

In the

ORIGINAL

# Supreme Court of the United States

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES, ET AL.,

Appellants

v.

FLIPSIDE, HOFFMAN ESTATES, INC.

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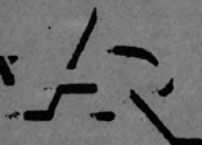
NO. 80-1681

Washington, D. C.

December 9, 1981

Pages 1 thru 51

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REPORTING

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1                   IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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3 VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES, ET AL., :

4                   Appellants, :

5                   v. :       No. 80-1681

6 FLIPSIDE, HOFFMAN ESTATES, INC. :

7 - - - - -:

8                   Washington, D. C.

9                   Wednesday, December 9, 1981

10                  The above-entitled matter came on for oral  
11 argument before the Supreme Court of the United States at  
12 1:01 o'clock p.m.

13 APPEARANCES:

14                  RICHARD N. WILLIAMS, ESQ., Hoffman Estates,  
15                   Illinois; on behalf of the Appellants.

16                  MICHAEL L. PRITZKER, ESQ., Chicago, Illinois;  
17                   on behalf of the Appellee.

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1	<u>C O N T E N T S</u>	
2	<u>ORAL ARGUMENT OF:</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
3	RICHARD N. WILLIAMS, ESQ.,	
4	on behalf of the Appellants	3
5	MICHAEL L. PRITZKER, ESQ.,	
6	on behalf of the Appellee	24
7	RICHARD N. WILLIAMS ESQ.,	
8	on behalf of the Appellants - rebuttal	48
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
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P R O C E E D I N G S

CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: We will hear arguments next in Village of Hoffman Estates against Flipside, Hoffman Estates.

Mr. Williams, you may proceed whenever you are ready.

ORAL ARGUMENT OF RICHARD N. WILLIAMS, ESQ.,  
ON BEHALF OF THE APPELLANTS

MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the Court, the question in this case is limited to a question of vagueness of a drug paraphernalia ordinance. Vagueness, of course, has been defined by this Court under Grayned versus Rockford as an ordinance or statute that gives a person of ordinary intelligence a reasonable opportunity to know what is prohibited, and also that there are in fact standards for those who must enforce this ordinance.

The U. S. District Court found this ordinance constitutional in all respects. The challenge was not just to vagueness, but in fact as to First Amendment issues, as to overbreadth, and as to equal protection. The U. S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit reached only the vagueness issue, and said quite clearly that they did not reach the other issues, although I think it important to point out that in the brief of Flipside, they argue that

1 First Amendment issues are present which would call for a  
2 stricter test. The Seventh Circuit did not reach that  
3 issue, did not apply those issues.

4           So, before the Court today in the briefs, First  
5 Amendment issues have been briefed even though we rely on a  
6 less rigorous standard, in that this is a civil licensing  
7 ordinance, and we believe one that does not invade  
8 constitutionally protected areas.

9           Flipside argues that First Amendment issues are  
10 present, and therefore the stricter standards should  
11 follow. I can review that. What we have is presumptive  
12 validity. We do not have constitutionally protected  
13 issues. We do not have a criminal ordinance, and we are  
14 asking the Court review on a less stricter review on that  
15 basis.

16           QUESTION: But if you disregard the licensing  
17 requirement, you are subject to criminal penalties, aren't  
18 you?

19           MR. WILLIAMS: Not in the state of Illinois. It  
20 is quasi-criminal. It is tried civilly as a civil violation  
21 of the village code.

22           QUESTION: What happens to you if you are found  
23 guilty?

24           MR. WILLIAMS: There could be a fine of up to \$500.

25           QUESTION: That isn't a criminal --

1           MR. WILLIAMS: No, it is regarded as  
2 quasi-criminal. Even traffic violations on ordinance  
3 violations are quasi-criminal, and treated civilly, with the  
4 civil tests of preponderance only.

5           QUESTION: Did the court of appeals think that  
6 vagueness considerations apply to civil statutes?

7           MR. WILLIAMS: Well, I think they do, from  
8 National Dairy and other areas, and we have conceded that  
9 any ordinance or statute still is subject to vagueness  
10 tests, but we think it is a stricter test because of what  
11 this Court has said in the past in opinions involving  
12 criminal matters.

13          QUESTION: Yes, but what if you can identify some  
14 article under this ordinance that any fool would know is  
15 covered by it? Is that the end of the inquiry? Isn't it?

16          MR. WILLIAMS: Well, it depends. If we are going  
17 after a head shop per se, they obviously would be licensed  
18 and could sell this to adults. If we are going to a  
19 convenience store that is selling this type of item, then  
20 they have no license, they could be brought before the local  
21 circuit court that would sit --

22          QUESTION: But this is a facial challenge, isn't  
23 it? And didn't the court of appeals say that it is facially  
24 invalid?

25          MR. WILLIAMS: No, it was both. I don't believe

1 they reached facial invalidity.

2 QUESTION: Well, they said it was vague.

3 MR. WILLIAMS: They said it was vague, but they  
4 did apply the civil test to it.

5 QUESTION: I know, but it is vague in the sense  
6 that you couldn't tell -- you couldn't identify any object  
7 that was clearly covered by the --

8 MR. WILLIAMS: That's what they said.

9 QUESTION: That's what they said. Well, what if  
10 they were wrong on that.

11 MR. WILLIAMS: I believe they were.

12 QUESTION: What if they were wrong that there is  
13 at least one object that you can identify?

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Then I think under what the Second  
15 Circuit just came down with in Brockey, that then there is  
16 nothing more to review, that the matter goes back, until  
17 there is in fact a real challenge.

18 QUESTION: Yes.

19 MR. WILLIAMS: When this ordinance was written,  
20 there were no court opinions. This was written in February  
21 of '78, at the direction of the village board to myself.  
22 Since then, as you can see, there has been an explosion of  
23 litigation in both state and federal courts. As draftsman  
24 of the ordinance, I had to meet many concerns, of course,  
25 not guided by the case law as we now know it.

1           The first consideration was to determine, should  
2 we criminalize or should we license because of the  
3 proliferation of what we believe was in the rational  
4 interest of roach clips, bong pipes, and the like. It was  
5 recognized that most of these items are legal in and of  
6 themselves, that there is not, as Justice White states,  
7 obviously that they are illegal.

8           There are some items, however, that are, so we  
9 have approached it two ways, those items that are designed  
10 for use with illegal drugs and those items that are marketed  
11 for use, and of course our emphasis would be on the  
12 marketing, because this is no different than milk, food,  
13 flowers, paint, clothing, and so on. Every municipality  
14 licenses its retailers within the confines of its  
15 jurisdiction, and this is regulating at the commercial  
16 source.

17           So we chose not to definitely define each of these  
18 items. If you have gone through what is known as the Model  
19 Act, and some of the state statutes that are in the cases  
20 cited, you will see they make an attempt to specifically  
21 identify this power hitter, this bong pipe. We saw the  
22 difficulty right away with trying to make these items per se.

23           We chose to regulate, therefore, at the retail  
24 sale, rather than put the onus on some innocent purchaser  
25 that may or may not know what he is purchasing, to put the

1 burden back on the retailer, in essence, under the McGowan  
2 theory. We do only penalize minors in the area where they  
3 would drink under age or buy tobacco under age by state  
4 statute and city ordinance, and both of these have criminal  
5 prohibitions. We chose to place no criminal prohibition  
6 even on a minor that bought from a retailer that was selling  
7 illegally.

