called care extended in such facilities was in his words reprehensible. Senator Moss said of a person going to a medicaid mill seeking assistance he said if you're not sick, you won't be told you're not sick, if you are sick the odds are you won't be helped. I think this type of treatment is as much a crime against the elderly and other low income people as anything that goes on in the street in a conventional sense.

I would also like to note that Committee on Aging member Lawton Chiles from the State of Florida has just co-sponsored legislation which was introduced in the Senate last week...which would set minimum national standards for disclosure and consumer protection in condominium sales and which would encourage even stronger state statutes. This bill would also void as unconscionable certain abusive practices which Senator Chiles has cited of bilking retirees who have purchased what they thought was a secure retirement home. In his introductory statements for this legislation, Senator Chiles quoted from one of many letters he had received from older residents in Florida and I'd like to quote from one letter. This man wrote to the Senator and said..."We have to pay \$53.70 each month on our recreation building. We never use it. We have five ten-story buildings and the developer collects about \$50,000 every month on this recreation building which is not used by most people. He can get away with this for 99 years." I think that type of contractual theft shocks our consciences as much as street crime and I think that national legislation is required to address this type of abuse.

The Committee is also examining the entire area of electronic funds transfer which are coming into the banks around the nation. We feel that computerized bill paying and banking could well be a boon to older people who have limited mobility and who often wish to avoid carrying large sums of cash in the street. Yet without proper safeguards electronic fraud and embezzlement could become a new type of crime which the experts have dubbed remote mugging. Congress and the Committee are investigating proposals which would limit individual liability in electronic funds transfer which would set strict uniform standards including requirements for legible and understandable statements to the users of these systems and which would guarantee that one's life savings can not be stolen at the touch of a button.

There are certain other areas which are not strictly criminal activity yet there exists a potential for fraud and for abuse against older people. I'd like to talk about two of these. The Committee is encouraging the development of a new type of mortgage instrument which would benefit older people. This is called a reverse annuity mortgage. We have found that the vast majority of older people do own their own homes in entirety, that they often wish to make use of the equity they have established in these homes and that because banks are not likely to extend 20 or 30 second year mortgages to a person who is 65 or older that their only option right now to get at that equity is to sell their home...which they don't really want to do. A reverse annuity mortgage is a new type of instrument that would be available through savings and loans. It would enable the older person to convert the equity they've established into a series of regular monthly annuity payments to them during their lifetime. This loan would be settled between the estate and the savings and loan after their death. Senator Church supports this as a very important means of providing equity to the elderly who at present can't get at the equity they've established in their homes. However, he believes that before savings and loan institutions are permitted to make these mortgage instruments available, the Congress should specifically require the Federal Home Loan Bank Board to establish very strict and adequate safeguards to insure that older persons entering into these types of agreements have all the necessary information required to make a wise decision and that the method of computing interest on these loans is one which is equitable and reasonable.

The Committee is also looking at medi-gap insurance policies which are very worthwhile for many elderly....these policies in general fill in the deductible and co-insurance portions of medicare. Again, here the issue is not crime per se but the availability of adequate information to make an informed decision and the promulgation of adequate standards for disclosure and proper safeguards. The committee is currently investigating this subject with an eye toward determining the extent to which medi-gap insurance policies are a problem for the elderly in terms of paying too much for too little and....we hope our inquiry will lead to whatever action is required. That...wraps up my presentation this morning...I'd like to thank everyone for letting me describe the involvement of the Senate Committee on Aging with this very important issue of crime against the elderly. The Committee's aim is to reduce crimes and frauds perpetrated against the elderly in their homes and in their neighborhoods by encouraging joint partnerships with the states and with the localities toward this end. It is my hope that this conference today will give us new ideas and new directions which I can take back to Washington with me. Thank you.

REMARKS OF MARY SIMISTER

Ms. Simister currently serves as a Social Analyst on the staff of Midwest Research Institute (MRI) in Kansas City, Missouri, where she specializes in survey design and administration, technical writing and editing. She has co-authored a 3-year study assessing the patterns of criminal victimization of the elderly and developing methods of crime prevention. She is the Editor of the Criterion, the national digest of information on criminal justice standards and goals published by MRI under an LEAA contract. She also is the Editorial Director of the Kansas City Woman. She was co-investigator for two public health and sanitation studies for the Environmental Protection Agency. She came from the medical field at the University of Missouri-Kansas City of Medicine. Her degree in English is from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

I'm very pleased to be here and to represent Midwest Research Institute. One of the papers you have in your packet is by Carl Cunningham, who is no longer with the Institute, but is still very personally interested in the subject. This paper represents some of the interim findings of our 3-year study which was funded through the Administration on Aging. The study was completed in 1976 and our final report and some related materials that we developed were released this last year. We've had a lot of discussion this morning on why we should look at elderly victimization. As we all know, the victimization rate overall tends to be lower than for any other age group. And we're also going to ask why focus on the elderly as a group.

The concept that we started our study with was one which we called relative deprivation, which deals with the fact that when the elderly are victimized the impact they suffer as a result of these crimes are far greater than for any other age group. Financially, especially among the elderly poor but among any elderly person who is living on a fixed income, the loss of a certain amount of that income can deprive the person of rent money, food money and money for basic necessities. Physically, as we have heard this morning, the elderly are much more vulnerable to injury. They're slower to heal when they are injured. And psychologically they tend to be less resilient than their younger counterparts.

The subject of criminal victimization has been dealt with, especially lately, quite sensationally in the media. We've all seen the stories of the elderly people who are living in virtual fortresses, who bar their windows, and are afraid to go out in the street. Some of them are almost starving to death because they're too afraid to go to the grocery store. We saw in our own study some very, very upsetting traumatic incidences of this kind. We believe it is very, very important to look not only at that kind of situation but also to look at the whole picture to look at the facts, to apply some objectivity to it. Our study basically

was in two phases. The first was a research component, the second was a demonstration component in which we applied what we learned in the first phase to actual programs in our community. I'd like to spend a little time talking about what we found....and then spend most of my time talking about how we applied that.

First of all, we started our study with a conceptual model of victimization. Believing that there are five very important elements to look at when you're looking at the patterns of elderly victimization. First of all, is in the environment in which the victim lives, including the area of the city, and the type of dwelling. Second, is the characteristics of the victim including socio-economic characteristics, physical health, whether the person is handicapped or not. Third, to look at the offender, his or her age, race, method of operation.

The fourth, the type of crime and we looked at eight different types of crimes. We deviated somewhat from national reporting methods. We looked at burglary, we looked at robbery, which we broke down into armed robbery and strong arm robbery and further broke down into purse snatch and non-purse snatch as we've also heard this morning purse snatch is a very significant crime against elderly women. Then we looked at larceny purse snatch, fraud, rape and homicide. The final element in our model was the consequences....the impact of the victimization. And here as I mentioned before we looked at financial consequences, physical, psychological and behavioral consequences.

The geographic area of our study was the Kansas City Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. Just to give you a little feel for the area we are talking about. As of the 1970 census our SMSA had over one and a quarter million people, was the 26 largest in population among the 148 largest SMSA in the country. Our crime rate is very compatible to other large cities and for all crime categories we have higher crime rate than the national average overall. So we feel that Kansas City is fairly representative of other metropolitan areas.

