

1956

Success and failure in programming with two young adult groups

<https://hdl.handle.net/2144/23602>

"Downloaded from OpenBU. Boston University's institutional repository."

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SUCCESS AND FAILURE IN PROGRAMMING
WITH TWO YOUNG ADULT GROUPS

A. thesis

Submitted by

Ellen M. Feldblum

(B.S. University of New Hampshire, 1954)

and

Jules Weinrach

(B.A. Rutgers University, 1951)

In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for
the Degree of Master of Science in Social Service

1956

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
LIBRARY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| CHAPTER | PAGE |
|---|------|
| I. INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| Purpose | 1 |
| Aspects of the Problem | 1 |
| Scope of the Study | 5 |
| Method of Procedure | 6 |
| Limitations | 8 |
| II. AGENCIES AND GROUPS | 10 |
| Hecht House | 10 |
| Lynn Jewish Community Center | 14 |
| Similarities and Differences of Groups | 18 |
| III. PURPOSE AND FUNCTION OF THE GROUPS | 23 |
| Purpose for Joining Group | 23 |
| Committees Served on or Offices Held | 24 |
| Membership in Other Groups | 26 |
| Advisor's Role | 29 |
| Group Satisfaction | 30 |
| IV. NATURE OF PROGRAMS | 32 |
| As Viewed by Members | 32 |
| Business Meetings | 32 |
| Activities | 34 |
| As Viewed by Advisors and Directors | 47 |
| Summary | 48 |

| CHAPTER | PAGE |
|--|------|
| V. ACTIVITY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS | 52 |
| Activity Interests | 52 |
| Jewish Content | 55 |
| Future Recommendations | 57 |
| VI. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS . . . | 61 |
| Summary | 61 |
| Further Conclusions | 67 |
| Recommendations | 69 |
| APPENDICES | 72 |
| A. Letter and Explanation of Study | 72 |
| B. Questionnaires | 74 |
| Hecht House | 74 |
| Lynn | 76 |
| C. Schedules | 78 |
| Executive Directors | 78 |
| Members | 79 |
| Advisors | 80 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 81 |

LIST OF TABLES

| TABLE | PAGE |
|--|------|
| 1. Occupations of Members by Agency | 21 |
| 2. Percentage of Young Adults Who Were Members of Other Groups | 26 |
| 3. Ratings of Business Meetings by Members | 32 |
| 4. Ratings of Social Activities - Lynn | 36 |
| 5. Ratings of Social Activities - Hecht House | 39 |
| 6. Ratings of Cultural Activities - Lynn | 41 |
| 7. Ratings of Cultural Activities - Hecht House | 42 |
| 8. Athletic Activity Ratings - Hecht House | 46 |
| 9. Factors Members Considered when Rating Programs | 50 |
| FIGURE | |
| 1. Percentages Illustrating Importance of Jewish Content as Viewed by Members | 56 |

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this thesis is to study those successful and unsuccessful programs in two young adult groups as viewed by the members, advisors and executive directors of the Lynn Jewish Community Center and the Hecht House of Boston. A consideration of those elements which contribute toward successful programming will also be included in this study which is based primarily upon two co-ed groups - the 1953 young adult group at the Hecht House and the group at the Lynn Center during the years 1953-55.

After reviewing the Young Adult program offered in Jewish Center agencies in the Greater Boston area, it was found that very few young adult groups exist at the present time. It would obviously seem that there are two possible contributing factors for this decrease in young adult membership; one being the extent to which the young adults utilize the Center, and the other, the extent to which the Center serves the young adult. The existing literature on this subject has emphasized the fact that there has been a tendency to neglect this age-group in Jewish Centers throughout the country. Primary emphasis has been placed on servicing the youth of the Community. And, young adults, who make up a large segment

of the Jewish population, are availing themselves less and less of the services provided by Jewish Centers.^{1/}

Some of the causes and contributing factors for this decrease were discussed at the 1954 National Jewish Welfare Biennial Meeting.^{2/} A few of these included the following:

1. There are fewer young adults in our total population.
2. Many young men are in the armed service.
3. More young adults are attending college today, many of them away from home.
4. There is a need for better lounge facilities with an adequate staff to provide informal programming and opportunities for young adults to get acquainted.
5. More young adults can afford commercial recreation (night clubs, concerts, plays, etc.).

It was thus felt that there was a definite need to engage in more intensive thinking and planning in working with this age-group and further research concerning young adults and their problems. Louis Lowy has stated that many young adults have carried over unresolved problems of their adolescence.^{3/} Some of these are as follows:

^{1/}Charles Parmet, "Where Are Our Young Adults?", The Jewish Social Service Quarterly, 1956.

^{2/}"Meeting Young Adult Needs Through the Center," Report on Workshop at the 1954 National Jewish Welfare Board Biennial Meeting.

^{3/}Lowy, Louis, "Group Work With Young Adults," Adult Education and Group Work, Whiteside Inc. and William Morrow and Company, New York, 1955.

1. Choice of a vocation and preparation for it.
2. Emancipation from parents and family.
3. Establishment of a satisfactory relationship with the opposite sex.
4. Integration of his personality to enable him to assume the responsibilities of adulthood.

Thus it would seem that group work agencies, through programming, can and should be one of the most effective media for helping the young adult and in meeting some of his specific needs.

For the purpose of this study, need may be thought of as...

"a drive to action. It is at the same time an emotional state. If the need is intense then the emotional experience is intense also. When the need is satisfied, tension is reduced and relative emotional complacency follows."^{4/}

There are certain basic needs which are present with any age-group. These essentially are the need for status, enjoyment, recreation and learning for its own sake. Other general basic needs include physical and emotional security, friendship and personal growth. As with any age-group, young adults have certain needs which are characteristic and peculiar to their level of development. Those problems which young adults face manifest themselves in specific needs. For example, Joseph Pikus has stated that young adults "need to participate

^{4/}Herbert A. Carrol, Mental Hygiene, The Dynamics of Adjustment, Prentice Hall, Inc., New York, 1951, p. 81.

in community life" and... "to be accepted as thinking and acting, independent individuals by the adult community."^{5/}

Allen Ellsworth has included other specific needs, such as the need for adaption to vocational life, citizenship and preparation for marriage and homemaking.^{6/}

Group work agencies, such as Jewish Centers, through the use of the group work method, are one primary service for meeting these needs. Group work as defined by Wilson and Ryland^{7/} is a method by which "individuals use groups to further their development into emotionally balanced, intellectually free, and physically fit persons," and by which "groups achieve ends desirable in an economic, political and social democracy." Clara Kaiser defines it as the "process of enabling groups more effectively to meet individual needs and to further the social goals of the group and the agency."^{8/}

The medium or "tool" which group work agencies and professionals utilize in fulfilling the objectives of the profession is programming. Programs may include (1) business meetings, which consist of a plan of future procedure and

^{5/}Joseph Pikus, "Meeting the Needs of Young Adults in the Community," Volume 13, Number 2, Jewish Center Worker, May, 1952.

^{6/}Allen S. Ellsworth, At Work With Young Adults, Associated Press, Broadway, New York, 1950, p. 8.

^{7/}Gertrude Wilson and Gladys Ryland, Social Group Work Practice, Houghton Mifflin Company, New York.

^{8/}Clara Kaiser, "Social Group Work Practice and Social Responsibility," National Conference of Social Work Proceedings, 1952.

(2) activities, which may be thought of as that part of the program which consists of the "doing" rather than the "planning," for example - dances, movies, outings, singing, etc. In order for a program to be useful and of greatest value to those individuals in the group, it should be focused toward the individual and meeting his needs. It should develop out of the needs and interests of the members making up the group. As far as program planning is concerned, the skills and participation of the members themselves in the planning should be utilized as much as possible. A concise and effective summation of program planning and development has been expressed as follows:

"any activity whether of small or great social significance should be the expression of genuine interest of the group;...the activity should be specific and known to be within the capacity of the group, thus providing an opportunity for immediate satisfaction and evident progress;...the activity should be a stimulation for further related activity; and...it should help the members to be participating citizens in the world of today and tomorrow."^{9/}

This is where the advisor's role becomes important - how active should an advisor be in program planning with young adults? This is one of the questions the writers will attempt to answer in this thesis.

Other research questions include the following:

1. What are the needs of these Young Adults?
2. Are the programs meeting the needs of Young Adults?

^{9/}Gertrude Wilson and Gladys Ryland, op. cit., p. 103.

3. What has been the extent of Jewish content in the programming? What is the feeling on the part of the Young Adult members in relation to including Jewish content in the programming?

4. What programs were successful? Unsuccessful?

5. What are some of the contributing factors making for successful programming?

6. What are some of the areas of programming which have not been used, if any?

The study is primarily focused upon Questions 4, 5, and 6.

Method of Procedure

The method of procedure was to interview the members of those young adult groups at the Hecht House and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Lynn two years preceding this study. Past records were used to secure names of the group members as well as various programs used throughout the period included in the study. Questionnaires were compiled containing the various programs engaged in during the year and mailed to the members.^{10/} Members were instructed to rate each of the programs in relation to whether they were considered - excellent, good, fair or poor.

10/See Appendix B for copy of Questionnaires.

Questionnaires were sent to the entire population of the young adult group, single and married (of which there were six couples) at the Hecht House, and to all the single members of the group at the Lynn Center. Inability to secure the married names of those individuals at Lynn limited the sample to two couples in this city. A total of seventy-five questionnaires were mailed. Thirty-five questionnaires were returned - sixteen from the Hecht House group, and nineteen from Lynn (approximately 47% of the total). Follow-up post-cards were sent out as a reminder and phone calls made as well. Many of the people in the Lynn group who did not return the questionnaires had moved away from the city; this was especially true of the Hecht House group.

As the questionnaires were returned, members were then interviewed concerning their reasons for the responses made - why one program was considered excellent, another poor, etc. Other relevant questions were raised during these interviews as well.^{11/}

The executive directors and group workers advising the two groups were also interviewed to secure the "professionals'" viewpoints concerning this whole area of programming.

Other data used in answering the research questions included the existing literature on the subject.

11/See Appendix C for copy of Interview Schedule.

