CHAIRMAN JAMES: Dominick.

DOMINICK M.: Thank you for listening.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you very much for being here.

Mr. Weed.

MR. WEED: I've got to clear my throat.

I've been around compulsive gamblers for 29 years. I could talk for hours, and in three minutes I'm going to just talk on one subject and one subject along, which I wrote down so I won't get off the track.

It has to do with our children that Dominick just touched on. What message are we giving them on gambling? Is it good? Is it bad? Is it right or is it wrong?

Our fathers, mothers, grandparents, teachers, educators, clergy, all our leaders of our country have said that our children are our future leaders. I have always been taught to have a better way of life and to have a good life, I must work hard and receive a good education.

Of course, our message should always be
that to our children. Nobody gets something for
nothing. There are no free rides. Like the old
advertisement once said, either you pay now or you pay
later.

Our message to our kids today through the
media is a way for them to have fun, whether or not
our message comes from a burger company promotion that
entices children to rub off scratch-offs similar to
our state lottery or children's television promotions
mail-in postcards. Come see the stars. Come get
something for nothing. Pick up the toys. Pick up the
gift certificates and other prizes, go on and on and
on.

In my awareness, and this is the key, in
my awareness they taught the grammar schools over 25
years ago. I would say to the class, "How many in the
class gamble?" Gospel truth.

Five percent, five percent would raise
their hand and gamble. Today we go into the grammar
schools. I'm not talking high schools. I'm not
talking colleges. You say, "How many in the classroom
gamble?" An astonishing 90 percent of our children
are gambling, are being taught a message.

We need strong leadership in defining where we're heading in our society. Hopefully this Commission will make representations to address these issues.

There are no -- I'm sorry. There are no educational criterias (phonetic) in our schools today. There are no criterias in our school today.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you, Mr. Weed.

MR. WEED: We need to educate our children regarding this problem with these educators.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Mr. -- Mr. --

MR. WEED: Doing nothing is not acceptable here.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you very much. I'm going to ask you to submit the rest of your comments for the record.

MR. WEED: It's already been submitted.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you.

Kathy Terrigino.

MS. TERRIGINO: Terrigino, yes, ma'am.

CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you, Kathy.