In terms of the time frame we personally examined about 4000 offense reports representing all reported crimes against people 60 years and older from September 1972 through April 15, 1975. Of these we personally interviewed 1,400 victims and we think this is a pretty major undertaking something that no one else has done to date. Our interviewing period covered September 1972 to January 1974. Overall the data sources for our report were the offense reports and all 4,000 were used in the statistical analysis that we did...Our 1,400 interviews with victims.

Then we also went out and interviewed offenders...both parolees and inmates at Leavenworth penitentiary. All these were people who were known to have committed crimes against elderly persons. We also talked to crime prevention experts...we talked to law enforcement agents...locksmiths...just about anyone we could find that seemed to have some expertise in the area of prevention. And we also did a fairly extensive literature search. And as has also been indicated this morning, this topic is one in which data is not nearly as available as I think we all might like.

What did we find as a result of all of this? Basically we found that the patterns tend to be the same very generally as some of the other national victimization studies that have been done. But we went far beyond just looking at what kinds of crimes were committed and to what extent and we did many other things. We found that overall the elderly tend to experience fraud, assault and robbery with injury at a rate higher than the rest of the population. Purse snatch was a highly significant crime for elderly women.

In terms of the environment of our victims we found that 51% of our victims lived in the inner city of Kansas City. This compares to only 40% of those under age 60 who are living in the same inner city areas. The elderly are often trapped in neighborhoods which were once fairly nice but are now deteriorating and these neighborhoods are the same neighborhoods in which the offenders who are most likely to victimize them also live. We are finding that the elderly live in juxtaposition to those who are most likely to victimize them. The offenders tend to be young, unemployed, and male. In some crime categories, 90% of them are teenagers. Many of them are what we term occupationally immature. They're not professional criminals...they're opportunists who don't really know what they're doing and tend to react with a great deal of panic and surprise which often leads to very, very serious injury to the elderly.

Also in terms of our victims, demographically, elderly black were victimized at a higher rate than whites, men at a higher rate than women, although black women were victimized at a higher rate than white men. Breaking down the age groups, the youngest group, which was 60-64 experienced a higher victimization rate than any other age category, except for fraud. We found that as the victim got older he or she was more likely to become the victim of fraud. The reason for these figures is that the younger age groups are more mobile, they're out on the streets more and many of them are still working. Regarding fraud, we found that the older person and this sometimes involves 75-80 years old and older tended to become more vulnerable, perhaps a little more naive, a little more susceptible, to the con artist.

The types of crime we looked at were burglaries (60%), followed in order of number of offenses by robbery, purse snatch of all types, assault, fraud, homicide and rape. Homicide and rape were very, very small figures in our study. And we like to point that out when we make our presentations to elderly people because so many of them have been scared to death by the media and tend to be most afraid of these highly violent crimes. We found that the fear of crime that we all know so much about and hear so much about was justified. In our study one in three black victims and one in four white victims had been previously victimized in the last two years. So that kind of fear is justified.

In terms of the impact, to provide some baseline data, the medium income of the victims we studied was about \$3,000 a year. Among black females, which tended to be the lowest income group, the medium income was only \$1,700 a year. Most of these incomes as you might imagine were from social security, pensions or other fixed types of income which are not easily recovered. Over half of our victims lived alone, many of them had not family or friends that they really could rely on. Twenty percent of them were physically handicapped. Interestingly enough, prior to being victimized only 34% said that they had been afraid of being victimized and only 27% had taken any kind of special home security precaution.

Looking at financial impact, we computed financial losses in terms of a percentage of one month's income to give us a better idea of the immediate impact of losing money. We found that, overall, victims lost 23% of one month's income. In the lower income category some of them lost as much as 100%. In terms of types of crimes, purse snatch victims were losing 93% of the month's income when they were robbed. Fraud victims were losing 82%. And when we're talking about such low income levels we have to realize that these people are being deprived of basic necessities. We're not talking about luxury items... we're talking about their losing vital necessities, for example, the money for rent, for doctor bills and for food.

Another significant loss which has also been mentioned this morning is the loss of property. Many cases involve the loss of a T.V. set or a radio which the victim could not afford to replace. And in many cases the T.V. and the radio were their only contact with the outside world, especially for those who are living rather circumspectly. Another significant loss was the loss of sentimental items. We noted a number of people who lost jewelry that had been given to them by their dead spouse, things that were very heart rendering for them to talk about. Over all the crime categories in terms of physical impact... 15% of the victims suffered significant injury. This doesn't sound very high, but to see the actual cases that were involved and the severity of the injury shows it to be a very significant figure.

The victimization did not really change much in terms of behavior. Only 10% of our victims reported some type of behavioral change as a result of being victimized. These kinds of changes involve adding home security devices, going out less often, and locking doors more frequently. Generally, very unfortunately, we were not able, because of our time and financial constraints, to get into any kind of psychological measures which we very much would have liked to have done and still think should be done. We did get a lot of subjective reporting from victims of increased anxiety levels, increased depression, and increased feelings of helplessness. And we felt from talking to these people that the low level of change in behavior was largely attributed to the fact that many of them were living at a very minimal level to begin with. They didn't go out unless they had to and they couldn't change much. Also, many of them could not afford to purchase and did not know how to install the locks that were recommended.

So what do all the findings mean...what do they tell us about what we can do to help in this very important area? First, we found that in many cases victims had been victimized not so much because the offender saw them as particularly vulnerable because of their age or their physical condition, but because the offender saw an opportunity. The offender saw an elderly women walking along the street alone dangling her purse very loosely. The offender saw someone carrying a large amount of cash. In some cases he would see someone flash money in a grocery store. Many of our victims would go and cash their social security check and carry this large amount of cash to the store with them, take it out to pay the bill. This presents a very nice opportunity for someone who wants to rob someone. One of the things that we have found is that the elderly need to learn how not to make themselves vulnerable, there are things that they can do.

A second major finding is that the offenders that we talked to did not worry too much about increased police patrol. The feeling was that police have only limited resources, they can't possibly be in every place that they perhaps need to be. The offenders were much more concerned about neighbors watching what they were doing if they were going to burglarize a house. They were concerned about people being out in neighborhoods, and this implies the need for some neighborhood cooperation, like a Neighborhood Watch program.

A third major finding that we found involved the concept of relative deprivation and the fact that the elderly did need help when they are victimized. They need to have medical services available to them. and they need some way to have their financial losses restored to them.

The thrust of our demonstration project that resulted from this research was threefold. First, an education program aimed at the elderly and their specific needs, teaching them how to help prevent crimes against themselves. Second, encouraging and doing everything we could to implement cooperative efforts, like Neighborhood Watch programs. The implementation of Operation Identification, in which property is marked. The use of community resources and having the elderly made aware of these resources, having people from the agencies working together to get these services to the elderly people. The third major thrust is in the area of providing assistance, through loan programs, and referral services for people who are victimized.

Our demonstration project was initially carried out at Shephard Center, which is a multi-service neighborhood aging program located in Kansas City. Shephard Center has over 250 volunteers and it is a large program for the aging which has gotten much national attention. What we did in working with Shepard Center was first to get volunteers educated themselves to help them so that they would help the elderly. We sent the volunteers out into the community to talk to elderly victims and to disseminate crime prevention materials. We had some difficulty in getting the person to person contact in the neighborhoods because some elderly people as any of you who have tried to interview the elderly personally probably know that they tend to be very wary of having someone come to their house. But we did get people out into the neighborhoods and got them to distribute materials and make the elderly aware of what was available.