Limitations

1. Because there no longer was a young adult group at the Lynn Jewish Community Center and the Hecht House, the writers limited their research to those groups from two years preceding the study. A definite limitation was that of recall - the interviewees had to rely upon their memories when rating the programs and answering questions raised during direct interviews. As will be pointed out in Chapter IV, many of the interviewees had difficulty recalling various programs or reasons for rating programs as they did.

2. Members' opinions might have changed since the time the program was offered - what they thought was good last year might not necessarily have been considered in the same light when the interviews were given and vice-versa.

3. The age-range for the two groups was different also. The age-range of the group in Lynn was between 23 and 35 (average age 29-30), while the group at Hecht House ranged in age from 18 to 28 (average 21-22). This makes for a very broad definition of young adults, including those people between the ages of 18 through 35. Therefore, what might be considered a successful program for the younger group might not necessarily be true for the older group and vice-versa.

4. Pre-testing was limited. The writers had to pre-test two group workers in the School of Social Work concerning the questions which were used in the interview with the advisors of each of these two groups. Only one of these

people who were pre-tested has had experience in working with young adults. And, because the questionnaires were set up in such a way that the programs of each agency were included, it was necessary to test four of those young adults in the groups which were used.

5. Because slightly less than half of the questionnaires were returned, this has some effect upon the reliability of the study - the sample returned might not be representative of the total group. As can be noticed in the findings, the majority of those people who responded to the mailings, were those active in the groups. Therefore, their feelings in relation to the questions raised might be different from other members who were possibly more inactive in the groups. The findings are somewhat colored by the fact that they are based upon this one segment of the population groups.

Validity of Questionnaires and Interviews

The writers feel that the questionnaires given were checked for validity, when the follow-up interviews which were given when the questionnaires were returned, indicated to some extent whether responses were consistent and truthful. The interviews supplied a partial validity check, during which time members were questioned in terms of their reasons for rating the programs as they did. Conversely, the questionnaire itself also served as a partial validity check for the interviews.

CHAPTER II

AGENCIES AND GROUPS

Hecht House

The Hecht House is a large, brick, three-story building. It was formerly a boy's orphanage, but when taken over by the Hecht House, some remodeling was done to adapt the building to its new purpose. It is located in the center of the Dorchester-Roxbury-Mattapan area on an off-the-main-street road. Across the street is Franklin Park which is used for outdoor activities. This is a residential district which is thirty minutes from the heart of Boston by automobile or street car.

The building facilities consist of the following: auditorium, seating 200; large game room; arts and crafts room; twenty meeting rooms; gymnasium, including steam room, showers and workout rooms; two lounges seating thirty people each; a dance hall accommodating up to 300 people; wood-working shop; photograph and science room; library; nursery room and equipment; kitchen; outdoor playground; committee room; canteen store and lounge. There is a gymnasium, but no adult gym program.

Hecht House serves the same area and the same type of constituency as the Boston Y.M.H.A., which consists of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan, except that the largest

percentage of membership comes from the latter two districts.^{1/}

Hecht House is presently in its sixty-sixth year of operation. It began its service to the community in 1889 through the effort of a woman philanthropist, Lena Hecht. Since 1936, the Center has been located on the American Legion Highway in Dorchester. Here, the whole family is served with activities ranging from its model nursery school to programs for children, Young Adults, Adults and Golden Agers. The board is elected from within its adult membership. Starting with its Nursery School (ages 5 to 6), its age groupings are Juniors (12 and under), Intermediates (13 and 14), Seniors (15 to 17), Collegians (18 to 20), Adults (21 and over), and Golden Agers (60 and over).^{2/}

The announced purpose of the Hecht House is to conduct a Jewish Community Center in achieving the following objectives:

- "1. To foster an appreciation of American ideals of democracy and citizenship.
2. To advance an understanding and appreciation of the principles and ideals of Judaism and to foster and implement those ideals and principles.
3. To provide and conduct a program for the social, educational, cultural and physical welfare of the community.

^{1/}Simon Cohen, "A Study of Adult Education in the Jewish Communities of Greater Boston." An unpublished Thesis. 1950.

^{2/}This material was obtained from the Hecht House Brochure, "Hecht House 65th year."

4. To promote better understanding among all groups in the community."^{3/}

The Board of Directors establishes membership requirements - eligibility, dues, and privileges - subject to the provisions of the by-laws. All members in good standing who have reached the age of 21 years and have subscribed to the purposes of the corporation, have the right to vote, hold office, and serve on the Board. There are 39 directors and eight officers elected annually.

Hecht House offers a complete and varied program to enable a member to use his leisure time constructively whether his inclinations are social, educational, cultural, or athletic. There is a combining of Jewish ideals with American culture, teaching the great heritage of the Jews, while developing better citizens of the community.

There are many activities offered in fulfilling the objectives of the Hecht House: Nursery School, clubs, arts and crafts, dancing, sewing, scout troops, cabinet making, dress making, health club, summer day camp, etc.

The Jewish population in this area is approximately 70,000 people, and they are so concentrated that they comprise 80 - 90% of the population in the area. Hecht House, with a membership of 3,500, is located within or very near the heart of the metropolitan business and entertainment district. Here, there may be a limited amount of participation since there are numerous facilities available to those

^{3/}Ibid.

people comprising the population of this area. Because people living in this area are near the heart of metropolitan Boston, they perhaps tend to be more mobile. Religious services are held in their building but are not conducted under Center auspices.

As far as the staff is concerned, Hecht House has full-time and sub-executives, in addition to its executive director. There is a program director, and three other workers, including a full-time physical education director, three full-time female workers, numerous part-time leaders and specialists. The executive-director devotes substantial time with adult committees and boards.

Let us take a look at the young adult group at Hecht House which is the focus of our study.

This club began with a nucleus of six people, four male and two female. The average age was twenty-two. There were two competing clubs at the House; one strictly social, and the other a discussion group. A woman staff worker brought the two factions together and from this, the foundation was laid for a new Young Adult club; this was in the winter of 1952. Meetings were held in a lounge in the Hecht House. There was a constitution membership in the club of thirty-five, evenly divided between males and females. The club was characterized by a warm atmosphere and anyone who came to meetings was accepted almost immediately. (Two people were responsible for greeting new members, explaining the program

and making them feel at ease). After each business meeting, refreshments were served. Some of the key people on the executive committee and in the club were married and the membership dropped off to about fifteen members attending a meeting.

During the year 1954-55, the members decided to disband with hopes of re-activating the club the following year. However, when the new season approached, there was a lack of initiative or drive on the part of the former members to re-activate a young adult group.

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Lynn, Inc.

The Lynn Jewish Community Center, in its forty-fifth year of operation, services a total membership of approximately 2,700 out of a possible Jewish population of 10,000 in the community. The Center is centrally located in the heart of the city of Lynn, although it services the outlying areas of Swampscott and Marblehead as well.

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Lynn is one of the agencies with which the Jew identifies voluntarily to satisfy his Jewish needs. The program of the Jewish Center is geared to Jewish content, informal education, recreation, and health education. The agency is not non-sectarian and has a primary Jewish purpose. The functions of the Center include service as an agency of Jewish identification and personality development. There is a flexible and dynamic

program in the field of recreation and informal education for the entire Jewish community. The Center furthers the democratic way of life through the program of center activities which is reflected in the structure and functioning of the Center. The Center assists in the interpretation of the individual Jew as well as of the Jewish group into the total American Community.

The program activity of the Center has as its purpose to build character and to develop personalities that are mature, well-adjusted and secure, proud of their Jewishness and effective in their participation in our American democratic culture and Jewish Communal life.^{4/}

The Center services all age-groups from three to 83. The age-groups served include: The Nursery School (3-6), Juniors (5-11), Intermediates (12-14), Teens (high school), Young Adults, Adults, and Senior Adults. Activities include Mens' and Womens' organizations, Institute of Jewish Studies, club groups for all ages, dancing school, arts and crafts, scout troops, councils, physical education, special interest groups, health club, day camp, etc.

The sole management and control of the organization, its activities and property, is vested in the Board of Directors, subject to the provisions of the Charter and By-Laws of the Center. The Board of Directors consists of the elected officers and 46 directors, six life-board members, and five

^{4/}By-Laws from the Jewish Community Center of Greater Lynn, Inc., Article 2, July, 1953.

officers (President, two Vice Presidents, one Secretary, and one Treasurer).^{5/}

The full-time staff is composed of the executive director, program director, full-time program assistant, part-time program assistant, physical education director, head teacher of Nursery School, clerical and maintenance staff. Included among the staff are the numerous part-time leaders and specialists.

History of the Young Adult Program at the Lynn Center

The Young Adult program as it started at the Center originally consisted of various organizations and club groups, fraternities and a lounge to congregate at. There was also a Council made up of two delegates from each of the existing Young Adult groups in the entire community.

As time progressed, one separate Young Adult organization evolved, known as "Club 25" for those Young Adults in the community between the ages of 25 to 35 years. This new organization began as a planning committee, meeting several times a month to organize major social functions one Sunday each month for all interested single young people over 25 years of age. Membership in this organization grew until activities other than the monthly socials were included in the program. Activities were included along with the business

^{5/}By-Laws, Ibid., Article 6, Section 1

meetings - speakers, discussions, bridge, party games, etc. The group added community service to its list when the decision arose to provide day camp scholarships with the majority of the money collected from mass social dances. Sub-groups were formed at this time also, including such special interest activities such as bowling, dramatics, parties, and music appreciation.

As the organization grew, the membership became dissatisfied with the name "Club 25." A few of the active members were under 25 and those over this age did not like to be constantly reminded of this fact. By common agreement the name was left as a question until a better one could be chosen. No other name was found and the group remained "Club Questionmark" through the period upon which this study is based.^{6/} The club reached its high point in development at approximately this period soon after the name was changed to Club Questionmark. In fact, the period this study covers (1953-55) marks the last two years in which Club Questionmark functioned. At the end of the year 1954-55, it was the decision of the group to disband with hopes of forming a new young adult organization, involving new people, the following year.

^{6/}Emanuel Tropp, "An Experience in Programming for Unmarried Young Adults over 25 Years of Age," The Group, Volume 15, Number 2, December, 1952.

Similarities and Differences Between the Two Groups Studied

Although both of these groups which were studied are composed of young adults and both are affiliated with the Center of which they constitute an important part, there remain basic differences within the structure of each group.