8           We believe this also addresses the question of  
9 transferred intent. In the Record Revolution Number 6  
10 versus Parma case, that was before this Court for review in  
11 June of this year, or May of this year, the Sixth Circuit  
12 rejected that Parma ordinance on two bases. One, that there  
13 was a transferred intent, that if the retailer, the  
14 manufacturer intended it for illegal use and the purchaser  
15 bought it innocently, they could go back and prove this  
16 intent, and here we would have a possible conviction. So  
17 they found a vagueness there.

18           Secondly, that ordinance said that you can't  
19 advertise these types of items, and that was just one small  
20 city in the state of Ohio. We chose not to touch the First  
21 Amendment at all. We have not raised questions of  
22 advertising. We were very careful and prudent to avoid  
23 First Amendment issues. Throughout the district court  
24 proceedings and Seventh Circuit proceedings, we have been  
25 attempted to be painted with a First Amendment argument. It

1 has always been our intent to avoid that, and I think  
2 successfully so.

3           We chose to avoid those issues even though I think  
4 under Virginia State Board of Pharmacy and Pittsburgh Press,  
5 that if they did advertise these items, clearly this would  
6 not be protected speech, and we could proceed, and since  
7 then, I believe both the Eighth Circuit, Tenth Circuit, and  
8 a number of the other federal opinions have found that these  
9 are not first amendment issues when they are promoting the  
10 sale of these items for illegal purposes.

11           Amicus Attorneys General have filed a brief --

12           QUESTION: Counsel.

13           MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

14           QUESTION: How do you draw a distinction between  
15 advertising them for sale and holding them out for sale,  
16 except that you have the articulation in the newspaper ad or  
17 whatever?

18           MR. WILLIAMS: The advertisement goes to the broad  
19 spectrum of the community, and it would be argued as First  
20 Amendment expression. They would argue that the fact that  
21 they merely displayed these items together is a form of free  
22 expression and free speech. I believe that in the retail  
23 setting, that if you -- these things fall together. If you  
24 find that our language, "marketed for use with illegal  
25 drugs" is not vague, then even if their argument on display

1 could be free expression, it falls because it is advocating  
2 use with illegal substances, and I believe in my reply brief  
3 I cited a number of these cases, I believe, Music Stop from  
4 California and Novai from Michigan, that have said display  
5 does not reach First Amendment issues. Also, the Supreme  
6 Court of Kansas in the Carterella case, looked at display  
7 and said, this is not First Amendment material, and other  
8 courts have just gone right over that issue and not even  
9 addressed it.

10           The Model Act that so many of these cases  
11 addressed was not written by the Drug Enforcement Agency of  
12 the Department of Justice until 18 months after we had  
13 drafted our ordinance. So this is not to say today that we  
14 may prefer to take that particular action that in fact  
15 criminalizes this conduct. In fact, it gives us a stronger  
16 control over this proliferation in the community. But at  
17 that time we went with what we had, but I think their  
18 argument addresses very clearly the issue of intent in the  
19 words "designed for use". They have traced the long history  
20 of it, in prohibition cases and other cases, and I think the  
21 same language that this Court applied in Parker v. Levy, the  
22 history of interpretation of the words can be applied to  
23 "designed for use."

24           In their brief, they point out the number -- I  
25 think the Delaware opinion, and the Maryland district court

1 opinion, both that adopt this word and found that intent or  
2 sienter is entered by this, and I think we can go back to  
3 the Boyce case as well, where this Court clearly said the  
4 word, the magic word "intent" need not be used.

5           QUESTION: On that point, Mr. Williams, have you  
6 previously interpreted the ordinance to include a sienter  
7 requirement?

8           MR. WILLIAMS: There were no previous  
9 interpretations, Justice O'Connor.

10          QUESTION: Was it argued below, the intent element?

11          MR. WILLIAMS: Not at the district court. It did  
12 not come to that issue at the district court.

13          QUESTION: Would you explain what sort of intent  
14 element you would see in this ordinance? I mean, what kind  
15 of intent?

16          MR. WILLIAMS: Designed or marketed, we believe,  
17 are active words, as opposed to passive. They are calling  
18 for an act on behalf of the retailer, and we believe that by  
19 placing goods in a marketing setting, that they could be  
20 used with illegal drugs, or designing them, or knowing that  
21 they are designed by the manufacturer and placing them, that  
22 it puts on us the requirement to show that that was their  
23 intent and understanding, that this one innocent item a  
24 buyer for a large retail chain may have put out not knowing  
25 the intent, we would lose that on the civil question of

1 licensing in that there is no way we could show that he knew  
2 what the design was or he knew how it was marketed.

3 QUESTION: Well, would you then infer intent from  
4 the product's design or the manner of display?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

6 QUESTION: And so the sienter requirement then  
7 really doesn't add to the existing ordinance, if that is  
8 what it means, does it?

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, it puts the measure, the  
10 activity measure on the person we are going after, the  
11 retailer, so --

12 QUESTION: Just an intent to market.

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. If he markets it, obviously  
14 he is showing an intent in the way that he did it. It  
15 wasn't an accident, when he has case after case of bong  
16 pipes and papers and so on. I am asking the Court to not  
17 infer it, but to presume it.

18 The district court, I feel -- excuse me, the court  
19 of appeals, I believe, strained to find an interpretation  
20 other than designed for use. They quoted as Record  
21 Revolution and the Sixth Circuit quoted the Normal v. Sindak  
22 case, that was in the additional opinions filed by counsel  
23 for Flipside. That case from Indiana with a three-judge  
24 panel looked at the dictionary and found two alternative  
25 definitions to design, and this both the Sixth and Seventh

1 Circuits found did not give a clear definition, and yet we  
2 have Hejira, the Tenth Circuit case, that says, no, we  
3 reject that there are alternative uses, these are particular  
4 uses, we are going to look at that definition.

5           Community Action Against Drug Abuse' brief here,  
6 their amicus brief clearly sets out what the dictionary  
7 says. This Court has said in Rose v. Lock that you can go  
8 to the dictionary to make the determination, and I think  
9 Justice Rehnquist's statement in U. S. v. Powell is very,  
10 very apropos here. A court should not strain to find  
11 unconstitutionality. It should take the words as they are  
12 and not strain to find an alternative meaning.

13           The Court also said in that U. S. versus Powell  
14 that under the void for vagueness doctrine, such cases  
15 should be determined by the facts at hand, and I think that  
16 is another important point. Throughout the case the  
17 argument is made, what about this poor hardware dealer that  
18 has his alligator clip that could be adapted for use as a  
19 roach clip? Well, we are not concerned about the poor  
20 hardware dealer in this case. The facts at hand are, we are  
21 dealing with a record store that sells these particular type  
22 of items, and we are looking at the way this particular  
23 store displays them. That is the facts at hand.

24           To return to the McGowan versus Maryland test, we  
25 argue that Grayned is --

1           QUESTION: I suppose, counsel, that if you prevail  
2 here, this would, to use a common phrase, chill some people  
3 from selling these articles. And I suppose that is the  
4 general idea of the city.

5           MR. WILLIAMS: We hope so. I don't believe we are  
6 entering into constitutionally protected areas, and I think  
7 chilling is an appropriate word. I think drug abuse is a  
8 serious cancer in our society, and we think that this will  
9 chill the retailing of these items to be used with illegal  
10 drugs.

11          QUESTION: Perhaps freeze is what you really would  
12 want.

13          MR. WILLIAMS: Well, I am realistic enough to know  
14 it would only be a chill, Mr. Chief Justice.

15          The McGowan test takes what we say in Grayned as  
16 the ordinary person and moves it to the retailer. Now we  
17 are not talking about anybody on the street, because this  
18 ordinance can only be enforced against the retailer, and in  
19 that case out of Ann Arundel County, they had a Sunday ban  
20 on sales for other merchants but you could sell them down at  
21 the beach, and they said, well, you can find out what you  
22 can sell and what you can't sell by your ordinary commercial  
23 knowledge or by reasonable investigation, and we argue that  
24 if there are marginal areas, and certainly they can be  
25 raised in this case, if there are marginal areas, a prudent

1 businessman of ordinary commercial knowledge can find what  
2 these differences are.