Another component was Operation Identification. Shephard Center had access to a number of engravers and the volunteers would go out into the homes and help the elderly mark their property. Sometimes I think it's hard for us to realize that something that seems as simple as using an engraver and putting a number on valuables comes easy to us. But many of the elderly people couldn't do it. They were arthritic or they just did not have the mobility to go and check out an engraver and bring it home, and they needed help with that. Some of those simple things were part of the things that we tried to implement.

We did develop several different types of materials and I have brought examples of those with me if any of you would care to look at them later on. The first item is a crime prevention handbook for senior citizens. This is written on the basis of our findings and as I said our research with crime prevention experts. We tried to do some things that we think are especially important in dealing with the elderly. The print is a little larger, we tried to make it easy to read since many older people have problems with this. We used a lot of photographs as illustrations and we tried to write it in such a way that the elderly could identify with what we were saying. We have distributed several thousand of these throughout the country and our handbooks are being used in a number of local programs for the elderly with, from what we hear, a great deal

of success.

We also developed a home security manual that is tailored to people who are working to assist the elderly in securing their property. At Shephard Center they have a handy man program where older men are volunteering to go out and help the elderly people with household repair problems. We use these people to help with the installation of dead bolt locks, to help with installing window locks and any other things that needed to be done. And they would work with crime prevention aides from the Center to go out and do home security checks and make recommendations to elderly people for what they would need to better secure their property.

We also developed a suspicious activity brochure which is a little fold out that people could put under their telephones. It lists things that they should watch out for. It lists times when they should call the police and encourages them to do so, and it also has a very bold telephone number for the local police department...we also conducted many, workshops and seminars for groups of elderly people, civic groups and community organizations of all types in crime prevention and in assisting the elderly in some of the areas I've mentioned.

At the conclusion of our project we also worked with a regional planning group in Kansas City called the Mid-America Regional Council, which has it's own Commission on Aging. We assisted them in the development of additional crime prevention programs, education programs, that they took into nutrition sites and other meeting places of the elderly. This was funded along with two other programs under a grant from LEAA. In addition to the public education program, the regional planning group also assisted with implementing Neighborhood Watch programs in neighborhoods and set up a victim assistance program for referral and loaned out approximately \$7,000 to people who had lost money through crime.

When considering the elderly it is important to recognize that many of these people were raised in a time and in a place where awareness and alertness were not necessary. They didn't have to worry about crime. Many of us have virtually grown up with that concept. We found a great deal of naivete among some of our victims. They just didn't know to be aware, they didn't know to be alert when they were on the street, to watch out for what was going on around them. So they need to learn this... and we believe that through good crime prevention programs that are tailored to their needs they can begin to learn to be alert to help to protect themselves without becoming paranoid, without becoming paralyzed by fear. We believe that this kind of balance is the most effective way we can work with these people.

Another important area is home security and as I mentioned before, that things often seem very common sense to many of us are very difficult for the elderly. Many of these people could not afford to install a dead bolt lock. It may not seem like a great expenditure but when you're living on some of the low incomes that we are talking about that is an extremely expensive investment. If they can't afford it often times they physically can not put it in. They can't do the work necessary to put in some of these things. Other areas that we stressed to the elderly are ways to protect themselves when they're on the street. As in purse snatch, teaching older women to carry their purses close to their body instead of dangling them loosely. Encouraging them whenever possible not to carry a purse, to carry their money on their person in a money belt or something similar. Not to show money, not to carry a large amount of cash, but when they have to carry cash... to be very careful about how they handle it.

We also had a very major element in our crime prevention programs on fraud and tried to make the elderly aware of some kinds of con games that are going on against them. To teach them to be alert and as has been mentioned fraud is a very easy thing for many elderly people to get into because they are lonely and many of them tend to be very trusting. These are many of the areas that we talked about and have most of them included in our handbook and I could continue to describe some of the little kits that we developed but I won't go further into that this morning.

To sum up, we didn't find any new or startling solutions to the problem of crime against the elderly. But we did come to understand that the elderly are in a unique position, because of the concept of relative deprivation, what happens to them when they are victimized, and the attitudes that they have some of which may be difficult for us to understand but which we need to understand if we're going to help them. We believe that through research, getting more data, understanding the patterns of crime against the elderly we can begin to do some really effective things to prevent it.

I'd like to explain what I have with me and how you can go about getting them. The file report which is the research part of the project is this...and that's available. The crime prevention handbook for senior citizens which I mentioned looks like this and we have redone the covers so this is useable anywhere, it is also available and because we've had so many orders for that we have provided a reduced rate if you order a large quantity. All of these things are priced on our own printing costs...we're not trying to make any money off of it. We wish we could distribute them free because we think it's important. The home security manual is this document and we have not been able to change the cover on that...it still has the Shephard Center on it. But if anybody is interested in that as a model for something they'd like to do, this is also available.

I have brought order forms which are also up on the table, which indicate the cost of the documents and how you may get them. The one thing that is not on the order form is this brochure which I referred to before as the suspicious activity brochure. This still has a lot of information in it. If you are interested in getting copies of this...you can make a note on the order form and we'll be glad to send you a couple. So, all the materials are on the table for you to look through, the order forms are up here and I'll leave them through the day so that you may do so. Thank you.

REMARKS OF SGT. BRIAN KELLY

AND SGT. TIMOTHY HOGAN

Sgt. Kelly has been a member of the Hartford Police Department for the past eight (8) years. He is presently assigned to the Department's Data Analysis Unit (DAU). He has been the Supervisor of the Unit since its inception in December of 1976. The unit resulted from the recommendation of a Street Crime Assessment Grant awarded to the Police Department in 1976. The grant was funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Sgt. Hogan has been a member of the Hartford Police Department for the past seven (7) years. He is also assigned to the Data Analysis Unit. Prior to his assignment in the DAU, he was responsible for the preparation of various crime reports for use by both the Police Department and various outside agencies.

First of all I'd like to thank the State Department on Aging and Mr. Tomas for inviting the Hartford Police Department to participate in this conference. We look forward to sharing our findings with its members. As a result of inquiries and concern regarding crimes against the elderly, the Hartford Police Department has closely examined those incidents of elderly victimization occurring in the city. The establishment of an accurate definition of the dimensions of the problem with the development of programmatic responses were two goals of the study. It is encouraging to know that the Hartford Police Department prior to the study had been active in developing strategies and programs aimed at helping the elderly in the city.

Early in 1977 the department issued a department directive establishing lines of communication between various human service agencies and our department. Lines of communication between these agencies were developed and issued to all of the department personnel. Crime prevention programs aimed at diminishing elderly victimization and elderly vulnerability were also instituted throughout the city. Late in November of 1977 the Data Analysis Unit using the data collected from the first 10 months of 1977 began an indepth preliminary analysis of all present information surrounding crimes involving the elderly. The analysis of these statistics would hopefully become a valuable mechanism in the design and implementation of more relevant crime prevention programs and strategic responsive to crimes against the elderly.

Specifically, the study examined four categories of crime; purse snatch where no violence was used, robbery purse snatch, on street residential robbery, and residential burglary. We chose these high fear categories of crime to begin our study. A profile was developed for both victims and offenders and special attention was also given to the number of offenses being reported during different months of the year. A review of the 1970 year census information indicates that Hartford has about 15.4 percent of its population as being over 60 years of age. In the four crime categories under study the percentage of elderly victimization was collectively 13.5 percent. Thus, it can be concluded that Hartford's elderly population, according to this study is not being disproportionately victimized.