The young adult group at the Hecht House Center was formed primarily for the purpose of meeting and making new friends. This was a closely-knit club group in which the majority of the members (30-35 out of the total membership of 50) were active. Membership dues were collected, this being one way in giving members status of belonging to a group such as the "Y.A.G's." The activities of this group were planned primarily for the club itself, although there were joint affairs planned with other young adult groups also. Here, there was less emphasis placed on the mass social activity as was emphasized by Club Questionmark.

The members of "Y.A.G's" were required to join the Center in order to join the Hecht House Young Adult group. This requirement was not specified at the Lynn Center.

The young adult group in Lynn might more indicatively be referred to as an organization rather than a club as the name would imply. In this group there were business meetings and small sub-groups within the total group - those members interested in music joined the music appreciation group, etc.

It should also be pointed out that many of the members in Club Questionmark knew one another before joining the

group. They mingled with their friends at the group meetings, but also had the opportunity to meet new people at the mass social events, mainly the monthly dances.

No dues were collected from the Club Questionmark group during the two years on which this study is focused. A system was enforced whereby a young adult was considered a member if he attended at least six of the business meetings. When the young adult became a member, he was admitted to the monthly socials at a reduced price. This system was set up in an effort to attract members and thereby involve them in some of the planning during the business meetings. There was no actual club treasury as such. The young adult group, instead, was included in the overall budget of the Center, allotted so much money for each year. The writers have mentioned previously (on Page 17) that some of the net profits gained from the monthly socials were donated to the Center for the day camp scholarship fund used for underprivileged children.^{7/}

Thus, it would seem that the group at the Lynn Center, primarily an older group than was functioning at Hecht House, had less of a "club" structure as such than the "Y.A.G's" group. This, of course, should be kept in mind when the reader studies the three following chapters which will point out the findings the writers have secured from the study.

7/This material was obtained in the interviews with the advisors and executive directors and other staff people of both agencies.

At the time of this study, both groups had already reached the high point in their development. During the two years on which the study is focused, it should be remembered that this period marks the decline of the groups as it were, although this was more especially true of the Lynn group. This would seem to have a significant bearing on an interpretation of the findings which will ensue in Chapters III, IV, and V. The writers feel that the success of a program is, in part, dependent upon the group - their responsibility in planning and carrying out the program and also the extent of group spirit and morale which have a certain effect upon the success of a program. For example, it will be pointed out in Chapter IV^{8/} that the Lynn young adults tended to rate the square dance as unsuccessful. This program might possibly have resulted in more success had group spirit and morale been high. It should be remembered here that the square dance was one of the activities of the 1954-55 season when little real "group feeling" was manifested.

Another basic consideration which should be explained at this time is the matter of occupational status found among the members of the two groups studied. Table I illustrates the various occupations of those young adult members included in the study.

8/See Table 4 of Chapter IV, p. 35.

Table 1^{a/}. Occupations of Members by Agency

| Occupation | Lynn | Hecht House | Total |
|-------------------|------|-------------|-------|
| Professional | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Semi-Professional | - | 2 | 2 |
| Managerial | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Clerical | 10 | 8 | 18 |
| Sales | 2 | - | 2 |
| Skilled | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Unskilled | - | 1 | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | - | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 18 | 17 | 35 |

^{a/}Dictionary of Occupational Titles, United State Employment Service, March, 1949.

Table 1 indicates that half of the members included in the study fall under the category of clerical occupations (10 of the Lynn sample and eight from the Hecht House group). Two more Lynn members may be classified as holding professional occupations. In each group, however, approximately two-thirds of the members fall somewhere in between professional and clerical occupational titles. Two of the Hecht House young adults fall in the semi-skilled, and unskilled category.

This might, therefore, give some further indication of another similarity between the two groups included in this study. It would appear that the majority of both groups are

generally of the same of similar occupational status.

CHAPTER III

PURPOSE AND FUNCTION OF THE GROUPS

It is the objective of this chapter to determine the purpose and function of the groups studied. The writers will discuss the members' purposes for joining the group, the committees served on or offices held, the percentage of members who belonged to other groups, the advisors' role, and the satisfaction members received from belonging to the group. This material in turn will serve as some basis for answering the research questions included in the study. Chapters IV and V will illustrate even further implications resulting from the study.

Purpose for Joining Group

The majority of the young adult members from both groups (14 from each group) indicated that they had joined the young adult group for social reasons.

"was bored and wanted to meet new people

I was new in the city---wanted to meet people

to meet people my own age and do things together

social outlet for fellows and girls in the 20-30 category

place to gather and meet for social contact and outlets for activities

way of meeting different people....opened up a new field of friends....knew no one in Lynn before joining

to stay in contact with people I know

had belonged to another group where we worked for a goal. Wanted to belong to something social and have fun although I knew all the kids."

Two members said that they wanted something to do or something to fill their time. Only two members (female in each group) indicated that they had joined the group for cultural reasons. (One maintained that she had joined for a general interest, and another, for an "exchange of ideas"). Four members from Hecht House said that they had been asked to join by another member. One young adult male from Hecht House included a desire to do community service as one reason for joining the group. One male from Hecht House was referred to the young adult group by a Family Service Society. Two members from Lynn joined because they were interested in the dramatics group, one was 16 years old at the time he joined.

Thus, it would seem that the above data might have some implications in relation to the needs of these young adults. In brief, one major need can be seen in the area of socialization and in meeting members of the opposite sex. A few of the responses indicated a need for increased learning and a sense of belonging which may be satisfied in a young adult group.

Committees Served on or Offices held

Seven of the 36 people included in the study neither held an office nor served on a committee (five in Lynn and

two at Hecht House). Ten members held both offices and served on various committees as well (six at Hecht House and four at Lynn). Five people served on just one committee, while six members served on more than one or two committees. One might actually conclude, therefore, that the majority of those members the writers interviewed may be classified as active.

The young adults brought out in the interviews that only a few of the members did most of the planning, however, so that one cannot actually determine how active the people were that served on these committees. Whether they assumed a passive or active role in the planning of the various committees, is not known.

It was learned from the advisor of the Lynn group that there was a planning committee for programming during the 1954-55 season. When the officers from the preceding year married and moved away, none of the remaining young adult members wanted to assume the responsibility of taking office. Instead, a planning committee was formed, consisting of eight members, who were responsible for the vast majority of the work involved in the planning and final follow-through. The advisor also indicated that the major problem with which he was confronted was in getting the members to accept responsibility and carrying out various plans which were made. The advisor indicated this as the key to successful programming.

Whether this lack of involvement was in part due to other factors such as membership in other groups, was also considered

in the study. Table 2 illustrates the percentage of members who belonged to other groups both inside and outside of the Centers.

Table 2. Percentage of Young Adults who were Members of Other Groups

| Other Groups | Lynn | Hecht House | Total |
|----------------|------|-------------|------------------|
| In Center | | | |
| Yes | 16 | 10 | 26 |
| No | 32 | 42 | <u>74</u> 100 |
| Outside Center | | | |
| Yes | 19 | 10 | 29 |
| No | 29 | 42 | <u>71</u> 100 |

Table 2 shows that the majority of the members did not belong to any other group inside or outside of the Center. It would thus seem that this factor of group involvement in the program planning was not affected profoundly by the factor pertaining to membership in another group. In fact, it was further found that many of these members who were more active in the young adult groups were also the ones who participated in other groups as well, (eight of the Club Questionmark members and six of the Hecht House group). The majority of those people who were not active in the young adult group, were not members of other groups. Some of the

young adults also indicated that they had worked as group leaders and it was noticed that these were the ones who were also more active in the young adult groups. Two of the young adults from Lynn who held offices and served on committees were also group leaders at the same time and five members from the Hecht House group also served as group leaders. Only one young adult from the Lynn group who was not active in Club Questionmark worked as a leader of a younger teenage sorority group. Those groups which members belonged to inside the Center were as follows:

- Dramatics (Two members)
- Interfor - Men's organization (One member)
- Board of Directors (One member)
- B'nai B'rith (Three members)
- Bowling (One member)
- Fraternity (One member)
- Gym class (One member)

Those groups outside of the Center which members belonged to are as follows:

- Jewish War Veterans (One member)
- Young Judaea (One member)
- Synagogue Brotherhood (One member)
- Bridge group (One member)
- Knights of Pythias (Two members)
- Bowling (One member)
- U.S.O. (One member)
- Young Adult Council of Boston (One member)
- School clubs (One member)
- College Women's Club (One member)

It can be noticed from the preceding lists that only one member (from the Lynn group) was actually involved in Center affairs - serving on the Board of Directors. And, a very small segment of both groups worked as leaders for various

Center groups. This would seem to illustrate one area in which Jewish centers need to concentrate even more. The study, Young People and Citizenship,^{1/} conducted by the National Social Welfare Assembly, emphasizes this fact in the following:

"Young adults themselves should have responsibility for the conduct of activities of the groups in which they are involved and should have more opportunity to share in policy-making for the organization to which they belong."

Here is one area in which the young adults in the community can gain an opportunity to win recognition and achieve adult status. "Young adults are often discouraged by the marginal status they occupy in an adult-controlled world."^{2/}

"If the young adult finds too much frustration in organizations which ostensibly wish to be of help to him as he moves into adulthood, he is understandably disappointed. Many young adults are frank to say they resist participation in organizations because 'young people have no say' or 'elder people don't really listen to us.' Others show an outright need for encouragement---they don't participate because they 'have no experience,' or 'feel there is nothing they can do.' Still others say they don't want to get into anything that is 'cut and dried' or 'controlled by someone higher up.' 'If you're really interested in getting young people together to let them speak out for themselves,' says one young person, 'they'll be more interested.' And another adds, 'We need groups where young people can really say something. It's impossible to get anywhere until you're past thirty. Your financial status makes you more important than your beliefs.'"^{3/}

^{1/}Olds and Josephson, "Toward Citizenship. Encouraging Participation in Community Affairs by Citizens Under Thirty," National Social Welfare Assembly, New York, 1953, p. 9.