3           In fact, in this record you will see time after  
4 time the owner of the store called my office, asked me for  
5 an interpretation, followed it. These guidelines that you  
6 have before you, these temporary guidelines, that were  
7 issued by the village, were pursuant to a phone conversation  
8 written up and given to the merchant concerned, that he was  
9 making a reasonable investigation.

10           Now, what about the items themselves? There were  
11 79 items introduced by Flipside in this case; 72 were of the  
12 type that they sold. What we attempted to avoid was saying,  
13 could this always be used with illegal substances? And I  
14 think we did. You take tobacco paper or papers that you  
15 roll your own. Clearly they can be used with a legal  
16 purpose. But they also can be used with an illegal purpose,  
17 but they aren't designed for a legal purpose. So we set  
18 those aside. That is fine. You can sell those.

19           What about a scale? You can use that to weigh  
20 your letters at home, and other things. There are these  
21 home type scales. They put four or five of these into  
22 evidence. That is fine. It has got a legal use. Put that  
23 aside.

24           A water pipe. We stipulated to an expert that  
25 said for thousands of years people have smoked tobacco

1 through water pipes. Fine. We will put that aside.

2 QUESTION: Did the expert say how many people  
3 smoke it that way?

4 (General laughter.)

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Don't know, Mr. Chief Justice.

6 Alligator clips. They sell these at electronic  
7 stores. They were selling some. Fine. It works for tape  
8 recorders and electronic things, and it also is of some  
9 assistance to get the last hit of a marijuana cigarette.  
10 Fine. We will put that over here.

11 A hemostat. I was presented -- I was a witness on  
12 behalf of Flipside on cross examination. They gave me a  
13 hemostat. I didn't know what it was. They told me it is a  
14 medical instrument. But they sell it. Then they  
15 stipulated, and you will find that at Page 29 of the joint  
16 appendix, they don't sell tobacco. They don't sell medical  
17 supplies. But those five items I just mentioned, the water  
18 pipe, the papers, and so on, they are selling them together  
19 in the same display.

20 I think there is only one common denominator here,  
21 and that is our theory, the common denominator theory. What  
22 is the one common use that can be used with these items?  
23 And that, of course, as any child or parent would know,  
24 would be to be used with illegal substances. It is more  
25 likely than not that they will be used with illegal

1 substances, not tobacco or any other item.

2           The Federal District Court in New Jersey took  
3 judicial notice that this is the intent. The courts in  
4 their opinions and in the literature state that this is  
5 proliferating, and it is likely to be used for this. So we  
6 are really asking the Court two things. One, to make that  
7 Tott-Leary presumption that this is more likely than not in  
8 this situation, or, Two, take judicial notice that that is  
9 what they are selling these items for in the stores when  
10 they display them together, when they market them together.

11           One other concern we had by the Seventh Circuit  
12 is, they said, we fear this type of legislation on  
13 lifestyles, and I can't make the argument strong enough that  
14 I think under the rational interest of the community and the  
15 state we have a right to legislate against lifestyles, such  
16 as homicidal maniacs, burglars, and drug abusers, and this  
17 is one way, a civil remedy to go after a drug abuser. We  
18 don't like his lifestyle in Hoffman Estates, and I don't  
19 think anywhere else in the country do they care for that  
20 lifestyle, and I believe we have a right to legislate.

21           QUESTION: Mr. Williams, would you mind referring  
22 to the ordinance itself as set forth in the jurisdictional  
23 statement on Page 48(a), Subsection (A), and tell me if that  
24 is a misprint or if that is how the ordinance --

25           MR. WILLIAMS: Subsection -- 48(a), Subsection (A).

1           QUESTION: (A), License Required. It refers to,  
2 it shall be unlawful for any person to sell items,  
3 paraphernalia, accessory, or thing which is designed by  
4 Illinois revised statutes?

5           MR. WILLIAMS: No, that is a misprint. You will  
6 find that --

7           QUESTION: Has that been corrected somewhere?

8           MR. WILLIAMS: You will find that same language in  
9 the joint appendix at Page 10, I believe, the ordinance is  
10 set out, and you will see that it says "It shall be unlawful  
11 for any person or persons as principal clerk, agent, or  
12 servant to sell any items, paraphernalia, or thing which is  
13 designed or marketed for use with illegal cannibis or drugs."

14          QUESTION: So that is an omission in the  
15 jurisdictional --

16          MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, it appears to be in error.

17          QUESTION: Thank you.

18          MR. WILLIAMS: I was in Florida several weeks ago,  
19 and they do advise in the press that marijuana is now the  
20 second largest cash crop, and we know by the Fourth  
21 Amendment cases that come before this Court that drug abuse  
22 and use is rampant, and I think there is a rational interest  
23 to look at this particular industry. In the cases that are  
24 cited to the Court and Drug Enforcement Agency testimony  
25 they estimate it is up to a \$3 billion industry. I have

1 some questions about that large of an industry, but  
2 certainly it is something that is going on, and we believe  
3 that we have a rational interest to go after it, and we do  
4 ban it on minors. That is another issue that has to be  
5 addressed. We ban these types of items, even though they  
6 are legal, and we recognize they are legal for the most  
7 part, we ban their sale to minors in the same way we ban  
8 tobacco and cigarettes, and I think under the Ginsburg  
9 versus New York guidelines, that we can treat minors  
10 differently than adults, especially in this area.

11           The guidelines raise another issue. The Model Act  
12 guidelines I believe are good guidelines. The Eighth  
13 Circuit thought they were. The Tenth Circuit thought they  
14 were. The Second Circuit recently thought they were, in  
15 Brockey, which is now at 558 Fed Second.

16           We find that the guidelines we issued, very short,  
17 very temporary, nonetheless gave an enforcement officer and  
18 the retailer an idea of what we were looking for. They  
19 addressed themselves primarily to display. We found things  
20 as roach clips were per se, we conceded that those were  
21 designed for legal uses. Now, alligator clips and other  
22 things can be adapted, but what we were saying was, the way  
23 you display it is what we are going to look at, and again  
24 they tried to paint us with a First Amendment, because if  
25 they have A Child's Garden of Cocaine, or some other type of

1 book, or a cocaine mirror, they suddenly say that is First  
2 Amendment expression. I again go back to Virginia Board of  
3 Pharmacy. I again go back to Pittsburg Press to say, we can  
4 limit that expression. But more than that, in the district  
5 court we flatly denied it was a First Amendment issue. They  
6 agreed.

7           The Seventh Circuit did not reach that issue. The  
8 other courts have said that type of thing does not reach  
9 First Amendment proportions. But I think that has to be  
10 looked at and addressed here.

11           One other point that we make that the district  
12 court found was proper and the Seventh Circuit had some  
13 concern with was our Administrative Procedure Act. I wrote  
14 an Administrative Procedure Act a year before based upon the  
15 Administrative Procedure Acts that states use. And if you  
16 are selling milk or selling food, we have hearings, we have  
17 guidelines, we tell you how hot the water has to be to wash  
18 the dishes and so on, all the nitty-gritty. We do the same  
19 thing with everything we license, just like the federal  
20 government. And we were preparing to go to those procedure  
21 hearings at the time this suit was filed.

22           But on file were the temporary guidelines, so we  
23 think that we did meet the guideline requirement of Grayned  
24 in an adequate manner.

25           QUESTION: Mr. Williams, have you changed the

1 ordinance at all since the inception of this litigation?