With closer analysis, however, the crimes of purse snatch, robbery purse snatch, and on street and residential robbery do show an amount of elderly victimization in excess of the 15.4 percent figure. Specifically, in the crime of purse snatch which was also cited previously in the conference, 52 or 24% of the 217 cases involved elderly victims. (We also used 60 years of age as a cut off for elderly victims.) In the area of robbery purse snatch, 30 out of 135 cases under study involved the elderly as victims. This figure represents 29.6% of those victims as being elderly. The crime of residence or on street robbery also showed a very slight increase of elderly victims to the percentage of elderly living in the city. Sixteen percent of these offenses or 151 of the 942 cases involve the elderly as victims. An analysis of the last crime category residential burglary showed that only 10.4% or 239 of the two thousand two hundred ninety reported cases involve elderly victimization.

In examination of the known offender group we find that 492 or 69.1% of the 712 apprehended subjects were 19 years of age or younger. I should point out that we examined all offenders not just those offenders that were victimizing people over 60 years of age. The relatively young age group of offenders corresponds closely to the monthly period of high elderly victimization when the schools are closed for the summer months. Over 44% or 224 of the 482 offenses examined were committed during the three month school vacation period, that is June, July and August. It should also be noted that for those who are unfamiliar with the city policing concept we are presently operating under a team policing program. Which means that the city is broken into five distinct districts. The findings of the elderly victimization study were distributed throughout the department and as a result, each of the five district commanders as well as the Investigative Services Bureau has provided the Data Analysis Unit with responses and strategies detailing what is being done to effectively deal with crimes against the elderly in the city of Hartford.

District 1 - They have initiated a series of lectures and visits to various senior citizen centers. Crime prevention measures are the topic primarily discussed at these meetings. Target Hardening has also taken place in the Charter Oak Terrace area. The apartments occupied by the elderly have been equipped with an alarm system, activation of these alarms bring an immediate police response. Extensive in-service training is also being given to supervisors and patrol officers alerting them to the problems encountered by the elderly.

District 2 - Has taken steps to deal with elderly victimization by crime. The second district has interacted with the Community Renewal Team in strengthening security at the Tuscan Home, which is an elderly home in the north end of the city on Main Street. Instruction was also given to the elderly in the area of fraud and confidence games of which older people sometimes find themselves victims. District two has instituted numerous special details in areas high in elderly population. Both plain clothes and uniform assignments coupled with assistance from auxiliary forces have been initiated in areas of high elderly population.

District 4 - Has been active in the enlistment of the assistance of elderly population on the public safety committee. Plans are now being formulated to involve boy scouts in elderly escort services.

District 5 - Has also solicited elderly participation in the public safety committee. Elderly volunteers have also offered their time and assistance to various block watchers groups. We find this is a tremendous resource to the police department using these individuals who are so ready to volunteer their time. In the near future, programs on fraud and self-defense and other topics will be offered to the public when the Asylum Hill Crime Prevention Center moves into larger quarters.

The Investigative Services Bureau has also been monitoring the problem of elderly victimization. An effort is presently underway to establish a closer relationship with the Youth Service Division in the identification and apprehension of juvenile offender victimizing the elderly.

Data collected during the first three months of 1978 indicate that the programs initiated throughout the department have had a positive impact on the amount of elderly victimization. In the same four categories of crime which I named before there were 1,118 offenses. At this time there are 139, only 12.4% of these incidents involve the elderly as victims. This represents a reduction from the first 9 months of 1977 when the 13.5% of the victims were elderly.

After continuing to develop programs and dealing with elderly victimization the police department is presently working with Dr. Leonard, Director of the City Division on Aging to monitor the court treatment of offenders against the elderly. Information on court dispositions will for the first time be collected and analyzed. This along with programs and strategies already developed and in operation will insure that attention is given to elderly victimization in the city of Hartford.

What we found when we started the study when we got farther into it, when we started looking for assistance...there were very, very few agencies which collect any type of information at all on elderly victimization. The F.B.I., (can't understand) has a report, the age, race and sex report, and it is all based on offender information. Very few people bother to take a look at the elderly as victims. What we have done and we plan on enhancing our program in the very near future, is to take a closer look at the elderly victim and see if we can reduce the amount of elderly victimization.

What we're here for today is hopefully to get some more insight into exactly what other agencies are doing and to share some of our findings with them. I have here three charts, which I would hope that each one of you would come up and take a look at, we can provide copies...we have about 30 copies here with us now...and if anybody is at all interested or has any questions, please feel free because we'll be here all day. At your leisure I would think during the luncheon break we could all have an opportunity to come in here and make an examination of these charts.

The data represented on them was collected during the first 10 months of 1977. The only disclaimer I would mention was that we found that approximately 20% of our case incident reports did not contain the date of birth of the victim. Other than that the data is complete and we would hope that those 20% of the cases that we missed did not extensively involve the elderly as victims. But looking at some of the other presentations that were made this morning we found also that the high fear category such as purse snatch, robbery purse snatch and on street robbery were disproportionate amount of elderly victims.

I thank you for your attention.

REMARKS OF
FRANK FISHER

Mr. Fisher is currently the organizer of the Gray Panthers and is also co-chairman of the Greater Hartford Utilities Coalition which is involved in efforts to hold down the costs of public utilities. He is very active among senior citizen centers in the greater Hartford area and volunteers his services in a number of efforts to reduce crime and other social problems confronting the older Connecticut citizen.

I'd like to thank the Gray Panthers. I don't know if it means anything, I'm the organizer. But I get around and I am very active in the Senior Citizen Centers in Hartford, West Hartford, and other areas. I know the conditions more or less I would say more. I would say that the conditions that exist are many fold. Let's speak about one condition that we are interested here....crime.

I think crime is a social problem. I think crime can not be eradicated by legislation, by even increasing the police force, I think this gentleman spoke about the youth...who are under 19 years old...they're not hardened criminals yet and they are the majority, I think, unless...I don't hear very well...maybe I didn't hear it...but what are we going to do about these things? There is only one answer that I can see...we have to create jobs for all youths...we... the old people...have to think not only of ourselves but for the young people as well...they have no place to turn...if there are no jobs for them...and some of them, if they are illegal or their parents they hang around street corners. And they sometimes go around grabbing pocketbooks and so on and so forth.

But I am here to speak about a different kind of crime against the senior citizens that we feel and we lose much more in money and everything else. And that is the rip off by the big corporations, the rip off by utility corporations particularly. A few, probably some of you, heard us when we fought at the State Capitol against Northeast Utilities, against the CNG, the gas company, we didn't have enough voices to fight against the raise of rates by the phone companies. But how can the people like us who are living on social security stretch that damn social security check until you can't stretch it any more....and pay for all these increases. Every time we go into the supermarket. We get a nice surprise. I think you know...what I mean...all these things...I don't care how much they snatch our pocketbooks they don't snatch ten percent of what they snatch legally from your pocket. This is the thing...again...it's a social problem...this is the thing that has to go deep in society and society has to examine itself.

Society...we are the old people...we don't have much time on this earth...but we're on the ball...and we're ready to fight for our rights. And I think we have

done it...we have demonstrated here in the city of Hartford...we have a good utility coalition...with about 16 organizations which the Gray Panthers organized. We have actions almost every day. Every week...I met with the West Hartford City Council...I spoke with the state legislators...on a question of bills that come up for utilities. And this perhaps will bring down the crime against the senior citizens that I'm speaking of right now.