^{2/}Op. cit., p. 9

^{3/}Ibid., p. 10

Advisor's Role

When the interviewees were asked Questions 7 and 8, which can be found in the Appendix C, the majority of both groups felt that most of the ideas for programming came from the group, although the advisor was helpful as a resource person, when needed. And, it was the opinion of the group members that this was good because the club was "theirs." The following comments were made by some young adults.

"I see the advisor as a liaison between the Center and the group. He should let the group go its merry way unless there's no one in the group to take charge.... then he has to take over. Actually, a young adult group is mature enough not to require the advice of these people.

Most of the ideas came from the group itself. I don't think a young adult group needs an advisor. If you need something, you can go ask them.

An advisor should listen to the group first, then advise. He should let members suggest their ideas also for they are the ones you want to keep interested.

Members did the work and that is a healthy sign as they make up the club and should be responsible.

It's better that the advisor sits in the background and just helps broaden the ideas for programs.

Strictly a club activity and members did all the work. Advisor only helpful as a resource - where we could get films, speakers, etc. Advisor wanted members to do all the work.

She had a non-directive approach more or less. She talked over major policy. Group did most of the work and had a lot of freedom....good, for an advisor should stimulate members to program.

A link to the staff. Did not really need her."

When the advisors were asked what their goals were with the groups and roles they played in program planning, both indicated that they tried to enable the members to function as a group in what they wanted to do, how to do it, etc. (more of a resource person). Both indicated that they gave little direct leadership, but worked primarily with the Planning Committees. The advisor of the Hecht House group further stated that an additional goal was in trying to include as much educational and cultural activities as possible and help the group carry through the many varied activities which were planned.

Thus, it can be seen that the activities of the group were decided upon, planned and carried out by the members of the groups, which implies less direction on the part of the advisor.

"If a group is to develop and carry out its own program, it must have ways of making and accepting decisions, ways of assigning or delegating responsibility, ways of getting the whole group to participate in planning, carrying out and evaluating the activities that make up the program and ways of handling routine relationships with the agency and other groups."^{4/}

Group Satisfaction

The majority of the young adults in both groups emphasized the enjoyment they received from belonging to the groups. All but three members of the Hecht House group

^{4/}Harleigh B. Trecker, Social Group Work, Principles and Practices, p. 116.

stated that they did enjoy the club experience. One had no strong feeling toward the group and felt that members could have had better motivation for doing things. Three people felt that the club was successful at first, but later on "an older and wrong kind" of element joined the group. Those who enjoyed the club felt that everyone wanted to be friendly, new friends were made, affairs were good, and members got together outside of the club setting. Some interesting personal comments were as follows:

"I am not as shy as before

Hope I gave something to others

I learned to dance there

It was a challenge to make it successful."

Four members in Lynn stated that they liked the club in the beginning, but later lost interest. For example, one young adult said that she was "not interested in group at the time....not too much to offer but social events....those were interesting at first, but not after awhile....merely attended when I didn't have anything else to do or when someone else dragged me down."

CHAPTER IV
THE NATURE OF THE PROGRAMS

It will be the purpose of this chapter to state those programs which were rated as most successful and some of the factors the members considered in rating programs as they did. Business meetings will be considered first; then the activities themselves.

Table 3. Ratings of Business Meetings by Members

| Ratings | Lynn | Hecht House | Total |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Excellent | - | 1 | 1 |
| Good | 10 | 6 | 16 |
| Fair | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Poor | 2 | - | 2 |
| Good and Poor | - | 1 | 1 |
| Excellent and Poor | - | 1 | 1 |
| All of above | - | 1 | 1 |
| Did not attend | <u>1</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Total | 17 | 15 | 32 |

Table 3 indicates that the majority of members in both groups considered the business meetings somewhere between good and fair, although the division between the two ratings was more pronounced with the Lynn group. Three of the members

preferred not to rate business meetings in general, which had been asked on the questionnaire. These members indicated that success of meetings varied - some were good, some poor, etc.

The reasons members gave for rating meetings as they did were varied. Both groups mentioned the role of the president or chairman as an important factor. This factor was mentioned by those members who rated the program as good. Other factors which both groups mentioned include the following:

cooperation in accepting responsibilities

combination of business and program

length

interest

attendance

accomplishment

arguments which arose

formation of cliques

The same factors seemed to apply to all types of ratings whether high or low. Those that considered meetings successful mentioned the fact that the chairman was good, meetings productive and attendance good. Those that rated meetings lower in the scale stated the opposite - meetings were not productive, attendance dwindled, etc. More reasons were given from those members who rated programs as unsuccessful with these people citing that arguments resulted, cliques

were formed which were considered detrimental, lack of distributing responsibility, and meetings were too lengthy.

These business meetings were usually followed by some additional activity, whether it be a speaker, panel, or just refreshments and general socializing. Several members indicated that members mainly came for social events and specified that this as the most important part of the meeting.

Thus, it would seem that the business meeting in itself was not an attraction for the members of either group. If there was a planned program following the business part of the meeting, attendance was greater. This factor pertaining to the inclusion of an activity part of the business meeting seems very significant.

It is important that the members have something to look forward to besides the planning part of the meeting which has its own value in developing leadership, responsibility and sharing ideas as a group. The writers feel that the activity planned after the business meeting serves to meet other needs of the young adults concerned, mainly socializing, acquiring new skills, and opportunity for educational learning to take place.

Activities

The writers classified all varied activities in both

groups under four main headings - Social, Cultural,^{1/} Community Service, and Athletics. It should be pointed out here, however, that an activity may be considered cultural, such as an Oneg Shabbat. Oneg Shabbat may be defined as "Sabbath delight" and refers to a Sabbath gathering which "cultivates intellectual and spiritual activities reflecting the Sabbath spirit."^{2/} Members' reasons for attending this activity may be social, however. Members may have different reasons for attending a cultural activity and not specifically because they are interested in the activity itself. In brief, members may attend this function for a social purpose.

Although some of the sub-groups found at the Lynn Center might be considered in name as cultural (music appreciation and political discussions), the writers learned that these sub-groups were primarily "excuses" for another social gathering. Although the particular sub-groups started off as cultural activities, they resulted in parties. In the music appreciation group, members gradually stopped listening to music, but sat around and talked. The same situation developed with the group on political discussions. This would

^{1/}For purposes of this study, social may be defined as any activity in which socialization is the main factor, and cultural refers to that form of activity conducive to growth and development in learning and in refinement.

^{2/}Abraham E. Milligram, "The 'Oneg Shabbat,'" Sabbath The Day of Delight, The Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia, 1944, p. 166-167.

seem to illustrate the point mentioned previously in relation to those reasons members may have for attending certain functions. Members obviously did not attend these affairs for the purpose of discussing politics or listening to and discussing musical works. For purposes of tabulation, therefore, the writers have included these sub-groups under the category of social affairs.

Table 4. Ratings of Social Activities - Lynn

| Activities | E | G | F | pa/ | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|------------------------------|----|---|---|-----|----------------|---------|-------|
| Dances | | | | | | | |
| #1 | - | 4 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 19 |
| #2 | 11 | 3 | | | 1 | 4 | 19 |
| #3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | - | 3 | 4 | 19 |
| Chanukah Party | 7 | 3 | 1 | - | 3 | 6 | 19 |
| Game Night | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 19 |
| Square Dance | 3 | - | 5 | - | 7 | 4 | 19 |
| Outings | 9 | 3 | 1 | - | 2 | 4 | 19 |
| Parties | 3 | 6 | 3 | - | 3 | 4 | 19 |
| Music Appreciation | 1 | 4 | 3 | - | 6 | 5 | 19 |
| Dramatics | 10 | - | - | 1 | 4 | 4 | 19 |
| Bridge | - | - | 2 | - | 13 | 4 | 19 |
| Political Discussions | 5 | - | - | 2 | 7 | 5 | 19 |

(concluded on next page)

Table 4. (concluded)

| Activities | E | G | F | P ^{a/} | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|-------------------|---|----|---|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Dances 1953 | - | 13 | 3 | - | - | 3 | 19 |
| Installation | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 19 |
| Dance Instruction | 2 | 5 | 5 | - | 2 | 5 | 19 |

a/E - Excellent; G - Good; F - Fair; P - Poor.

The reasons members gave for rating these affairs as successful are varied. Attendance was a factor which was taken into consideration for all the social affairs. More specifically, however, the dances were rated in terms of the orchestra, type of music played, entertainment, the room in which the dance was held, as well as the number of people attending and refreshments which were served. Members seemed to feel that this last factor was just something extra - an added attraction as it were.

Some of the factors the members considered when rating the New Hampshire outings were as follows:

- sex distribution
- weather
- fun
- attendance
- place or destination
- activities engaged in
- extent of inter-mingling on the part of the members.

Those members who rated the outings as somewhere between good and excellent commented that the number of males and females attending was fairly even, the affairs were fun, it was

a change of scenery, and the members "let themselves go." Although the young adults all mentioned that the weather was rainy during one of these outings, they indicated that this factor was no hinderance as members found other inside activities to engage in and much fun was had by all.

Table 4 shows that 10 out of the 11 people attending the dramatics sub-group, rated it as excellent. These members made the following remarks in relation to this activity:

"Participation was wonderful....

Interest high

Varied jobs were included - not just acting

Sense of accomplishment

The sex distribution was about equal

The leader who was a member of the group, was excellent

Fun

Many of the members had a great deal of talent"

One member mentioned that this was her only reason for attending the group.

The bridge and game nights received the lowest ratings. It was brought out by the members during the interviews that there was little interest in this former activity and the attendance was very poor, never having enough people to complete a table for bridge. This last activity was dropped after a short while. When rating the game night, many of the same factors were considered - attendance was poor,

there was a lack of participation on the part of the members and lack of interest prevailed.

Those social activities at Lynn which were rated the highest by both sexes included the dances, outings, and dramatics sub-groups. Females rated the Chanukah party, Friday night parties, music appreciation, installation and dance instruction as more successful than did the males studied. Males tended to rate the political discussion group more highly than did the females. However, one should remember that there were more females in the Lynn sample than males, (approximately 80% females).

