TO: Alfred M. Freedman, M.D. DATE: November 7, 1969

FROM: Max Fink, M.D.

SUBJECT: Zelson Proposal

I have read the proposal and can understand the Review Committee's comments. The proposal is unfocussed; the ideas too general; and dependence on outsiders to do "their thing" prominent. The staff has experience with opiate dependent mothers and infants and the proposal appears to have been formed by the buckshot method - try everything that sounds sood.

I do not know how one is to help them. The focus is not on therapy but on diffuse biochemical effects in infants. Why these tests were selected is not clear. Perhaps they should be encouraged to focus their interest, explain their foci, and this would be useful in defining a new protocol.

Asides: Dr. Zelson graduated in 1930 and lists as his most recent relevant publication 1957 (1952, 1948 ...). Mr. Rich is the statistician of the Department of Pediatrics and is held in good repute by Don.

MF:kp