

Post, 11/24/65
"Justice for All . . ."

WRC-TV demonstrated last night how effectively a television documentary can illuminate a public problem. In a program conceived and prepared by John Davenport and Herb Kaplow, the station photographed, and recorded statements by, a score or more of public officials and private citizens with varied views concerning police practices in arresting citizens and investigating crime. And although the problem remains, of course, unresolved, those who saw the show surely have an enlarged understanding of its complexity and of the arguments for and against restraints upon the police in the discharge of their exacting and vital responsibilities.

WRC-TV presented the conflict with meticulous fairness, balance and objectivity—and with an insightful selection of material to make the issues evident. What a pity it is that the presentation is so ephemeral; for those who missed seeing it last night, we can only express a hope that the producers will show it again. It seems to us that they captured the essence of the conflict in Herb Kaplow's words: "We have said the dialogue has tended to become over-simplified, to be portrayed as a conflict between society's rights and those of an individual. In truth, they are the same rights, and when an individual's rights are violated, society's rights are violated, and when there is justice for one, even the guilty, there is justice for all."