Table 5. Ratings of Social Activities - Hecht House

| Activities | E | G | F | P ^{b/} | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|------------------|---|---|---|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Membership Drive | 8 | 4 | - | - | 4 | - | 16 |
| Installation | 5 | 7 | 1 | - | 3 | - | 16 |
| Breakfast | 1 | 7 | 5 | - | 3 | - | 16 |
| Valentine Social | 1 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 16 |
| Spaghetti Supper | 6 | 7 | - | - | 3 | - | 16 |
| Joint Affair | 8 | 1 | - | - | 7 | - | 16 |
| Game Night | - | 3 | 3 | 2 | 8 | - | 16 |
| Play | 8 | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | 16 |

(concluded on next page)

Table 5. (concluded)

| Activities | E | G | F | P ^{b/} | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|--------------------|---|---|---|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Beach Trips | 6 | 5 | 3 | - | 2 | - | 16 |
| New Hampshire Trip | 4 | 1 | - | - | 11 | - | 16 |

b/E - Excellent; G - Good; F - Fair; P - Poor.

The majority of the social activities at the Hecht House were considered as successful, except for the Game Night.

Those factors these members considered were much the same as those made by the Lynn group. For example, in rating the game night, the interviewees considered:

the various activities included
 setting
 attendance
 sex distribution
 participation on the part of members
 preparation
 enjoyment

Here the members indicated that the attendance was poor, there were more fellows than girls present, a lack of participation, very little follow through on games and little preparation. One member said he did not attend because there were too many arguments as to what games to include when the activity was being planned.

Similar factors were considered when rating the play "Das ist ein Leben," over which there was a general feeling of success. Members mentioned that the decorations were well

done, the excellent script was written by the members themselves, attendance was good, method of presentation was very interesting, participation was good and it had been enjoyable working on the skit during the planning stages.

Table 6. Ratings of Cultural Activities - Lynn

| Activities | E | | G | | F | | c/ d/ | | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|---|----------------------|------------|-------|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | | | |
| Marriage Discussion | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 8 | 4 | 19 |
| Rumor Clinic | 4 | 3 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 5 | 19 |
| Arab-Israel Discussion | - | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 8 | 4 | 19 |
| Foreign Film | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 12 | 4 | 19 |
| Pre-Marital Discussion | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 10 | 5 | 19 |
| Speakers | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Religion | - | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | 6 | 6 | 19 |
| Lawyer | - | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 4 | 19 |
| Doctor | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | 7 | 5 | 19 |
| F.B.I. Man | - | 6 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 5 | 3 | 19 |

c/E - Excellent; G - Good; F - Fair; P - Poor.

d/M - Male; F - Female.

Table 7. Ratings of Cultural Activities - Hecht House

| Activities | E | G | F | P ^{e/} | Did Not Attend | No Data | Total |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Oneg Shabbat | | | | | | | |
| #1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | 10 | - | 16 |
| #2 | - | - | 5 | 2 | 9 | - | 16 |
| Discussion - 5th Amendment | 7 | 3 | 3 | - | 3 | - | 16 |
| Israeli Day | 2 | - | - | - | 11- | 3 | 16 |
| Rumor Clinic | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 16 |
| Film - Jefferson | 5 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | - | 16 |
| Peace in Asia | 1 | 3 | - | - | 11 | 1 | 16 |
| Trip to Ballet | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 10 | - | 16 |
| Pops Concert | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 10 | - | 16 |
| Marriage Discussion | 3 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 3 | - | 16 |
| Passover 3rd Seder | 8 | 5 | - | - | 3 | - | 16 |

e/E - Excellent; G - Good; F - Fair; P - Poor.

In comparing Tables 4 and 5 with Tables 6 and 7, it can be seen that less people attended the cultural affairs than the social affairs. In the Lynn sample, it can be noticed that the number of people not attending these affairs outnumbered those who did attend in seven out of the nine affairs listed. The number was slightly less in the Hecht House group - seven out of 11 affairs. This would seem to indicate a greater interest in social affairs as compared to cultural affairs on the part of the young adults.

Among those cultural activities offered at the Lynn Center, the Rumor Clinic ranked highest among both sexes. Females on the whole, tended to rate cultural activities more highly than did the males, including various speakers and discussions of current interest.

Those cultural activities at Hecht House which were rated highest by both males and females included the Discussion on the Fifth Amendment, Film on Thomas Jefferson, Marriage Discussion, and Passover Third Seder. Four of the six girls that attended the Ballet rated it as successful, while the two boys that attended varied in their opinions, one rating it excellent; the other fair.

Community Service

Both of the young adult groups had few community service activities. One of the two forms of service which was carried out by the Lynn group and then by a minority of this group, was the fund raising for the United Jewish Appeal. This was rated as poor because of the lack of cooperation on the part of the members. Aside from the fund raising, a good percentage of those profits collected from the monthly dances went for the Center day camp's scholarship fund for underprivileged children in the Greater Lynn area.

The members' responses varied in relation to two of the three community service activities carried out at the Hecht House. For example, in rating the solicitation for "H" Day,

four members checked good, three fair, four poor, and five did not participate. The main reasons stated here were in terms of participation by the group - only a small segment of group offered their services here. Those that did not attend displayed the feeling that they did not like this type of activity which is very difficult and at times humiliating. One member said he did not like to have doors slammed in his face. The majority of the group considered the clothing collection for the State Hospital as successful (12 out of 16 responses), indicating that the members pitched right in and the final result was good.

Other more positive responses included the following:

"Required hard work....first time group did something worthwhile.

The four that participated did a tremendous job.

Idea excellent but members too lazy.

One member became a member of the board of the Combined Jewish Appeal through this drive.

Good system

A worth cause

Members gave and collected with enthusiasm"

Therefore, it would seem that for one to claim that young adults are not interested in community service, would in essence be a very broad generalization. Instead, one might speculate here in relation to the type of community service activities in which both groups engaged. Both were forms of fund raising where members were required to solicit.

One cannot justifiably conclude that these young adults are not interested in community service projects. This response may depend upon the type of service which is done. Perhaps if they had assumed charge of the Red Cross Bloodmobile for the agency or worked on a project for a children's hospital etc., response might have been different.

The only athletic activity as such which the Lynn group had during these two years was the bowling which the majority of people attending rated as good.

This finding would seem to correlate with those of another study on young adults, where bowling was found to far surpass any other athletic activities.^{1/} Other athletic events were included in the New Hampshire outings - skiing, skating, tobogganing, etc. Athletics played a small part in the total young adult program, however, with social and cultural activities playing the predominant part of the young adult's program.

^{1/}Leonard I. Nemeth, "Programming for Young Adults," Unpublished Thesis, Boston University School of Social Work, 1952, p. 25.

Table 8. Athletic Activity Ratings - Hecht House

| Ratings | Bowling | | Skating | | Ping Pong | | Sports Night | |
|----------------|---------|---|---------|---|-----------|---|--------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Excellent | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Good | 3 | 2 | - | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Fair | 3 | - | 1 | - | 4 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Poor | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| Did not Attend | 2 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| No Response | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Sub-totals | 10 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 6 |
| Grand Totals | 16 | | 16 | | 16 | | 16 | |

f/M - Males; F - Females

The Hecht House group included more athletic activities in their total program, although only two of the four offered were rated as good (bowling and ping pong). Members felt that these were just extra activities - that they had enough other programs besides athletics. Actually there were not enough people interested in these four activities, or else they fell on a bad night. Males tended to rate bowling and sports night high, and skating and ping pong lower, while girls rated these last two activities more highly. This might seem to suggest that females are interested in different types of athletics than are males.

It should be noted here that the majority of the members could not remember why they did not attend many of the affairs.

One can, therefore, not make many generalizations as to those activities which seem to be of more interest to some members than others. Many of the responses of those members who could recall reasons for not attending the activities indicated that they were held on a bad day or night.

The majority of young adults who did not attend the Bridge night mentioned that they did not play bridge or that there never were enough people present to make complete tables. Perhaps the group needed a beginning bridge class in which they could learn the fundamentals of the game.

Very few of the activities were not attended because of a lack of interest - only three out of the total number of activities listed. Four members mentioned the lack of interest out of 28; the majority of the members were unable to remember their reasons for not attending.

Successful and Unsuccessful Programs as viewed by Advisors and Executive Directors

It is interesting to note those programs which the groups' advisors considered as most successful in comparison with ratings members gave in this same area. For example, the Club Questionmark advisor felt that those social and cultural programs which were related around a special event were the most successful especially where there was some structure related, such as the Chanukah party the members gave for one of the young adults at whose home there had been a fire. This advisor also indicated that the most unsuccessful

programs were the informal ones such as square dancing where there was an interpersonal aspect present, as members just could not seem to mingle freely with one another unless there was a planned structured event taking place. The advisor to the Y.A.G.'s felt that the most successful programs were the cultural activities including discussion groups and the Passover Third Seder especially. Social activities were felt to be the least successful along with community service.

The executive-directors of both agencies felt that the social programs were the most successful and the director at the Lynn Center also mentioned those cultural activities in which there were speakers and discussions. He felt that the intellectual programs were not as successful, indicating that those activities which tended to make people think, were not as well received by the members, as they preferred the "escapist" type of activity where they could be entertained.

Summary

In summary it can be seen that the business meetings were considered fairly successful on the part of the members. Such meetings were rated more highly when there was a planned activity following the business part of the meeting and also when meetings were not too lengthy as sometimes tended to be the case.

Social activities in general were rated more highly than were the cultural activities, although there were successful

and unsuccessful programs within each of the two categories. Dances, outings and dramatics were rated the highest by both males and females in the Lynn group. The majority of the social activities of the Y.A.G.'s were considered successful with the exception of the game night. The Rumor Clinic was the most successful activity in the eyes of both males and females in the Lynn group, while the females tended to rate other speaker and discussion programs more highly than did the males. Those four cultural programs which the Hecht House group considered as most successful included the Discussion of the Fifth Amendment, film on Thomas Jefferson, marriage discussion and Passover Third Seder. Thus it would seem that the cultural programs at the Hecht House tended to be more successful than was the case with the Lynn group.

Community service was met with little success by either group though was included more in the Y.A.G. program. This service was done on an individual basis, however, with a small minority of the group assuming responsibility for the various drives which were carried out.

Bowling seemed to be the most successful athletic activity in both young adult groups. This was actually the only athletic program offered by the Lynn group; whereas, four such programs were included at the Hecht House during the year on which this study was based.