I'm sure that no one wants to get a hit on the head...especially my bald head... I don't want to get hit on the head...but another thing...I've been lucky... I've never been robbed yet...if I get robbed I wouldn't be robbed too much because I don't carry much around with me...we've had youngsters from school who would escort the old people to the bank and back. We have had police circling around you know...I spoke to one of the...I forgot the name...of the Hartford Chief of Police. I spoke to him and he said he doesn't have enough police to police the areas. The City Council doesn't appropriate enough money over there.

But coming back again to the question of crime. Let's take the middle ages;... from that period on...when the criminal commits a crime...they take a finger off...they take a hand off or take his life...Does that stop the crime?...No. All the punitive measures against criminals never stopped crime yet. Therefore, crime is...I'm going to repeat again...unless you tackle the social problem you will not get rid of crime.

WORKSHOP NOTES

INSTRUCTIONS

- PURPOSE: To develop recommendations to address the problem of criminal victimization of older persons.
- PROCEDURE: Step 1 Identify what would be happening if everything that could be done for the elderly were being done. (Desired Result)
- Step 2 What is being done today for the elderly? (Problem)
- Step 3 What could be done for the elderly that is not being done or what could be done differently? (Strategies)

The following pages represents a synthesis of ideas expressed in all 3 workshops.

Points of view or opinions stated in this section are those of conference workshop participants and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Connecticut Justice Commission or the Department on Aging.

- (1) Desired Result: Increased rapport and understanding between age groups, especially the young and the old.

Problem: A high percentage of some types of crimes against the elderly are being committed by juveniles who see the elderly as easy targets and have no mechanism for understanding what it's like to be old. By the same token the elderly do not welcome the young into senior citizen centers; they are often apprehensive of young persons and consequently seek little interaction with them.

Strategies:

- A) Escort services - In addition to providing a service to the elderly in the form of protection, using young persons as escorts will promote more trust of the young by the elderly and mutual understanding.
- B) Re-education process - Schools might revamp their curriculums with programs which better prepare the student for life, broadening his or her abilities rather than channeling them and increasing awareness that life is a continuum of ages, each with its own rewards.
- C) Use of elderly volunteers as personnel in group homes and schools, for reading to children in libraries, in programs teaching young people how to run a business (SCORE).
- D) Planning programs (recreation, etc.) which integrate groups.
Example: When a YWCA opened a senior center with programs for the elderly participation was hindered because the elderly at first felt isolated. They feared the building and the young people. When the elderly were asked to help with the day care program and other integral programs within the facility the problem was solved.
- E) Community meetings involving the young and the old.

Comment: It was mentioned that some of these attempts did not succeed due to a lack of careful planning. Simply putting two groups in the same place at the same time may not automatically produce productive interaction. This does not mean that the attempts should not be made, only that they should be carefully planned.

- (2) Desired Result: Improved utilization of existing services, and programs which are available for the elderly.

Problem: The comment was made that there are various agencies and groups becoming involved in elderly services and that often referrals are not made to the proper provider, e.g. the provider best qualified to give services. This is often the result of either lack of knowledge about the other services available and the sources or because of "turf" problems. In addition there are vast numbers of elderly persons who are still unreached in spite of out-reach efforts.

Strategies:

- A) Increased interagency coordination - This involves effort on the part of service previous to become aware of related services and their sources and to insure that the elderly person with whom they come into contact receive the benefit of all needed services from the proper source.
- B) Dissmination of information about available services - this involves a multi-media approach to outreach activities.

Example: The typical outreach effort utilizes newsletters, pamphlets, posters, etc. In one area it was discovered that many of the elderly could not read or write and present efforts were ineffective in reaching those. It was also known that many of those person listened to a particular radio station guide frequently. Therefore a question and answer radio program was initiated to close the gap in the information dissimination process.

- (3) Desired Result: Programs and services will be suited to the needs and desires of older persons, both as a group and as individuals.

Problem: The elderly population is not a homogeneous group. There are as many differences among them as there are between them and other age groups. Attempts to find the one best way for serving the elderly as a group will not sufficiently allow for unique problems and individual autonomy of choice.

Strategy:

- A) Making programs and services flexible.

Example: A prime target of the federal government is to help the elderly stay in their own homes. Project LIFE in the lower Naugatuck Valley is attempting to do this. Making homes less expensive to maintain through subsidies for fuel and utility bills, tax relief, etc. will hopefully achieve this goal. If the elderly do lose their homes or wish to move the only alternative is age-segregated public housing for the elderly. For those elderly who desire such housing it is a viable alternative. The complexes are secure and services are often available within the secured area. It was suggested, however, that although some of these complexes are virtual fortresses once the resident steps outside of them he or she is once again vulnerable and perhaps moreso because the area peripheral to the complex may become the target area of purse-snatchers for example - what alternative is there then for the more mobile older person who needs low cost housing in a relatively safe area? Perhaps the addition of smaller complexes scattered throughout residential areas or rehabilitation of housring already in existence are the answer. These will allow the older person to find housing in or near his own neighborhood if he is selling his home or to move to a safer neighborhood without being separated from other age groups.

Example: Formerly, the only alternative for a family who could not provide full care for an older relative within the home was to institutionalize him or her. Such things as adult day care centers and homemaker services will allow the family to keep the older person at home while freeing them of the conflict of work schedules and care during the day.

Example: Nutrition centers, now available throughout the state were designed to insure adequate nutrition for the older person. Meals-on-Wheels, a corollary program, was a logical extension for those elderly who are not able to travel to a nutrition center.

More of these types of additions and alternatives to existing programs must be developed which, where, possible build a matrix of community support which does not interfere with or negate the personal support system of the older adult, i.e. family, friends, familiar environment, and self-sufficiency.

- B) Needs assessment should be area specific. Bigger programs are not necessarily better. The more area specific the analysis of need is the more suited it will be for the client population. Basing programs upon aggregate generalized data aimed at the average person in a large area are inherently limited in effectiveness and flexibility.

(4) Desired Result: Reduction of crime the older person's fear of victimization.

Problem: Many older persons are fearful of crime because they are or feel more vulnerable to it. They also know that potential perpetrators look upon them as more vulnerable. Such inordinate amounts of fear debilitating to the older person's lifestyle and self image and should be lowered.

Strategies:

- A) Target hardening - Rehabilitating housing and securing the physical environment of the elderly person.
- X B) Empowerment - Educating the older person as to ways in which he or she can protect himself from victimization.
- C) Incorporating the elderly into crime prevention programs - using older volunteers to participate in security checks and installation of security devices, in teaching classes in crime prevention, in organizing block watches, etc.
- D) Small number of more severe penalties for perpetrators - Incarcerating the chronic offenders who are responsible for repeatedly victimizing older persons.
- E) Creating stronger self images for the older person.
 - (1) jobs for the elderly who wish to work
 - (2) useful volunteer activity.
 - (3) working to stop the perpetration of current

myths about aging and the sensational playup
of crimes against the elderly by the media.

- F) Provide jobs for youth to reduce the potential for involvement in criminal activity.

- (5) Desired Result: More interaction and coordination between large agencies and the community.

Programs carried out by bureaucracies receive publicity but it is probably those services which are carried on at the grassroots level which do the most good. Integration of government programs and resources with both formal and informal community services and resources would enhance the products of government programs.

Strategies:

- A) Allowing responses to problems to come from the grassroots level, through smaller, local more flexible programs.
- B) Agency use of volunteers - There must be a mechanism for community access to the system and creation of a permanent mechanism for meeting local needs which will continue in the absence of program funds.