2 MR. WILLIAMS: Not a word, Justice Blackmun.

3 QUESTION: Pardon me?

4 MR. WILLIAMS: Not a word.

5 QUESTION: Not a word.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Although we have had some concerns  
7 in this post-Monnell and post-Owen area. We would not  
8 legislate in this area for solicitation or obscenity. We  
9 feel that is a chilling effect. We are bound by this. We  
10 passed this before Owens. But at this point, good faith,  
11 bad faith, we are looking at possible liabilities, and have  
12 great concerns in that manner, as I addressed in my  
13 jurisdictional statement.

14 Lastly, a point that I think should be considered  
15 is the register. There is great concern about this on  
16 chilling effect. We require that the person, the adult  
17 person buying these items has to sign a register, the same  
18 as you would for a controlled substance Class 5 under the  
19 Controlled Substance Act. This Court has had some of those  
20 cases, but primarily of physician-patient relationship.

21 What are we going to do with this? It is going to  
22 be a record. If in fact somebody to glamorize and promote  
23 his drug industry, his drug sales to the high school, is  
24 buying a lot of this paraphernalia, we may look at him. We  
25 may make an investigation. But we are always subject to the

1 Fourth Amendment. And since this does not invade  
2 constitutionally protected activity, we see no reason since  
3 this Act has been upheld for paragonic and other types of  
4 classified substances, why it can't be upheld for this type  
5 of paraphernalia. Everything we wrote here was what had  
6 already been approved. Minors, we knew tobacco we could  
7 ban. We put that in. The register, we knew controlled 5  
8 substances could require a register, we put that in. It may  
9 in fact trap the unwary criminal. But if I remember the  
10 Court's comments on the entrapment cases, we are permitted  
11 to trap the unwary criminal.

12           The nexus argument was made in their brief and  
13 responded to in our reply brief, are these things like  
14 burglar tools? A crowbar is legal when you are using it to  
15 pry something open. It is now a burglar tool. They claim  
16 then a bong pipe is legal, and when you light up some  
17 cannabis in it it becomes illegal or paraphernalia. We feel  
18 that the presumption at the point of sale handles that  
19 situation, and that there is that nexus or connection.

20           I would state that the Hejira versus McFarlane  
21 case that just came out in 660 Fed Second -- it is in the  
22 additional authorities, but the citation has just been  
23 issued -- talks about the nexus between abuse of controlled  
24 substances and glorification of those devices.

25           QUESTION: In this case, was there some warning

1 issued?

2 MR. WILLIAMS: No, there was no prosecution.

3 There was no active -- we were in communication at all times.

4 QUESTION: Well, yes, but at the time this case  
5 was filed, was it clear what the village's claim was?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I made it clear that perhaps  
7 they should clear their display cases.

8 QUESTION: However vague the ordinance might have  
9 been without some administrative construction, you  
10 administratively construed it to what?

11 MR. WILLIAMS: We --

12 QUESTION: To cover items that were being sold?

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, the way they were displaying  
14 their items with papers and pipes together, we said that  
15 that would be under the ordinance.

16 QUESTION: So that at that time there was not much  
17 question about what you thought was covered by the ordinance.

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, there was no question about  
19 it. In fact, Judge Layton in his opinion said, why, they  
20 unerringly went to their display cases and removed all these  
21 items. They clearly were a retailer who understood what the  
22 ordinance meant.

23 In summary, I would ask that even though the  
24 Seventh Circuit only reached the issue of vagueness here,  
25 and if the Court finds that this ordinance is not vague,

1 then normally it would be remanded for further  
2 consideration, but they chose to go ahead and brief the  
3 First Amendment and overbreadth issues, and we have briefed  
4 back. The last issue was equal protection, which no court  
5 has seriously considered. We feel we are permitted to take  
6 any particular industry and legislate if we do it in a  
7 reasonable manner. So, I would ask for the benefit of those  
8 other opinions that are pending that a full opinion be  
9 reached in this case.

10 QUESTION: Mr. Williams, this is not a criticism  
11 of you, but it is of your printer.

12 MR. WILLIAMS: I think it is about the -- we put  
13 an instruction in there, please alphabetize, and it was not  
14 done.

15 QUESTION: No, I am speaking of the table of cases  
16 in your brief.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: They were not alphabetized.

18 QUESTION: I think they ought to be alphabetized  
19 and not serialized.

20 MR. WILLIAMS: That was an error. We requested  
21 that and it was not done.

22 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Pritzker?

23 ORAL ARGUMENT OF MICHAEL L. PRITZKER, ESQ.,

24 ON BEHALF OF THE APPELLEES

25 MR. PRITZKER: Mr. Chief Justice, may it please

1 the Court, Mr. Chief Justice, I have found in preparing for  
2 argument that we have mis-cited U. S. v. Freed at Page 47 of  
3 our brief, and would ask to excuse that oversight.

4 In addition, I would ask to call to the Court's  
5 attention, Mr. Chief Justice, the recently published  
6 Columbia Law Review, which I just became aware of a few days  
7 ago, Volume 81 at 581, in which it deals with drug  
8 paraphernalia. A couple of other law reviews had been cited  
9 because we were aware of them at the time of publication.  
10 This has just come to our attention.

11 QUESTION: What is the cite that you just gave us?

12 MR. PRITZKER: 81 Columbia Law Review at Page 581.

13 Appellant has attempted to narrow the question so  
14 that the issue presented is any item, effect, thing which is  
15 designed or marketed for use with illegal drugs,  
16 unconstitutionally vague. By attempting to narrow it in  
17 that regard, it is an attempt to overlook the dynamics and  
18 other problems inherent in the -- in the construction of the  
19 ordinance based on the trial record and as construed by the  
20 Seventh Circuit.

21 Although now we are told that design refers to  
22 some abstract intent, during the course of his argument it  
23 was clear that when we talk about paraphernalia, that is,  
24 when Mr. Williams talks about paraphernalia, he is talking  
25 about specific things. It presumes that we can define

1 paraphernalia. This paraphernalia should not be available  
2 to kids, he says. It is as though we could define it and  
3 excise it from the community by enactment of the ordinance,  
4 but it is clear from the record that such is not the case,  
5 that these things are not paraphernalia per se, yet they  
6 claim, vacillating between an argument that this is drug  
7 paraphernalia; on the other hand, well, it is not really  
8 paraphernalia, it is paraphernalia because of the way it is  
9 marketed.

10           QUESTION: Well, Mr. Pritzker, what do you do with  
11 Justice Holmes' language in the Nash case in 229, where he  
12 says that the law is full of instances where a man's fate  
13 depends on his estimating rightly, that is, as the jury  
14 subsequently estimates it, some matter of degree?

15           MR. PRITZKER: Certainly that is relevant to other  
16 issues which in this case were commented on by the Seventh  
17 Circuit, that in fact language does not lend itself to  
18 precision. Certainly, as Justice Holmes noted, there is  
19 some amount of looseness, of a lack of precision, that people  
20 must act in almost all events with a certain amount of lack  
21 of certainty as to the significance and the consequences of  
22 their actions, but I think that, for example, the Court  
23 speaking through you in your opinion of U. S. v. Paul, where  
24 you decided and talked between Cohn Grocery, in which you  
25 indicated that there was no standard in that case, and

1 talked about the vagaries of supply and demand.

2           Here, we analogize that to taste. Is a blue pipe  
3 inherently criminal, and a brown pipe lawful because in the  
4 officer's experience brown is customary and usual? Is  
5 meershaum, as was introduced in this case, lawful except  
6 that when it had a cannibis leaf on a large bowl meershaum  
7 pipe it was held to be paraphernalia? We are essentially  
8 talking about taste, and I think we have been unfairly  
9 characterized with regards to what lifestyle means.