The findings serve as further evidence of the needs of these young adults and if said needs are being met. High

ratings of social activities indicate a need for socialization discussed previously in Chapter III. However, there were successful programs within the category of cultural and athletic programs as well. And, the fact that these varied programs were offered, indicates that some basic needs were satisfied - meeting and mingling with members of the same and opposite sex and a development of learning.

Some of the factors members considered when rating these various programs are included in Table 9.

Table 9. Factors Members Considered when Rating Programs

| Factors | Number of Activities in which These were Considered | | Total |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|-------|
| | <u>Lynn</u> | <u>Hecht House</u> | |
| Attendance | 18 | 23 | 41 |
| Program | 14 | 19 | 33 |
| Group Participation | 12 | 14 | 26 |
| Fun | 7 | 17 | 24 |
| Interest | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| Planning | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| Subject | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Food | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Presentation | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Night | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Publicity | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| New People | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Physical Arrangements | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Sex Distribution | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Scenery (Setting)9 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Weather | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Informative | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Group Spirit | - | 5 | 5 |

The majority of the members could not recall why they had not attended certain affairs, although some stated that they fell at a bad time, or were busy with other plans. In

only three activities was there any reference made to a lack of interest as a factor for not attending; these were the bowling, community service and discussion on the Arab-Israel problem, all programs found at the Hecht House.

CHAPTER V

ACTIVITY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS

"There is a great deal of difference between interests of group members and needs of group members. An interest is a tendency to concentrate attention on an object, an idea, an activity or a situation. This concentration of attention may be quite fleeting or it may be of sustained duration. We know the interests of persons are apt to be wide or narrow according to their social backgrounds. Interests are expressed verbally or overtly and frequently near the surface of our consciousness.

....The relationship between interests and needs may be very close and thus easy to translate....(For example), when there is considerable interest in 'going places' and 'doing things' away from the agency and community (such as was found in this study), the group may be expressing the need we all feel at one time or another for change and difference in our situation."1/

Interests are closely associated with or indicative of those needs a group may have. Such material as those interests expressed by members, their feelings in regard to the inclusion of Jewish content in the programming and future recommendations, comprise the basis of this chapter. From this material, further indications are discussed in relation to three specific areas - the needs of these young adults, whether they were met, and those programs which were not used but in which the members had expressed an interest.

It was found from the study that diversified interests are characteristic of this age-group. Approximately the same

1/Harleigh B. Trecker, Social Group Work Principles and Practice, pp. 112-113.

number of social and cultural activities were mentioned by the young adults. However, there were certain activities which were of interest to a number of members. Six members indicated just social activities in general, while dancing, dramatics and films were mentioned by several members. One can easily see that the responses were even more varied from the Hecht House group. Although six people mentioned social activities as such, there was no specific activity in which more than two people were interested. The same is true in relation to the cultural activities with only three members of the Hecht House group listing this type of activity - one male mentioned both speakers and discussions, one male, writing, and one female mentioned museums, ballet and opera. In the Lynn group, music, theater and reading were each listed by more than three members.

Both groups mentioned athletics as one activity interest, although none of the females in the young adult group at the Hecht House mentioned this activity. It is also interesting to note that more members in the Lynn group listed athletics as an activity interest when there was actually only one athletic program (bowling) included in the two years on which this study was based. One might, therefore conclude that this was one area of programming which was not used extensively. This expressed interest on the part of the members might also indicate one need which was not met through the "Club Questionmark" group.

No young adult members from the Lynn group indicated an interest in community service while three members of the young adult group at the Hecht House expressed this interest, although this is still a very small segment of the sample studied. In Chapter IV, it was indicated that both groups engaged in very little community service, which might be validated in view of the lack of interest the young adults seemed to possess in relation to this activity. However, one cannot assume here that such activities as those encompassing the element of community service should be omitted from the program. Obviously, there are other factors to be considered here. For example, one might assume that a newly organized group in its early stages of development, might not yet be ready for participating in community service activities. This factor would not seem applicable to the two groups in this study, however, when one remembers that both groups had been functioning at least a year preceding this study. The Hecht House group was organized one year previous to the study and the Lynn group approximately five years before. Still, it was especially noticed that the emphasis in both young adult groups, yet more particularly the Lynn group, was primarily social. Thus, it would seem that this is one area in which an advisor might become effective - in helping the group move out and widen their general interests or in shifting the focus.

"....Many groups change very slowly and all groups like to retain some of the old and established things along with the new. There is quite a difference between the expansion of an original interest, the widening of general interests and major shifts in interest. Groups which are interested in everything and as a result want variety, often are helped when the worker enables them to narrow their concerns and get a measure of focus."^{2/}

Jewish Content in the Programming

In reviewing the programs offered in each young adult group, it can be seen that there was very little Jewish content in both groups though more especially in the Lynn group - two programs in Lynn; five in the Hecht House group. When interviewees were asked if they thought Jewish content was important in the programming for young adults, the majority stated that it was -

17 said "Yes" - (7 females and 1 male from Lynn group)
(7 females and 3 males from Y.A.G.'s)

7 said "No" - (3 males from Club Questionmark group)
(3 males and 1 female from Y.A.G.'s)

Figure I illustrates the above in a more simplified form:

^{2/}Op. cit., p. 115.

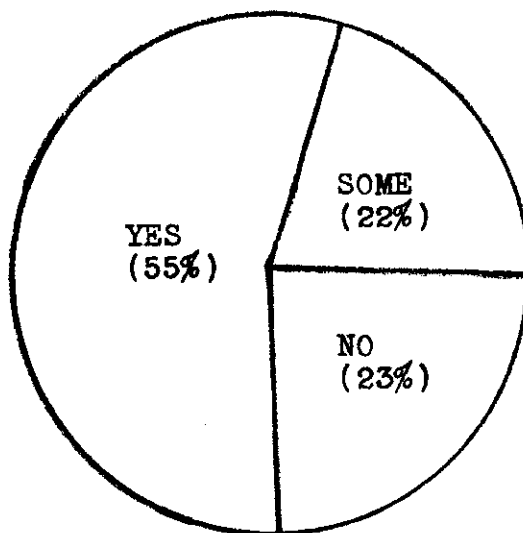


Figure 1. Percentages Illustrating Importance of Jewish Content as Viewed by Members

Twenty-two per cent of the members could not definitely say "yes" or "no" but responded somewhere in between these two extremes. These members seemed to think that there should be a limited extent as can be seen from some of their comments:

"Should be some but do not believe in sticking to religious or cultural parts of program.

Not too important; more of a social organization. Members rebel against Jewish content.

To a certain extent; should know something of what is going on.

Depends on size of group....If small, becomes important. Primary need is social....Do not have to belong to a social organization to get it."

Those members who were more definite in their answer mentioned some of the following remarks:

"Yes, get none of the Jewish life on the outside. Must get a background for group to hold on to. Only way to stand up for what they believe is right.

Never had enough - was not enough emphasis put on it. Can be overdone - there is a happy medium. Sort of works itself in an organization like this. Should slip it in in a nice way - there is a time and place for it.

Absolutely! Let them know the meanings behind holidays and what makes a Jew tick and what a Jew is.

Not enough cultural Jewish content explained in the Synagogue and club is the best place for it."

Some of the young adults were confused as to the meaning of Jewish content, many believing that it referred to the inclusion of such things as having a Rabbi come in to lecture on Judaism. "The term 'Jewish Content' embraces the totality of Jewish spiritual - cultural interests and needs."^{3/} When enlightened, members seemed to agree that such content was good if introduced in an interesting way or if members were more or less "fooled into it," thus indicating one important factor an advisor should be aware of working with such groups as the two referred to in the study.

"Distinct Jewish institutions are desirable and necessary only if their objectives are to further and enrich the specialized Jewish spiritual-cultural way of life. Therefore, the Jewish center's program of recreation and informal education must take first and greatest emphasis upon Jewish Content....It is Jewish Content which renders legitimate a distinct Jewish Center. Once you remove Jewish Content, the Jewish Center becomes primarily a recreational agency."^{4/}

Future Recommendations

When the interviewees were asked if they could offer any

^{3/}Oscar I. Janowsky, The Jewish Welfare Board Survey, Dial Press, New York, 1948, p. 273.

^{4/}Ibid.

future recommendations for programming with young adult groups, the variety of responses were not limited to programming itself, but included other areas aside from the program aspect. For example, six members in the Lynn group expressed the importance of limiting the age-range in young adult groups. Only two members from the Y.A.G.'s mentioned age-range as an important factor. This does not seem surprising when one remembers that the age-range for Club Questionmark group was much wider than was found with the Hecht House group. Although it was specified from 25-35, there were also members of the groups below 25 as well. Those members that mentioned this factor stated that the range should be more limited as much "ill feeling" arose because of the wide difference - older members resented the younger element in the group and vice versa. These young adults mentioned the need to secure "new blood" if another young adult group was formed.

In planning programs several members in the Lynn group and one or two from the Hecht House group mentioned the possibility of forming a Council of Young Adult groups. Hecht House mentioned a council from the Greater Boston area and Lynn specified a North Shore Council whereby representatives from every young adult group in the area could meet to plan joint affairs and clear dates for each group in an effort to draw in more outside people at the affairs. In this way there would not be a number of activities scheduled for the

same night and more people might attend the one or two functions that were scheduled.

Two people mentioned the need to have committees for program planning which should keep the total group informed of the latest developments. One female indicated that there should be many committees indicating that "the more fingers in the pie the better."

As far as the business meetings were concerned, the majority of the members stated that these meetings should be as short as possible and that there should also be a planned activity afterwards. The Hecht House group indicated that the business meetings were held too frequently - every week, and should be limited perhaps to twice a month.

When mentioning the various activities themselves, it was noticed that there were numerous suggestions offered. A few of the members themselves stated that young adults are interested in a variety of things. If any program (social, cultural, community service, etc.) was presented in an interesting manner, it would be effective. And, it was mentioned that more of this was needed. Many of those activities in which the groups had already engaged were recommended for future programs, with members stating that past ideas were good. Some of those activities which were new to the group included the following:

folk dancing and singing
more inter-faith activities
public speaking
more affairs away from Center
debates, plays and contests including Jewish
content
arts and crafts

The members emphasized the method of presentation and also the importance of publicizing any programs which were being planned for. Two members from the Lynn group mentioned the lack of involvement of young adults in Center affairs, which was evident in the past. This latter point has already been discussed previously in Chapter III.