- (6) Desired Result: Improved treatment of the elderly victim of crime.

The older person who has been victimized by crime is often in need of services and counseling to an extent which may be greater than that of other persons. Police, in taking complaint calls sometimes intimidate the older person by asking his age as the first question. There are no social service agencies available to the elderly victim after 5 p.m. The only source of help is the police who are not equipped to offer the type of assistance needed and may or may not be able to tell the victim who to call in the morning.

Strategies:

- A) Training police officers in:
 - (1) communicating with and understanding the older person
 - (2) recognizing needs for services and methods for making proper referrals.
- B) Mechanism for handling needs of elderly victims after 5 p.m. - either by increasing police resources for counseling and other social services or extending the hours of availability of existing services.
- C) Providing more resources for victim services - correcting the present unbalance between the amount of resources expended on the offender and that expended on the victim.

WORKSHOP I - HARTFORD AND CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONS

MODERATOR'S SUMMARY - EDWARD A. ROBERTS

The results of group one took the form of some general comments and some general themes that seem to run through the entire discussion of the group... as well as a few specific recommendations. Two things that generally recurred throughout our group were; first, that we really should not take the tactic of what as we as social agencies and other kinds of social providers can do for the elderly, but rather the focus ought to be on giving some dignity to the elderly and taking the approach of trying to assist the elderly in helping themselves. This is really the best approach rather than thinking in terms of what we can do for the elderly.

Second, a frequently recurring theme was that we should attack the crime against elderly as a problem as a major social problem.

In terms of some specific recommendations briefly they were; that we could work rehabilitating housing and that would in fact do great things for us to improve our social living and would ultimately have some impact on the social problem and how that would effect crime. And secondly, we could do things like have community meetings between elderly and youth groups. What is lacking in general is the communication between elderly and youth. Perhaps community meetings could serve as a form for those two groups to talk with each other. Third, it was suggested that we could have education programs for youth. This also would improve communication. Perhaps youth could then become more sensitive to what it is like to be old and there would be less disparity between thinking of yourself as a young person and understanding what it's like to be old. Another suggestion was that we should try to work towards increasing the reporting of crime. Police, as they take telephone calls from people, should be a little more responsive to the elderly. It was cited in one or two towns in the state that one of the first questions that is asked of a caller over the telephone is... "How old are you?"...and that this is in fact a threatening question.

Finally, someone suggested that we could work towards incarcerating chronic offenders, a small number of offenders who commit most of the crime that happens. If those people were locked up it would indeed do great things for reducing the crime problem.

WORKSHOP II - NEW HAVEN AND WATERBURY REGIONS

MODERATOR'S SUMMARY - BRUCE BORRE

Like the first group that reported I think everyone recognized in our group that problems of the elderly were far more global with respect to the types of things that one ought to address...than perhaps simply in a criminal justice context. We're dealing with a very large social issue. One of the interesting things that I kept hearing throughout the course of the discussion was a real belief that big institutions don't necessarily make a big difference. That perhaps it's a change in attitude, a grass roots responsibility for the problems of elderly, as opposed to having big government imposed it's strategies upon communities. There seemed to be a general consensus that we ought to try to promote

practices and policies that bring the elderly back into the main stream of life and to stop treating them as if they are so unique that they can't participate in normal life activities. There also appeared to be a general consensus that a change in the whole educational environment needs to take place...that changes the perception of people from the youth oriented culture, one..that demonstrates to individuals that there is a continuum of life ages, styles and levels and that each one has its own particular reward. Additionally, I think it was interesting to point out that the notion of options, flexibility, the idea that programs have to be evaluated that policies have to be looked at and have to remain flexible enough to respond to an ever changing environment. I'd say in summary... the level was far more interesting with respect to what wasn't said...the traditional approaches of "more" and "we need to do this and we need to do that"... in particular were very interesting.

WORKSHOP III - BRIDGEPORT AND EASTERN CONNECTICUT REGIONS

MODERATOR'S SUMMARY - JOHN CRONAN

Basically there were three areas that group three identified. One is the criminal, if the criminal was eliminated the problem of crime against the elderly would be eliminated. More seriously, there were certain prevention elements that the group felt should be done. Hardening the target, making it more difficult to victimize the elderly. Secondly, educating the elderly, so that they knew what they could and should do. Probably most revealing and though I'm mentioning it last, it is probably most important, were the problems involving communication and coordination. Our group felt that the services are there and agencies are providing these services...but the problem is that people are not aware that these agencies exist and that the services exist. There is a lack of knowledge and interaction and that this should somehow be addressed. Furthermore, there are problems with the agencies themselves. One agency does not know what the other one is doing. One agency does not recognize the problems that the other agency is having. This might be breached over the next year. That would be some very, very positive results in trying to resolve this problem. I found this to be..as Bruce had mentioned, a by product. I did not at first expect, but this seems to be the thrust of the group. There are communication and coordination problems and interaction problems that have to be dealt with.