10           Lifestyle did not refer to drug culture. If I  
11 may, quoting from that 81 Law Review article, it talks  
12 about, "Indeed, courts have been extremely wary of  
13 permitting enforcement discretion in drug paraphernalia  
14 cases since the counterculture connotations associated with  
15 drug use encourage police decision-making on such suspect  
16 factors as the age" --

17           QUESTION: Who is the author of that article?

18           MR. PRITZKER: I have to punt on that, Your Honor,  
19 but I believe it was a student at Columbia.

20           QUESTION: So you don't know who wrote it?

21           MR. PRITZKER: No, Your Honor, I don't. Only that  
22 it was published just recently. "...appearance, mannerisms,  
23 or address of a merchant or his customers. Such  
24 discretionary enforcement based largely upon whether an  
25 individual looks like an illegal drug user offends the basic

1 notions of fairness."

2           The Seventh Circuit and the Eighth Circuit in Egan  
3 recognized that when we are talking about lifestyle, we are  
4 talking about manner and appearance of the dress or style.  
5 If I buy a pipe, is it more likely to be used for a lawful  
6 purpose, or because if I have a beard, is it more likely  
7 that it will be used for an unlawful purpose?

8           QUESTION: Suppose, Mr. Pritzker, the proprietor  
9 of Flipside is in the store, and two people come in and say,  
10 we use marijuana considerably, we would like to have -- and  
11 tells him some specific item that they want to use in  
12 connection with using marijuana, in which case there is no  
13 question about what the use is going to be, and if Mr.  
14 Flipside sells the article requested, would there be any  
15 question in his mind or could there be that the ordinance  
16 would forbid that?

17           MR. PRITZKER: No, Your Honor. If I may first --

18           QUESTION: Well, would there or not? Would there  
19 be any question or not?

20           MR. PRITZKER: Under this ordinance?

21           QUESTION: Yes.

22           MR. PRITZKER: No, Your Honor, as I said in my  
23 brief.

24           QUESTION: Well, if that is so, how can the  
25 ordinance be vague on its face?

1 MR. PRITZKER: Because such is not the case.

2 QUESTION: Why? Why? Why?

3 MR. PRITZKER: Well, because in this case the

4 plaintiff --

5 QUESTION: There could be all sorts of

6 circumstances where there would be no question whatsoever

7 but what the ordinance would cover some particular sale, but

8 the Seventh Circuit says it could never be applied

9 constitutionally.

10 MR. PRITZKER: Well, Your Honor, if that had been

11 the case, we would have had a different manner of judging

12 it, as in the same opinion which I referred to earlier --

13 QUESTION: Well, you wouldn't have said it was

14 vague.

15 MR. PRITZKER: Well, Your Honor, then it would

16 have been core conduct, and the court would have had to

17 judge it in light of the conduct of the case at the time

18 that it became --

19 QUESTION: So there would be no question in my

20 example that the ordinance covered that particular conduct.

21 MR. PRITZKER: If he said that he wanted it?

22 QUESTION: Yes.

23 MR. PRITZKER: That depends on if in fact the item

24 was designed or marketed. This is not a specific --

25 QUESTION: Well, if you marketed it, and you knew

1 exactly what the use was going to be, you were marketing it  
2 for use.

3 MR. PRITZKER: In the same way that if a customer  
4 had gone into a grocery store and purchased a thousand Glad  
5 bags or Zip-Lock bags because that is the common way that  
6 marijuana is distributed in small amounts, and if he sold  
7 it, would that grocer be required to get a license?

8 QUESTION: That isn't my example. In my example a  
9 proprietor is told precisely what the use is going to be.

10 MR. PRITZKER: Not under this ordinance. No,  
11 sir. It would not be an offense.

12 QUESTION: But in Justice White's example, the  
13 proprietor is told.

14 MR. PRITZKER: Under this ordinance, that would  
15 not be an application, because if it was not designed in  
16 terms of the physical structure, or if it was not marketed,  
17 that is, they talk about manner of display as being  
18 marketing, then the incident, the fact that it would happen  
19 to be used with an unlawful substance would not trigger a  
20 license requirement. If it was not pre-marketed for that  
21 purpose, then this law would still not be triggered.

22 This was pre-enforcement. They walked into the  
23 Flipside store and said, this ordinance is coming into  
24 effect, and you are covered, so certainly they don't mean  
25 intent, because they just determined intent, and they said,

1 you are covered, yet many of the items that were --  
2 customers would have been required to sign a police register  
3 purchased at our store, they would have been exempted from  
4 the other items.

5           They try to draw the analogy, Your Honor, that  
6 this is like flowers and milk, but all the milk in Hoffman  
7 Estates is licensed, and so are all the flowers. Here, they  
8 are just licensing some of the corncob pipes. In fact, in  
9 discussing the issues that were removed, it was determined  
10 that in fact the items identical to those which were deemed  
11 regulated by Judge Layton in our store were bought at other  
12 stores. He said, well, okay, I made a mistake, forget 79,  
13 we will make it 72.

14           QUESTION: Don't retailers at whom these  
15 ordinances are addressed have some knowledge of their own  
16 business so that they know what a head shop is and the kind  
17 of things that are sold in head shops?

18           MR. PRITZKER: Well, if we are going to talk about  
19 the application in terms of the merchant, that is, I would  
20 concede to Judge Hart's question that it is appropriate to  
21 judge from the position of the plaintiff, and the plaintiff  
22 has maintained that based upon his experience as a retailer,  
23 none of the items which he sells are drug paraphernalia.

24           QUESTION: Well, if the Seventh Circuit had  
25 decided on that, if it said, this, the ordinance as applied

1 to this particular piece of goods is vague, nobody could  
2 possibly -- if that is all the Seventh Circuit said, that  
3 would be one thing, but they have, as I understand their  
4 judgment, there is no conceivable valid application of this  
5 ordinance.

6 MR. PRITZKER: For there to be, Your Honor --

7 QUESTION: Because it is vague.

8 MR. PRITZKER: But they dealt with McGowan. They  
9 talked about from the position of the plaintiff, which was  
10 the application, and they said from the position of the  
11 plaintiff there is no constitutional application.

12 QUESTION: If the issue would have been, could you  
13 tell if a meershaum pipe is covered by this ordinance, it  
14 might be vague with respect to a pipe, but that isn't what  
15 the Seventh Circuit held.

16 MR. PRITZKER: Well, there must be standards.

17 QUESTION: The Seventh Circuit held there is no  
18 conceivable --

19 MR. PRITZKER: And there must be standards both  
20 for enforcement and adjudication. It is -- as the example  
21 in the Cohn Grocery case, where it was said that as an  
22 example of unjust or unreasonable, the Court in that case  
23 said it would be as though an act were made that it is  
24 unlawful to commit any act which is either unjust or  
25 unreasonable, rather, detrimental to the public interest.

1 Would any intent have cured such a statute, that it shall be  
2 knowingly and wilfully unlawful to do the wrong thing? What  
3 is the standard for enforcement and the standards for  
4 adjudication?

5           In the Screws case, to set up a different case,  
6 that police officer came before this court and said, I  
7 didn't know it was a violation of federal law to beat a  
8 black handcuffed prisoner to death, I am sorry. He was a  
9 policeman, a policeman who was ostensibly trained within his  
10 area. And he must come to this court and argue his conduct  
11 from the conduct that was committed, as applied to him.

12           QUESTION: Let's leave the pipe aside. What about  
13 these water gadgets, water pipes, or whatever they are  
14 called.

15           MR. PRITZKER: Yes, Your Honor, the bongs, as they  
16 were referred to? In this case itself, as a matter of fact,  
17 Police Officer Mauer testified that in his experience, he  
18 had seized a bong, assuming it was used with marijuana, and  
19 found that there was tobacco residue.