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

"Young adulthood is a period of great social and emotional growth." It is a period which is usually viewed as transitory between adolescence and adulthood when the individual is faced with many serious problems of adjustment. "The individual at this time is called upon to make many decisions which will have far reaching effects."^{1/}

Programming for young adults, as with any age-group, is a means to an end. It is a tool which is utilized in meeting the needs of the individuals and the group. Program includes a wide range of activities, relationships and interaction, purposefully carried out and resulting in personal and social significance.

"The principle of programming for (Young Adults) does not differ from the approach to any other group meeting in the agency. Programming has to reflect the needs of the individual members by providing for security, the feeling of belonging; by meeting the need of response, the affection of friends; by providing recognition and status; and by providing for new experiences and creativity."^{2/}

The main focus of this study was to measure the successful and unsuccessful programs in two young adult groups.

^{1/}Joseph Shechter, "How 33 Young Adults Use Their Leisure Time," Unpublished Thesis, Connecticut School of Social Work, 1954.

^{2/}Seymour Weisman, "Developing Indigenous Leadership in Jewish Young Adult Groups," The Jewish Center Worker, Volume 12, Number 1, January, 1951, p. 14.

The following statements are conclusions in answer to the questions which this study has raised.

1. What were the needs of these young adults?

The needs of young adults are basically no different from other age-groups except for the area of personal relationships. It was found in this study that these young adults had various needs, such as personal growth, status, achievement, wider friendships, desire for new experiences, interest in the opposite sex, identity as a Jew, learning for its own sake, and recreation. In the area of personal relationships, the need is perhaps more intense; there is more than just an interest in the opposite sex for the ultimate goal is viewed in terms of marriage.

The findings have illustrated specific interests of these young adults, from which certain basic needs as those cited above have evinced. It should be noted, however, that these activity interests are merely those which members were able to express verbally. A program of activities should not be based entirely upon the "conscious and expressed" interests of the groups. These expressions may, in fact, signify the escapist mechanism which has been mentioned previously in the thesis. These young adults may be attempting to escape thinking about problems which are characteristic of this age-group, such as vocational anxieties and final emancipation from the family. In addition, it has been found that programs in many group work agencies have tended to exclude the

processes which a citizen must learn.^{3/} The acceptance of responsibility is the key to healthy democratic living.

This finding would seem to bring forth the next research question.

2. Are the programs meeting these needs?

Certain programs very definitely met some of the needs which have been mentioned under the preceding question. For example, the dances, outings, parties, met a definite social need of these young adults. Cultural programs, such as the Oneg Shabbats and various discussions and speakers, allowed for a sense of learning to take place. More specifically, in reference to the area of Jewish identification, however, it was found that there was a limited amount of Jewish content included in the programs; this was especially noticeable with the Lynn group. And the majority of the members who were interviewed considered Jewish content as an important part of programming. Programs with Jewish content may include social as well as cultural elements so that the manner in which such content is included in the programming is of special importance. The writers feel that any program, if introduced in an interesting way, can be successful and of maximal satisfaction to the members involved.

Other needs, such as recognition and status with the Center and community might have been met more adequately

^{3/}Annetta Dieckmann, "Programs for Young Adults Based on Problems of Reconversion," Toward Professional Standards, May, 1946, p. 134.

1946

through personal involvement in Center affairs. Here, there was only one person found to be represented on the Board of Directors, thus illustrating one area in which these members could have had more opportunity to develop (sharing in policy making, etc.).

The business part of the meetings provided still further opportunity for development in planning, accepting responsibility and carrying through on plans which were made. One might conclude that this was a beginning step in enabling the members to grow into mature, responsible adults. However, it was pointed out in the findings that one major problem arising in both groups was in getting more members involved in the planning and acceptance of responsibility in following through on various plans. This, again illustrates a distinct feature of young adult groups - not only are they not accepted by adults in the community but the young adults themselves are still ambivalent about accepting responsibility, thus indicating that they still do not accept themselves as adults.

Program suggestions to further meet the above needs of the young adults might be crafts, painting, more dramatics, athletic programs, voluntary assistance to groups and service to individuals.

3. What programs were successful? Unsuccessful?

In general, it would seem that social programs were the most successful. Dances were rated highly because of having

a good orchestra, sizable attendance, and inter-mingling on the part of the members. Dramatics was also rated as highly successful because it gave the members participating a sense of accomplishment and offered varied jobs for all. Outings were successful for both groups. The athletic programs, on the whole, were successful, with bowling the foremost successful athletic program. Cultural programs were successful in some instances and unsuccessful in others. For example, poor attendance, lack of interest and group participation were marked features at the Oneg Shabbat program for the Hecht House young adult group. It was unequivocal that the game nights and bridge parties were unsuccessful because of such reasons as little interest, not enough people knew the game, it was held on a poor night, etc.

4. What are some of the contributing factors making for successful programming?

All the main categories discussed were to some degree successful (social, cultural, community service and athletics), but under each broad category there were unsuccessful programs as well. Good participation, high interest, enjoyment, socialization and attendance were some contributing factors.

The advisors and executive directors indicated that the key to successful programming was in getting the members involved in accepting responsibilities, and in the program itself. The group morale and spirit of the members are

other factors making for successful programming. If the group is at its high point in development and much group feeling is evidenced, it would seem that more programs would be considered as successful. It has been said that programs are used as tools for meeting the needs of these individuals composing the group. It is also true that the success of a program is to some extent dependent upon the extent to which members "feel like a group" and the consequent status the group holds for them.

5. How active should an advisor be in programming with young adults?

The majority of both groups felt that most of the ideas for programming came from the group although the advisor was helpful as a resource person, when needed. And, members tended to think it "healthy" for the group to assume an active role in relation to programming, as this was "their club." Two members felt that they were mature enough not to have an advisor while one person thought a strong advisor who has good ideas was important. A few people gave other reasons for wanting an advisor, besides as a resource person; the advisor was thought of as a person to whom one could turn for advice about agency policy and clarification of issues when there was an impasse. The advisors themselves indicated that their major area of concentration was in working with the planning committees and getting the members involved in accepting responsibilities so that program might

be carried through successfully. The writers feel that the advisor does play an active and significant, though perhaps less directive, role in spite of the sophistication and defenses of some members. Group work methods and techniques should be utilized in stimulating enthusiasm, injecting new ideas and acting as a liaison person in working with a young adult group. The factor of enthusiasm would seem to be of especial importance, for members brought forth time and again the need for an "optimistic" viewpoint in dealing with young adults.

"Young adult groups are more mature, and although they may have had little experience in planning, they usually have an interest in the program content itself and some ability to plan and execute. Here the worker acts largely as an advisor and as a resource person, facilitating the program planning process....Both young adults and mature adult groups look upon the worker as a person who stimulates them to develop new ideas and new ways of organizing and as one who is familiar with resources for a varied program."⁴

Further Conclusions

The responses to interviews bring out significant material that gives a clue as to the writers' feeling that there is a definite need for young adult groups in Center agencies.

Many individuals became members for social reasons and programming which was social to a large extent proved successful. These successful programs were organized by a nucleus of the members who took it upon themselves to operate and

⁴/Gertrude Wilson and Gladys Ryland, op. cit., p. 160.

and meet the group's decision for an activity. These members were relied upon continually to carry through the group's programs.

The majority of both groups did not participate in or belong to groups outside the Center. Those members who did belong to other groups, were to a large extent the ones who were active in planning and holding office within the young adult groups included in the study. It was further found that several of these groups, such as B'nai B'rith, and Synagogue Brotherhood, were not entirely social groups as it were. Focus on community service and cultural learning was evident in these groups. Although one might conclude that those needs aside from the social aspect, were being met in part, this would only pertain to those young adults belonging to these other groups - only a small percentage of the total young adult population studied.

The majority of Lynn and Hecht House young adults enjoyed belonging to the two young adult groups. This could very well be due to the fact that they joined for social reasons and did meet new friends, have a social outlet, etc. Only two members expressed joining for cultural reasons, and one for community service. It was found that there were two extremes of comments that existed in relation to how the members reacted to their club experience. On the one hand, there was a very favorable reaction to dramatics and resolving a particular personality problem, while it was also indicated

by another member that the club was nothing spectacular, and petered out when these few who held offices left the club.

Recommendations

The writers feel that there was a need for greater involvement of both young adult groups in Center affairs, such as representation on the Board of Directors, community council, inter-city programming, young adult councils, etc. If young adults are going to accept themselves and be accepted by the adults in the community as responsible persons, they need to be given the opportunity to participate in the affairs of the Centers to which they belong, or might belong if they received higher status within the Center. If the young adults are involved more readily in such areas as policy-making and committee work, they might then be better equipped to go out into the community as more responsible and mature individuals.

There is also a definite need for variety in the kinds of activities offered to young adults. Small club groups may provide status, security, knowledge and a chance to discuss problems. Mass activities may help in satisfying the courtship drive ever present in co-ed programs. Such activities are less highly organized than some of the other forms of activities and here some young adults may adjust more easily. Special interest activities would also be a possibility. A special interest group can offer the young adult the same

contributions as are found in the larger social organization as well as a more specialized contribution in relation to the area of learning and developing new skills. The focus in a special interest group is on the activity; here the shy, more reticent young adult may have an opportunity to develop and grow socially in a less threatening way than might be the case in a social organization. Through working together on a special activity, the final result might be the same as in a social organization - cooperation, acceptance of responsibility and planning, and finally development of group cohesion and ease in relating to other members in the group.

Informal programming and opportunities for young adults to get acquainted might also be provided by lounge facilities with adequate staff sensitive to the needs and problems of young adults. Having a place of "their own" where young adults can meet in an informal setting is the first step in the helping process. Conscious planning of group work programs by staff and members together would then serve as a supplement to young adults seeking their needs in other places, such as night clubs, cocktail lounges and through commercial recreation in general.

When planning programs, members and advisors should give careful thought to the day on which the program is planned for it was noticed from this study that many of these members who did not attend various affairs referred to the day or night as a bad time. For example, Friday and Saturday nights

were mentioned as being date nights, family nights, etc.