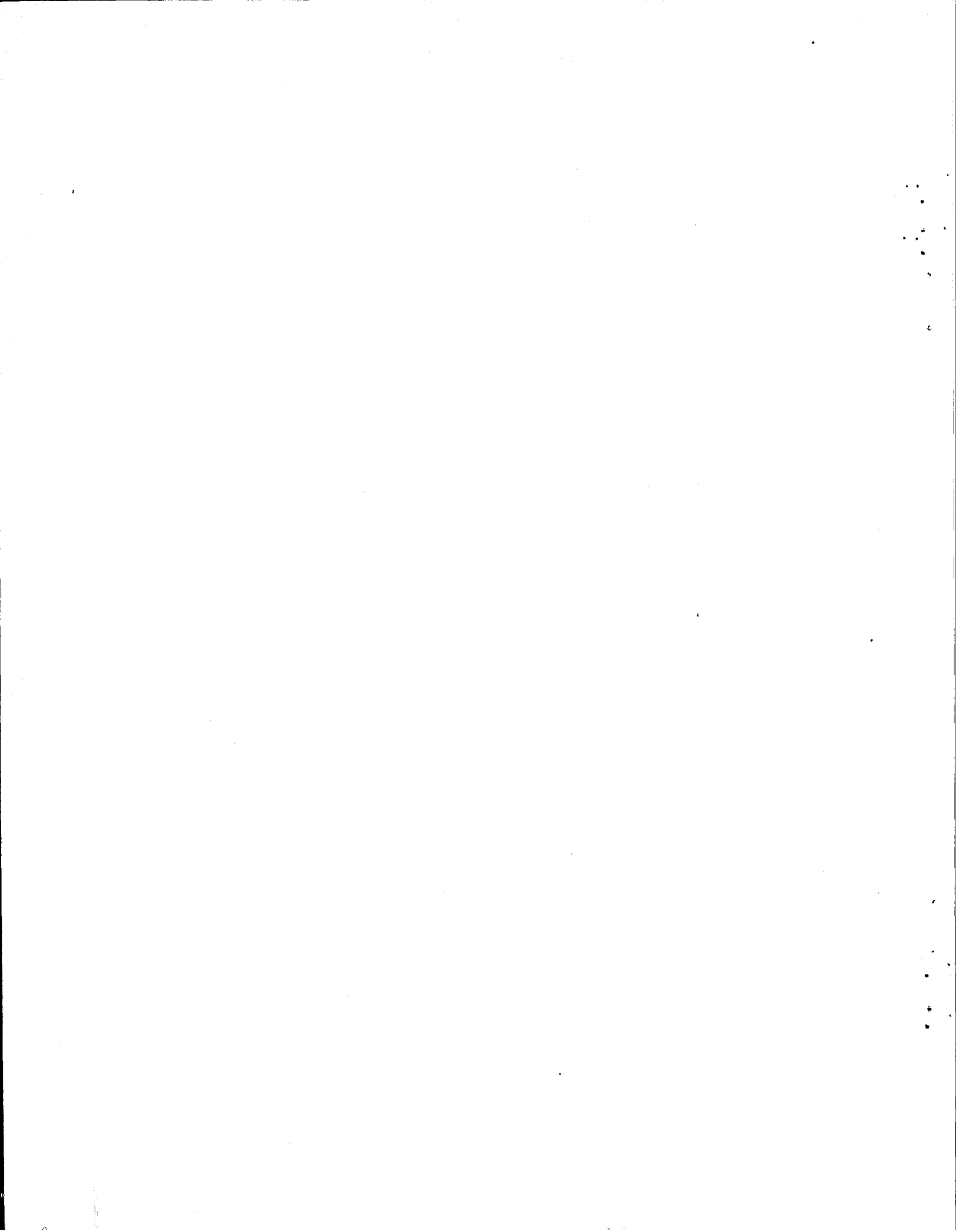
CLOSING REMARKS

NOEL TOMAS

Frank...you have a comment. I think what Frank Fisher is saying is that there have been in this society a large amount of stereotyping of persons in the older age categories and that this type of thing should cease. Really individuals are as different age groups as they are say in the younger end of the spectrum. The other thing that I think I hear him saying, too, is that the opportunity for older persons because of these stereotypes has prevented them from getting the type of meaningful activities that allows an older person in this society to continue to be productive and I think those are very valid comments that all of us adhere to...that we recognize this...and it's one of the things that I think we're struggling in this country to overcome at this point in time with the removal of mandatory retirement to open up the opportunities to everyone to be as productive as possible

as long as they're able and willing to do this. So I think you're adding the cap on what we're looking at as a whole problem of what the society has been facing in its growing years. I would like to commend all of the people who have attended here and participated in this conference. I hope we have taken a positive step forward in the search for strategies to deal with criminal victimization of older persons.

Thank you and have a safe journey home.



Agencies Represented at
The First Connecticut Conference on
Criminal Victimization of Older Persons

Hartford Region

Hartford Commission on Aging
North Central Connecticut Area Agency on Aging - Htfd.
Community Council Capitol Region
Hartford Institute of Criminal & Social Justice
Judicial Court of Common Pleas - Hartford
Institute for the Hispanic Family - Hartford
Hartford Housing Authority
Parkville Senior Center - Hartford
North Hartford Senior Citizen Center - Hartford
Multi-Service Senior Center - Hartford
Blue Hills Senior Center - Hartford
C R T Elderly Nutrition Project - Hartford
Hartford Jewish Community Center - Hartford
Rocky Hill Senior Task Force - Rocky Hill
East Hartford Senior Citizen Center - East Hartford
University of Connecticut School of Social Work - West Htfd.
Municipal Agent - West Hartford
Municipal Agent - Manchester
Hartford Police Department
East Hartford Police Department
West Hartford Police Department

New Haven Region

South Central Connecticut Area Agency on Aging
Senior Security Council of Greater New Haven
Elderly Services Administration - New Haven
South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board - New Haven
Judicial Court of Common Pleas - New Haven
United Way of Greater New Haven
Farnam Neighborhood House - New Haven
Newhallville Over 60 Club - New Haven
Elderly Services Bureau - New Haven
Elderly Services Bureau - Hamden
University of New Haven - West Haven
North Haven Police Department Victim Services Unit
Victim Services Unit - Chief State's Attorney's Office - New Haven
Victim Services Unit - Hamden Police Department
Victim Services Unit - New Haven Department
Municipal Agent - East Haven
Municipal Agent - Woodbridge
Hamden Police Department

Eastern Region

Eastern Connecticut Criminal Justice Planning Agency - East Lyme
Quinebaug Valley Health and Welfare Council - Victim Services - Putnam
Department of Social Services - Norwich
Norwich Senior Citizen Center - Norwich
Municipal Agent - New London/Waterford
Municipal Agent - Norwich
Municipal Agent - Old Saybrook
Waterford Police Department
State Police Troop G - Uncasville
Family Services of New London - New London

Litchfield Region

Drop-In Center Elderly Nutrition Project - Torrington

Waterbury Region

Judicial Department Court of Common Pleas - Waterbury
Western Connecticut Criminal Justice Supervisory Board
Elderly Nutrition Project of the Council of Governments of the
Central Naugatuck Valley - Waterbury
Waterbury Police Department
State Police Troop A. - Southbury

Bridgeport Region

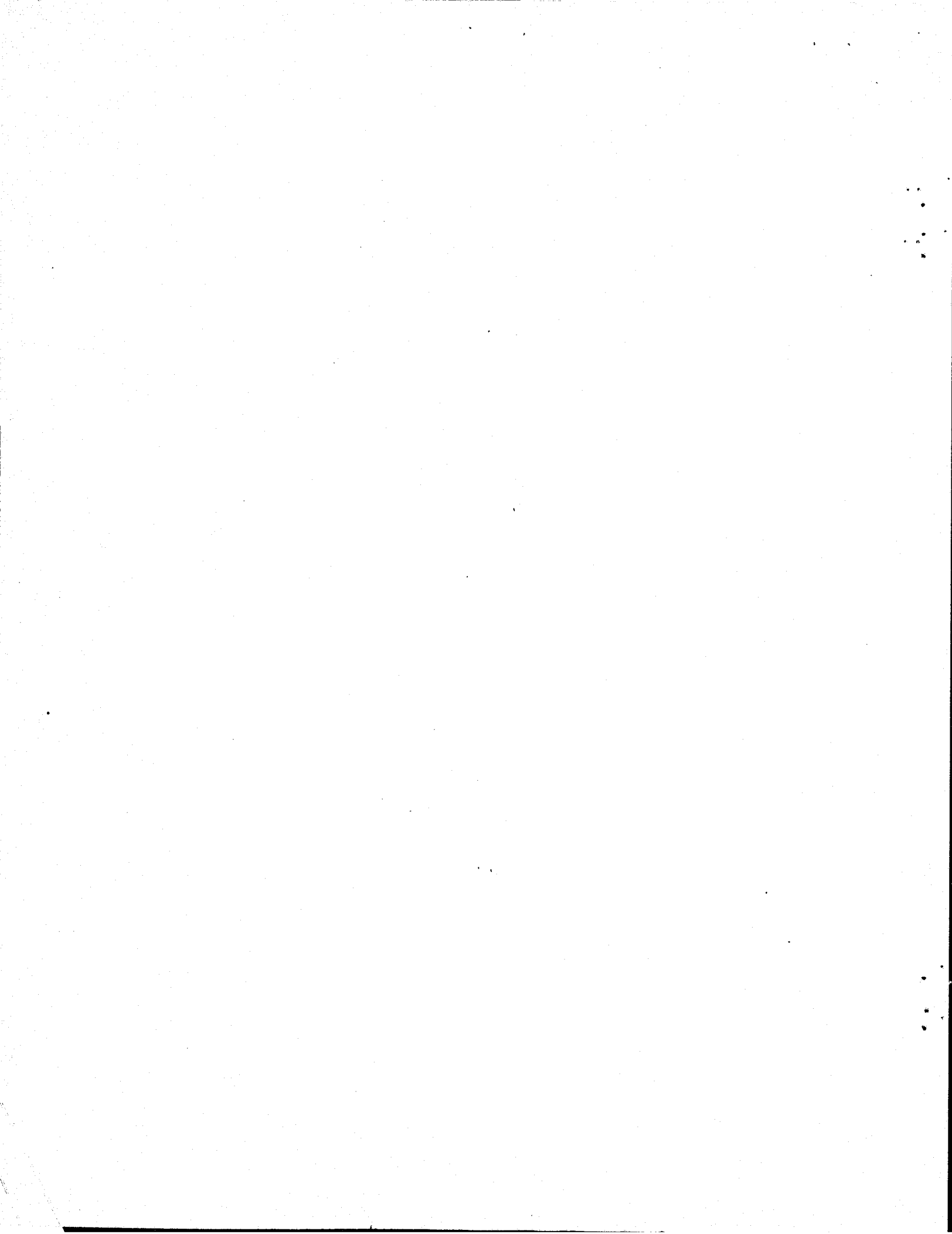
Department on Aging - Bridgeport
Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency - Bridgeport
Judicial Court of Common Pleas - Bridgeport
East Side Senior Center - Bridgeport
Bridgeport SAIL project
Connecticut Aging Legal Services - Stamford
Housatonic Community College - Bridgeport
Municipal Agent - Fairfield
Commission on Aging - Greenwich
Danbury Police Department
Fairfield Police Department
Greenwich Police Department
Weston Police Department
Norwalk Police Department - Norwalk