20           QUESTION: Is that in Webster's International?

21           MR. PRITZKER: No, but it's in the United States  
22 Patent Office. It may be now. However, it is an old word.  
23 I don't know whether or not. Frankly, I have never looked,  
24 but I doubt that it is. It is, however -- the history of  
25 bongs as being a contemporary word for water pipe was set

1 out in the trial record. Several forms of bongs were  
2 patented, and the history, the reason the new materials were  
3 made, with wood being more expensive, brass being more  
4 expensive. A lot of pipes that people think they are  
5 smoking that are wood are made with plastic. So I think the  
6 only issue is, if a brass water pipe is lawful, like Pier 1  
7 sells and like many tourists who come back from the east,  
8 why is a blue one unlawful? I think that again we are  
9 talking only about the color and shape of the pipe, that  
10 there is no intrinsic differences.

11 I think the Sixth Circuit recognized that when  
12 they talked about, criticized Judge Manos for ignoring his  
13 own trial record, where even the police agreed with the pipe  
14 expert in that case, Mr. Basai, who testified that there are  
15 no design differentials between the things ostensibly  
16 designated as drug paraphernalia in the enumeration of items  
17 in the DEA Act at that time and pipes which are both  
18 historically and customarily used and collected and desired  
19 by pipe collectors and by pipe smokers.

20 QUESTION: What if this ordinance, instead of  
21 reading the way it did, had simply regulated the sale of  
22 hypodermic needles?

23 MR. PRITZKER: Illinois has a statute which does  
24 that, and probably many states did. Because, I believe,  
25 Your Honor, that we are from an urban area, we assume and

1 automatically associate that hypodermics are unlawful. In  
2 Illinois it is a misdemeanor punishable for up to a year to  
3 have or sell without prescription a syringe. So only  
4 pharmacies may dispense them. However, in North Dakota, and  
5 in most livestock-oriented states, they are available over  
6 the counter, and in those states they have a tendency and  
7 custom to strike hypodermic syringe from enactment of any  
8 drug paraphernalia law.

9           QUESTION: My question was, if the ordinance read  
10 as I posited, that the sale of hypodermic needles was  
11 unlawful, would you say that was vague?

12           MR. PRITZKER: No, Your Honor, I would not. It is  
13 clearly definable. It lends itself to a clear definition.  
14 We know what a hypodermic syringe is. Then I think its  
15 constitutionality must stand like the bamboo paper case, on  
16 the overbreadth. If in fact it reached either some  
17 fundamental right, like the need to receive medicine, if it  
18 was an outright prohibition as opposed to prescription  
19 available, no, that is clear.

20           QUESTION: Overbreadth isn't involved here, is it?

21           MR. PRITZKER: In this case, Your Honor?

22           QUESTION: Yes.

23           MR. PRITZKER: I believe it clearly is, because of  
24 the nature and the relationship of literature encouraging,  
25 for example, the guidelines, mere proximity. In many small

1 towns, in many big towns, there was a customary association  
2 between pipe and book stores, and very often they would have  
3 magazines, newspapers, pipes, cigarettes, and this law --

4 QUESTION: What expression is involved?

5 MR. PRITZKER: Pardon?

6 QUESTION: What expression is involved?

7 MR. PRITZKER: Well, several things. For example,  
8 there was much comment about a cocaine mirror. Actually, I  
9 selected it, and I see now that it was a trial error, but I  
10 selected it as evidence because I assumed -- now  
11 incorrectly, I suppose -- that it would be so clear that if  
12 a child cannot possess liquor, would it be unlawful for him  
13 to possess a Schlitz glass, a beer mug with the word Schlitz  
14 on it? And since he can't drink, would it be unlawful for  
15 him to have a Johnny Walker Red mirror? And so I introduced  
16 mirrors of various different kinds which were sold at the  
17 plaintiff's store, one of which had the word "cocaine" on  
18 it, and that was focused upon by the trial court as saying,  
19 well, see, it had the word "cocaine" on the mirror, that is  
20 drug paraphernalia. The essence of the decorative mirror  
21 has not changed; although I wouldn't care for it to hang on  
22 my wall, it was the expression of their attitude, and  
23 certainly many people hold the belief that cocaine should  
24 not be unlawful.

25 They talk about manner of display. Suppose we

1 take Dunhill, and their pipe shop, and their pipe array, and  
2 we add to that the posters. Does that change the marketing  
3 aspect? Do we have NORMAL posters, and Liberate Marijuana,  
4 and those kind of posters on the wall? Now we are  
5 displaying the same merchandise, but have we changed the  
6 manner of display?

7 QUESTION: Well, if you hold the belief that the  
8 sale of morphine ought to be lawful, does that make the  
9 Harrison Act unconstitutional?

10 MR. PRITZKER: No, Your Honor, but putting a  
11 poster up, arguing that it should be, that it should be  
12 repealed, doesn't mean that you have changed, you have  
13 changed the nature of your inventory. Here, I read -- we  
14 talked about literature encouraging, and of course they like  
15 to focus on childrens' Child of Grass, because the rhetoric  
16 is so much nicer, and it sounds good, and it appeals to your  
17 interest to stop drug traffic, but what we are talking about  
18 are concededly lawful items, and in this case I read From  
19 the Doors of Perception, by Aldous Huxley, and I had Sigmund  
20 Freud's Letters About Cocaine.

21 QUESTION: Let me take you back to North Dakota  
22 for a minute. What kind of syringes are there that are sold  
23 over the counter in North Dakota? For human use or animal  
24 use?

25 MR. PRITZKER: They are ostensibly for animal

1 use. I don't know if they are -- I would assume there is a  
2 difference.

3 QUESTION: They are quite a bit different from an  
4 ordinary hospital syringe, are they not?

5 MR. PRITZKER: Yes, Your Honor, but also heroine  
6 users are not so discriminating; since they would take  
7 needles and spoons, I am sure that they would take a much  
8 larger, more inappropriate needle in order to --

9 QUESTION: How does that help your case, your  
10 position?

11 MR. PRITZKER: It is irrelevant. The question of  
12 syringes came because Justice Rehnquist asked me if I  
13 thought that was vague and I thought no. We all know what a  
14 syringe is.

15 QUESTION: Well, a syringe out in the cattle  
16 country, in the farm country is quite a different animal  
17 from --

18 MR. PRITZKER: I am sorry, Your Honor. The  
19 statutes do not differentiate between hypodermic syringes  
20 and the needles. That is, it does not make unlawful or  
21 require prescription for needles of such a width or  
22 diameter, but exempts others because they are for husbandry,  
23 and such a type is not used for human consumption. It  
24 either bans or allows all. I know of no statute such as  
25 North Dakota which delimits some and prescribes them and

1 allows other either for human use with or without  
2 prescription

3 QUESTION: Would you think it would be unlawful if  
4 there was an ordinance or a statute that prohibited the  
5 public display, sale without a license of pistols with  
6 barrels less than five inches?

7 MR. PRITZKER: It certainly would not be vague.  
8 Whether or not it is unlawful is, I think --

9 QUESTION: Well, it is a lawful instrument if a  
10 policeman is using it, is it not?

11 MR. PRITZKER: Well, but the question is to  
12 vagueness. Certainly the merchant would know. I think this  
13 is part of the difference. The merchant would know what is  
14 expected of him. There are standards for compliance. I  
15 know if I am a merchant that my gun has to be less than that  
16 amount. The shotgun. We have the sawed off shotgun act. I  
17 believe it is barrel to stock 29 inches or 26 inches. I  
18 think in the Powell case it was 22 and a half inches. So  
19 you know that there is something by which you can measure  
20 it, so there is a standard for compliance, but adjudication?

