more accurate representation of the views of this
committee and I think it would be a very good idea to
formulate whatever the conclusions are in a way that
could not be used like what happened in that
newspaper article.

DR. KLEEREKOPER: One way to do that would
be to say what a lot of us have said, that *we regard*
dental fluorosis in the *Stage III level* as an adverse
health effect and that is what the regulation has
been aimed to prevent. That is really what we have
done.

DR. WALLACH: Not all of us are saying that
age nine is a good cut-off point.

DR. MARCUS: I understand that.

DR. SHAPIRO: It is easier to equivocate
around that than it is with what the committee that
framed these options before us did. They said they
couldn't choose between four and eight. I think we
have made a better decision.

DR. CARLOS: I think it might be well worth
considering how you phrase the recommendation, the
rationale for the recommendation very carefully in
terms of potential adverse effect.

The reason is that we have on record the
Surgeon General, the American Medical Association.
the American Dental Association all saying that there is no adverse health effect.

I think, in the case of dental fluorosis, we can't find any data to the contrary; however, I certainly accept and I think most people do that there may well be and we just haven't found it yet and that would be true of the other things you are speaking of as well. It is potential.

DR. MARCUS: I don't think that is the sense of the committee. I think that the sense of the committee is that the cosmetic effect represents an adverse health effect. That this is psychologically damaging. People walk around covering their mouths.

DR. SHAPIRO: I think the Surgeon General left a big loophole, frankly, when he raised this cosmetic issue. I think he, in effect, was saying there is still some room for doubt as to whether what we are saying is the best really that can be said.

DR. CARLOS: There is more study needed in the matter.

DR. SHAPIRO: That is right and I would seize on that, expressing the concern of the committee that we don't have all the answers.

DR. CARLOS: The concentration of research has really been around optimal levels.