Business meetings should not tend to become too lengthy or frequent with a planned activity following the business part of the meeting so that more members might be involved in the actual planning and the social, cultural need might be satisfied as well.

One other area which the writers would like to mention is that of age-range for young adult groups for it was found with the Lynn group especially that the age-range was much too wide to result in optimal satisfaction for all members involved. This factor was brought out by the members themselves. For example, an age-range of 18 to 25 might be limited to female members and 20 to 28 for the males in the group.

Finally, the writers would like to recommend further study of on-going young adult groups in an effort to secure even more knowledge about young adults and their problems. This study has been an attempt to measure such factors as programming, an advisor's role, and in determining ways of meeting those varied needs of young adults. Because of limited time and groups available, the writers have merely scratched the surface here. Further studies, perhaps a comparison of groups with differing socio-economic status, and different religious backgrounds, are needed in providing further understanding of this most challenging age-group.

APPROVED:

David Landy
Research Advisor

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Copies of this letter and explanation of Study were sent to the Young Adults in addition to the Questionnaires.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
264 Bay State Road
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Office of the Dean.

Dear

Miss Ellen Feldblum and Mr. Jules Weinrach are engaged in a joint study of young adult groups at the Lynn Jewish Community Center and Hecht House, Boston. Miss Feldblum and Mr. Weinrach are graduate students in Social Group Work and their research is being done for their Masters' degrees.

We would very much appreciate your cooperation with their endeavors.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

David Landy
Instructor in
Research

EXPLANATION OF STUDY

The writers are doing a study on programming with Young Adult groups. They are using groups from the Lynn Jewish Community Center and Hecht House in the Boston-Dorchester area in an attempt to explore those successful and unsuccessful programs as well as the elements contributing to success. Questionnaires and follow-up interviews with each of members in the two groups will help us to obtain the necessary materials.

When you have finished rating this questionnaire, would you please return it in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible. When the completed questionnaires have been returned, the writers then intend to contact you in order to make an appointment at your convenience for a short personal interview at the Center.

Full cooperation and approval has been granted by your former advisor and Center in carrying out this study. The help that you can give us will be greatly appreciated and extremely important in fulfilling our research objectives.

Appendix B
Questionnaires

HECHT HOUSE GROUP

YOUNG ADULT QUESTIONNAIRE

The following program activities were those which were sponsored by the Y.A.G.'s during the 1953-54 season. Would you, as a former member of this group, rate these programs? Check each one in relation to whether you considered them excellent, good, fair, or poor.

I. Social Affairs

1. Membership Drive - Frankfurt and Bean Supper
 - Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
 - Did not Attend
2. Installation of Officers at Howard Johnsons'
3. Breakfast in Bungalow - January 31.
4. Valentine Social on February 14.
5. Spaghetti Supper Social - March 21.
6. Joint Affair with Brockton Y.M.H.A.
7. Game Night - May 17.
8. "Das ist ein Leben" - Cabaret Style affair
9. Beach Trips
10. Trip to New Hampshire (Berkshire) for Recreation and Folk Dancing course.

II. Cultural Events

1. Oneg Shabbat on January 22 at the Beth Hillel
2. Oneg Shabbat with Dorchester and Chelsea Chapters of B'nai B'rith

3. Discussion - "You and the 5th Amendment"
4. Israeli Day Celebration
5. Rumor Clinic with Louis Needel Chapter of B'nai B'rith
6. Film on Thomas Jefferson and his time with a discussion - February 15.
7. Discussion on "Peace in Asia," sponsored by Hecht House
8. Trip to the Ballet - May 21.
9. Trip to Pops Concert
10. Speaker and Discussion on Marriage
11. Passover 3rd Seder with 2nd Church of Dorchester - April 26.

III. Athletics

1. Bowling on Sundays
2. Skating on Fridays
3. Ping Pong Tourneys
4. Sports Night - February 24 (Basketball, various games and films on sports)

IV. Community Service

1. Collection of clothing for Boston State Hospital
2. Solicitation for "H" Day
3. Fund Raising for various organization

V. Business Meetings

In general, did you think they were -

Name _____
 Sex (M. or F.) _____
 Occupation _____

LYNN GROUP

YOUNG ADULT QUESTIONNAIRE

The following program activities were those which were sponsored by Club Questionmark during the 1954-55 season. Would you, as a former member of this group, rate these programs? Check each one in relation to whether you considered them excellent, good, fair or poor.

I. Dances

1. January 16 - Lou Ames' Orchestra

Excellent
 Good
 Fair
 Poor
 Did not Attend

2. March 13 - Norm Berns' Orchestra

3. April 24 - Mel Witt's Orchestra

4. Other monthly dances. Please specify and rate.

II. Chanukah Party - December 19

- III. March 3 - Discussion and film on Marriage with Dr. Blair Hunt, Psychiatrist.

- IV. Game Night - Scrabble, Cards, Dancing

V.. Rumor Clinic

- VI. Discussion on Arab-Israel Problem following film by the American Film Foreign

VII. Square Dance with Caller

VIII. New Hampshire Week-end Outings

- IX. Foreign Film - "Paisan"

X. Sub-groups

1. Bowling

2. Parties

3. Other. Please specify and rate.

If you were a member of the group during the 1953-54 season, would you please check the following activities in the same manner as those above. And, if you can remember any other activities which were sponsored during this year, would you please list and rate them.

I. Sub-groups

1. Music Appreciation
2. Dramatics
3. Bridge Group
4. Friday Night Group - Political Discussions
5. Other. Please specify and rate.

II. Panels

1. Pre-marital Relations
2. Religion

III. Speakers

1. Lawyer
2. Doctor
3. F.B.I.

IV. Dance instruction after business meetings by Champagne Studio

V. Dances

In general, were they

If there are any particular dances which stand out in your mind, please indicate.

VI. Installation of Officers at Paul Rogers House in Revere

VII. Business meetings

In general, were they

If there are any particular meetings which stand out in your mind, please indicate.

VIII. Please list any other activities which have been omitted and rate them.

Name _____
 Sex (M.orF.) _____
 Occupation _____

Appendix C

Schedules

SCHEDULES FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

1. Size of agency - membership
2. Size of Jewish Community.
3. Reason for formation of young adult groups.
4. How long has there been a young adult program offered at the Center?
5. What, in your opinion, are the needs of young adults?
6. Was the young adult group helpful to the agency? In what ways? (participation in fund drives, etc.)
7. What programs do you feel were the most successful with this group? Why?
8. What programs do you feel were the least successful? Why?

SCHEDULES FOR INTERVIEWING MEMBERS

1. Purpose for joining group.
2. Different committees served on or offices held.
3. Were you a member of any other group in the Center? Outside Center? If so, which ones?
4. What are your activity interests?
5. Did you have any community service in the club?
6. Do you think Jewish content is important in the programming?
7. How helpful was the advisor in programming?
8. In general, do you feel that the advisor or members contributed many of the ideas for programming? How do you feel about this? (For example - if advisor was more active, was this good or bad?)
9. Did you enjoy belonging to group?
10. Do you have any recommendations for future programming?

SCHEDULES FOR ADVISORS

1. Name of club
2. Age-range; sex division
3. Purpose of club
4. What were your goals as advisor to the group?
 - (a) in terms of purpose
 - (b) in relation to agency's objectives
5. How many members were there in the group?
 - (a) active - in terms of attendance at all affairs
 - (b) those that attended only certain functions
6. Did you have inter-agency functions? If so, what kind?
7. Did you have inter-community functions? If so, what kind?
8. What do you feel were the needs of those young adults in the group?
9. What do you feel were the most successful programs? Why?
10. What do you feel were the most unsuccessful programs? Why?
11. Were you confronted with any problems in programming with the members?
If so, what kind?
12. What was your role in programming with this group?
13. Do you have any recommendations for future programming with young adults?

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books:

Carrol, Herbert A., Mental Hygiene - The Dynamics of Adjustment. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1951.

Kaiser, Clara, "Social Group Work Practice and Social Responsibility," National Conference of Social Work Proceedings, 1952.

Lowy, Louis, "Group Work With Young Adults," Adult Education and Group Work. Whiteside Inc. and William Morrow and Company, New York, 1955.

Milligram, Abraham E., "The 'Oneg Shabbat,'" Sabbath The Day of Delight. The Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia, 1944.

Trecker, Harleigh B., Social Group Work Principles and Practice. American Book-Stratford Press, New York, 1949.

United States Employment Service, Dictionary of Occupational Titles, March, 1949.

Wilson, Gertrude and Gladys Ryland, Social Group Work Practice. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1949.

Pamphlets and Publications:

Dieckmann, Annetta, "Programs for Young Adults Based on Problems of Reconversion," Toward Professional Standards, May, 1946.

Ellsworth, Allen S., At Work With Young Adults. Associated Press, Broadway, New York, 1950.

"Meeting Young Adult Needs Through the Center," A Report on Workshop at 1954 National Jewish Welfare Board Biennial Meeting.

Parmet, Charles, "Where Are Our Young Adults?" The Jewish Social Service Quarterly, February, 1956.

Pikus, Joseph, "Meeting the Needs of Young Adults in the Community," The Jewish Center Worker, May, 1952.

Olds and Josephson, "Toward Citizenship - Encouraging Participation in Community Affairs by Citizens Under Thirty." National Social Welfare Assembly, New York, 1953.

Ryland, Gladys, "Programs for Young Adults Based on Problems of Reconversion," Toward Professional Standards. American Association of Group Workers, New York, May, 1946.

Tropp, Emanuel, "An Experience in Programming for Unmarried Young Adults over 25 Years of Age," The Group, December, 1952.

Weisman, Seymour, "Development of Indigenous Leadership in Jewish Young Adult Groups," The Jewish Center Worker, (January, 1951), 12:14.

Unpublished Material:

By-Laws of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Lynn, Inc. July, 1953.

Cohen, Simon, "A Study of Adult Education in the Jewish Communities of Greater Boston." Unpublished Thesis. Boston University School of Social Work, 1950.

Nemeth, Leonard, "A Study of Programming for Young Adults." Unpublished Thesis. Boston University School of Social Work, 1952.

Schechter, Joseph, "How 33 Young Adults Use Their Leisure Time." Connecticut School of Social Work, 1954.