21 QUESTION: But your attack has been on the  
22 licensing process, in part.

23 MR. PRITZKER: Well, the point is, what is our  
24 standard for compliance? We don't know, and what we have  
25 complained about is that we did not know what designed for

1 means. And we are not so naive in that, because if you look  
2 at the decisions dealing with design, Your Honor, you will  
3 find that the courts are split on it. Many of the courts  
4 argue, and have held, such as the Tenth Circuit, that design  
5 refers to the intrinsic physical characteristics, if you  
6 will, the objective reality of the object. It is designed  
7 for, and this is the object. Other courts, such as  
8 Maryland, as adopted by the district court in Parma, have  
9 held that design means the intention, I design to use that  
10 for an unlawful purpose, and that is, if you will, the  
11 subjective reality, and how does one distinguish, when the  
12 object is lawful, the subjective reality?

13           Even Judge Manos put careful cautions and  
14 limitations on enforcement in his decision. Actually, what  
15 I believe Judge Manos did was rewrite the law, write what he  
16 believed the law of paraphernalia should be, cautioning  
17 against people inferring or bootstrapping, they said in  
18 NORMAL v. Sendak court, bootstrapping and inferring an  
19 unlawful mens ray from the object itself and required that  
20 other circumstances be used to evidence that in fact these  
21 objects are drug paraphernalia, holding that there were no  
22 design differentials, that they were in fact the same as  
23 other items.

24           QUESTION: What about the Robinson-Patman Act, or  
25 other antitrust acts? Certainly there is a lot of language

1 in there that people cannot be absolutely certain whether  
2 they are complying or not.

3 MR. PRITZKER: Yes, Your Honor, and definitely  
4 there are many other cases. Screws was one. Boyce. The  
5 acts that you descibe. But in no instance, and here is  
6 where I find unique dynamics in the law have taken place,  
7 because in those instances, for example, in burglary tools,  
8 if I may use that also, sir, what hardware store could have  
9 filed a lawsuit seeking declaratory judgment of invalidity?  
10 He would have no standing.

11 The difference here is that although they argue  
12 that there is no bootstrapping of intent, there is an  
13 imminent, clear, immediate threat of enforcement, because  
14 they think they know what drug paraphernalia is. They have  
15 told us, and threatened us with enforcement. Not others  
16 selling the same merchandise.

17 In those cases, I can't imagine a company that  
18 could have sought a declaratory judgment contemplating a  
19 merger, and so they seek a declaratory judgment holding it  
20 invalid because it would be violative of their right to make  
21 the contemplated merger, in the same way that the hardware  
22 store could not bring a suit, because it had no immediate  
23 threat of harm, no enforcement. It would be, if you will,  
24 no case or controversy.

25 But this is quite difference. And it was in all

1 the cases, in Parma, in Ferndale, in Egan. In each case,  
2 the village has said, this law applies to you. We are going  
3 to arrest you if you do not come into compliance, and we  
4 took our chance. We removed all items in the department or,  
5 as we were told, have the -- sign the police register for  
6 everything, to be sure. That is the type of clarity we were  
7 given. That is the type of standards for compliance and  
8 adjudication. Have them do it for everything, just to be  
9 sure.

10           So we clearly had standing, because the threat was  
11 going to be applied, and it is because of that that we now  
12 have the right to challenge the vagueness, because we have  
13 such an imminent, real threat of enforcement that we may  
14 challenge it based upon our position, pre-enforcement,  
15 whereas in almost all of those situations, I cannot conceive  
16 of one where he could have challenged it pre-enforcement. I  
17 cannot consider, for example, Screws filing a  
18 pre-enforcement act to find that -- violating somebody's  
19 constitutional rights would be an offense prior to the  
20 time. I am contemplating killing this guy, but I want to  
21 know first if that is a violation of his federal rights.  
22 There is no real or imminent threat. He would not have had  
23 standing to bring the action. The court would not have had  
24 a case or controversy.

25           Boyce, could Boyce have said, well, I want to go

1 through Holland Tunnel, maybe I will explode, maybe I won't,  
2 but I want to know if the law, talking about practicable,  
3 and dangerous intersections, is sufficiently clear so that I  
4 do it without risk? He didn't. Instead, he drove through  
5 the tunnel. The third time his truck exploded and 60 people  
6 were injured.

7           QUESTION: Don't you think in Boyce there would  
8 have been standing to litigate a declaratory judgment?

9           MR. PRITZKER: I think that this Court was very  
10 clear, and I believe stressed heavily the fact that Boyce,  
11 the statute in Boyce was the result of heavy industry  
12 participation, and several times in the opening notes,  
13 statement of the case, and in its conclusion, the Court  
14 reiterated again and again the important role that truck  
15 regulations, and that those affected by the statute had in  
16 participating in drafting the subject statute. It was in  
17 fact an industry participated bill.

18           QUESTION: But that wouldn't go to standing to  
19 litigate a declaratory judgment.

20           MR. PRITZKER: No, but they did not choose to.  
21 Instead, they chose to violate the law, and so they violated  
22 it at their own risk. We had standing and yet chose not to  
23 violate the law in order to litigate our federal claims, and  
24 so certainly if Boyce had had standing, then it would have  
25 been a different matter. McGowan, too. McGowan didn't have

1 to stand in violation of the law and sell items in the  
2 department store without going to the beach. If he had had  
3 standing, if there was an imminent threat of enforcement,  
4 and he had otherwise complied, then he perhaps could have  
5 filed in federal court. Perhaps it would have been a  
6 situation where he would have had to litigate his federal  
7 claims in state court, because there was no imminent threat.

8           However, instead he chose to violate the law.  
9 They sold stuff on Sunday, didn't bother to litigate their  
10 federal claims, and didn't bother to go to the beach. And  
11 certainly somebody maybe shouldn't be responsible, or maybe  
12 it's not constitutional to make everybody go to the beach  
13 every Sunday to find out what by virtue of popular demand is  
14 being sold, but he at least should have done it or sue, but  
15 not just flagrantly violate the law and say, well, gee, that  
16 is vague, I didn't know I was supposed to go down to the  
17 beach, when the statute set it out.

18           In the other cases, for example, in the one case  
19 mentioned for display, Danovitz, in the appellate decision  
20 it was clear that as a part of the array, and this is the  
21 only case I am aware of where a marketing case was found a a  
22 part of the array, was alcohol, and it is a bootleg case,  
23 and so when you talk about the bottles and corks that were  
24 present in the Danovitz case, I think it is essential when  
25 you read the Feitler -- Feitler died before its

1 determination so it changed to Danovitz in the Supreme  
2 Court; it was Feitler and Danovitz in the appellate court --  
3 they talked about the fact that alcohol was a part of that  
4 array.

5           So you have the nexus that we talked about in our  
6 brief. This, these laws, all the laws dealing with drug  
7 paraphernalia, as they attempt to define it, are, if you  
8 will, prospective attempts to reach derivative contraband.  
9 It is anticipatory in nature. On the one hand they argue  
10 that there is no such thing as drug paraphernalia per se.  
11 And so intent is necessary to clear vagueness. On the other  
12 hand, they say, there is a \$3 billion business in drug  
13 paraphernalia, and it is specific things, and these things  
14 are drug paraphernalia.

15           QUESTION: If intent is required, why doesn't that  
16 save the statute?

17           MR. PRITZKER: First, I do not concede that intent  
18 is required. In fact, one of the portions of my brief deals  
19 with that fact.