Central Region

Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency - Bristol
TRIAGE, Inc. - Plainville
Elderly Nutrition Project of the Wheeler Clinic - Plainville
Commission on Aging - New Britain

Other

National Retired Teachers Association
Economic Crime Unit - Hamden
Municipal Police Training Council - Meriden
NRTA/AARP Boston Regional Office
Conn. Department of Community Affairs
Conn. Department of Consumer Protection
Connecticut Judicial Department Victim Restitution Service
Connecticut Jaycees Institutional Assistance Program
Chief State's Attorney Office
State Advisory Council on Aging
The Gray Panthers
Coalition on Aging
Connecticut Conference of Mayors and Municipalities
Connecticut Federation of Women's Clubs
Office of Policy and Management
Connecticut State Police - Public Information
Connecticut Department on Aging
Connecticut Justice Commission





STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT JUSTICE COMMISSION

75 ELM STREET, HARTFORD, CONN. 06115

TELEPHONE (203) 566-3020

ELLA GRASSO
GOVERNOR

WILLIAM H. CARBONE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 11, 1978

Ms. Victoria H. Jaycox
Director
Criminal Justice and the Elderly
1511 K St., N.W.
Suite 540
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Jaycox:

The Connecticut Justice Commission in concert with the Connecticut Department On Aging sponsored a statewide conference on the Criminal Victimization of the Elderly in April of this year. Over 100 criminal justice and social service agency staff met to discuss the problems of the elderly and work together to identify strategies for improved communication and cooperation to address the needs of elderly crime victims.

The Criminal Justice and the Elderly newsletter is an excellent publication for those interested in this area. I would like to ask if you would forward 200 additional copies of the newsletter so we can send them to interested professionals in Connecticut.

If you would like to have more information about Connecticut's effort in this area, I would be glad to forward some material to you.

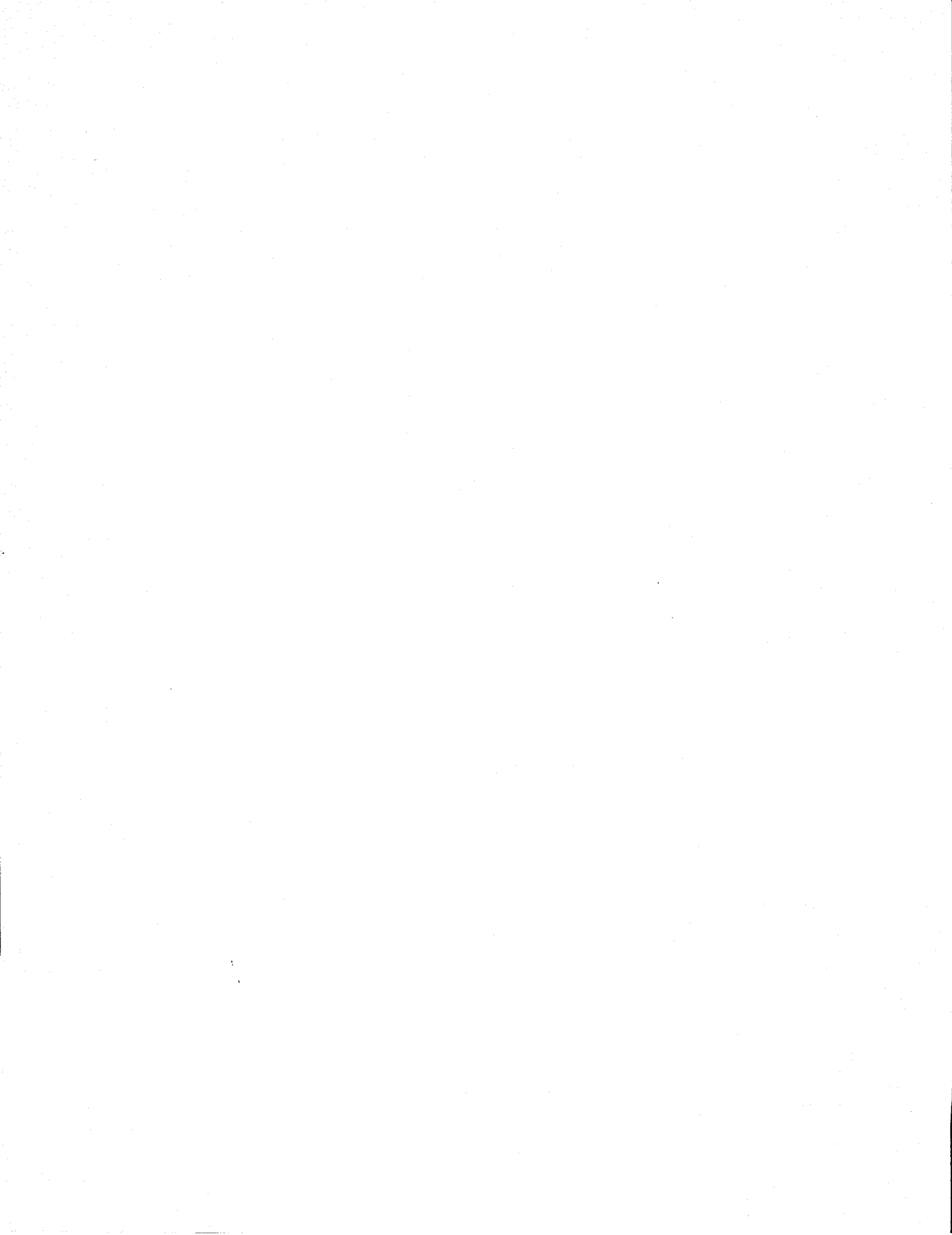
I thank you for your assistance in this effort and wish you future success in publishing and disseminating your new newsletter.

Sincerely,

John Gervasio
John Gervasio
Assistant Director
Connecticut Justice Commission
Research and Evaluation Division

JG/ja
Attachment

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END