20           QUESTION: Well, let's assume that it is implied.

21           MR. PRITZKER: Because intent does not give a  
22 standard for adjudication or compliance, just as the example  
23 in the Cohn Grocery case, where it shall be unlawful to do  
24 anything to the detriment of society. It still does not --  
25 intent cannot add a standard, does not give somebody notice

1 of what is expected of them.

2           QUESTION: You mean, you think the ordinance would  
3 be invalid if it were interpreted as meaning that somebody  
4 who sells any of these items which he intends be used with  
5 illegal drugs is an invalid ordinance?

6           MR. PRITZKER: The standard for compliance is the  
7 problem, because how is the intent inferred?

8           QUESTION: Like any other kind of intent.

9           QUESTION: Like in Screws.

10          MR. PRITZKER: Well, but again, in Screws, he had  
11 the hard conduct from which to -- from which to argue from.  
12 He could not argue overbreadth where, first of all, his  
13 conduct was such that it clearly was not First Amendment,  
14 and secondly, where in fact his conduct was before the  
15 bench. He also had to argue as a merchant does in his  
16 situation from his own set of facts, and he could not argue  
17 the vagueness in the nature of the conduct. As I said, the  
18 Seventh Circuit talked about the Bence case, conduct  
19 unbecoming a police officer, and said, making it intention,  
20 intentionally committing conduct unbecoming to a police  
21 officer doesn't add any standard for adjudication. As I  
22 said in the -- well, in the Cohn Grocery case, where it says  
23 unlawful to do anything detrimental to the public interest.  
24 Would intent add anything to that? It shall be unlawful to  
25 wilfully, intentionally, knowingly, and any other mens ray

1 that we can hypothecate, to do anything which is not in the  
2 public interest. And you kick a cat. Some people think it  
3 is wrong, some people don't think it is wrong. But what is  
4 the standard for compliance?

5           And assuming that you in your heart think maybe it  
6 was wrong, what is the standard for adjudication? How does  
7 one know if kicking a cat is wrong or not? Again, here,  
8 when you say that it shall be unlawful to sell anything for  
9 -- intentionally, how does one measure it? How does one  
10 enforce it? Suppose that there were standards --

11           QUESTION: Well, that is a separate problem, but  
12 it would certainly seem to affect the vagueness argument.

13           MR. PRITZKER: I submit, Your Honor, it does not.  
14 It may affect the first prong of the vagueness standard,  
15 that is, standards for compliance. I think that it doesn't  
16 affect the second. In the First Circuit decision in Smith  
17 v. Gogan, they talked about conduct which was outwardly  
18 indistinguishable. A person who is a protester, who has  
19 disdain for the flag, holding the flag over his head and  
20 letting it be rained upon. And doing it out of disdain, as  
21 opposed to a Legionnaire filled with grief over having to  
22 let the flag get wet, but committing the same conduct, where  
23 intent or the action -- certainly you are intentionally  
24 holding the flag over your head. Merchants intentionally  
25 offer these things for sale, and that is where the confusion

1 has arisen, because people intentionally hold things out for  
2 sale, as the plaintiff here. We intentionally held things  
3 out for sale. We knowingly held them out for sale. We  
4 denied that they were drug paraphernalia.

5 QUESTION: Mr. Pritzker, would your position also  
6 invalidate the Uniform Drug Paraphernalia bill?

7 MR. PRITZKER: It is the model drug. Uniform  
8 implies a committee of experts as opposed to a  
9 administrative --

10 QUESTION: I don't mean that. The model.

11 MR. PRITZKER: The model itself is such a -- not  
12 such a model. In fact, the agency itself --

13 QUESTION: Where you have to guess.

14 MR. PRITZKER: It is completely different. I  
15 think that consideration of this case does not necessarily  
16 touch upon that case, because I believe that intent is not  
17 an issue here. I believe that the logic of the position may  
18 affect that, but it is not binding. That is, this case is  
19 separate from that case.

20 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Williams.

21 ORAL ARGUMENT OF RICHARD N. WILLIAMS, ESQ.,

22 ON BEHALF OF THE APPELLANTS - REBUTTAL

23 MR. WILLIAMS: Counsel has just mentioned Smith  
24 versus Gogan. That case -- we compare the less stringent  
25 requirements of modern vagueness with cases dealing with

1 purely economic regulation, which I believe this is. In the  
2 two minutes I have left, there are a couple of points I wish  
3 to make. He said, well, you license all milk, but you don't  
4 license all corncob pipes. We didn't say we do. We license  
5 only corncob pipes marketed for use with illegal drugs. And  
6 again, we go back to display.

7           The Chief Justice asked about hypodermic. Many of  
8 the older statutes have this in them from the -- that go  
9 quite a ways back before we got into head shops, and I would  
10 like to leave a citation with the Court in the District of  
11 Columbia hypodermic issue, where they did infer intent in  
12 that particular area. It was 313 Atlantic Second, 876,  
13 Rosser v. U. S., and Justice White was concerned with bong.  
14 Well, the court reporter was as well. The court reporter  
15 didn't know what a bong was, and on Page 52 of the joint  
16 appendix, the testimony of our police officer to show the  
17 presumption that what they sell is being used for illegal  
18 drugs, "Officer, have you come in contact with what is known  
19 as a bong pipe?" It is printed as "bomb". "Yes. Have you  
20 seen persons in the community using the item? Yes. Do you  
21 recall what was used? Yes, generally cannibis," and so on.

22           So, I think that is before you. One other issue  
23 on these mirrors, with the cocaine. I would like to take --  
24 there is nothing wrong with that. That is not  
25 paraphernalia. Judge Layton said it was, but we didn't

1 argue it was, because when you put that up with the things  
2 you sell, it adds to the display and your intent of what you  
3 are doing it for. I think in direct sales if the  
4 manufacturer or the doctor that was buying these loads of  
5 narcotics would have that sign up in his office or his  
6 store, the circumstantial evidence and presumption of what  
7 they were doing would have been much clearer and much  
8 stronger to the court.

9           The last comment I wish to make is from *Casbah v.*  
10 *Thone*, the Eighth Circuit opinion, and it is at 651 Fed  
11 Second at 551, where they said the dealer, on the other  
12 hand, who sells innocuous items when the intent they be used  
13 with drugs is in effect put on notice by the illicit nature  
14 of his activity that he must be careful to conform his  
15 conduct to the law. Even the illicit dealer is not held  
16 legally responsible, as plaintiffs would suggest, for  
17 guessing what is in the mind of the buyer. We are going  
18 right at the retailer. And this is the opinion that seems  
19 to now be adopted by the federal courts' reviewing and the  
20 circuits such as the Eighth and the Tenth in these  
21 particular areas.

22           QUESTION: Would you say it would have some impact  
23 on your case if along with all this paraphernalia they had a  
24 sign reading generally, forget your troubles, escape from  
25 your anxieties, et cetera?

1           MR. WILLIAMS: It depends on where it is  
2 displayed. They sell records, and you can escape listening  
3 to their records. But if they put it with the  
4 paraphernalia --

5           QUESTION: They put it with the paraphernalia.

6           MR. WILLIAMS: -- it adds to it, yes. It just is  
7 one accumulation to --

8           QUESTION: It would aid the inference of intent,  
9 you think.

10          MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. It would be one piece that we  
11 would add to the total display.

12          CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you, gentlemen. The  
13 case is submitted.

14          (Whereupon, at 2:02 o'clock p.m., the case in the  
15 above-entitled matter was submitted.)

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CERTIFICATION

Alderson Reporting Company, Inc. hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcription of electronic sound recording of the oral argument before the Supreme Court of the United States in the matter of:

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES, ET AL.,

v. FLIPSIDE, HOFFMAN ESTATES, INC. #80-1681

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and that these pages constitute the original transcript of the proceedings for the records of the Court.

BY Deene Hammond

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