

# You and Your Dental Health

## Malformations Begin Early! Thumb and Tongue Sucking

By Dr. Leo PX McCallum

Article 1: Oral Habits in Children

Children frequently acquire habits which are temporarily or permanently harmful to the teeth, the bone and gum supporting them. Among these may be mentioned thumb, tongue and finger sucking; tongue thrusting, cheek, lip, and nail biting, mouth breathing, incorrect swallowing and postural habits.



Dr. Leo

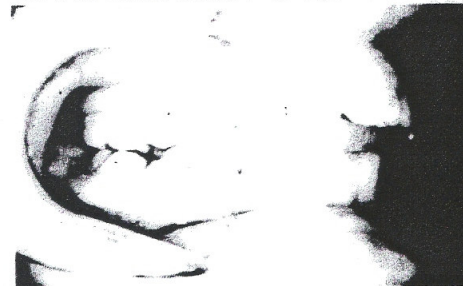
Surprisingly enough many children may have these habits and the parents never even notice—except, possibly, thumbsucking. The habit of thumbsucking may cause considerable concern, annoyance and anxiety to parents when it persists in their child.

To understand thumbsucking or any compulsive sucking we have to know something about the sucking reflex which has a very interesting physiologic and psychological basis. In our forthcoming columns we will discuss these basic reflexes in some detail.

In the meantime, look at the illustrations included herein. One shows the malformation of the teeth due to tongue sucking, another due to lip biting and a third from thumbsucking. If any of these habits are detected and corrected at an early enough age, the incorrect alignment of the teeth may correct itself. All of the illustrated cases had to be corrected by means of special dental appliances.



THUMBSUCKING prevents the teeth from coming together due to the constant insertion of the digital member.



TONGUE SUCKING causes malformation of the teeth. Note that only the last teeth are making contact.



LIP BITING also brings malformation of the growing teeth. Note the space between the two upper teeth.



BLACK MEN do not enjoy the same citizenship and privileges guaranteed white Americans and therefore do not have the same obligations to obey draft laws or pay taxes, replied Karl Von Key (center) and Norman Earl Richmond (right) when the government

asked them why they did not report for induction into the Army. They have filed suit challenging the government's right to subject them to U.S. laws. Helping the youths prepare their petition was Self-Determination Committee president Robert Brock (left).

### Food Prices Still Rising

WASHINGTON — Food prices in America continue to mount as housewives pay 6 to 7 per cent more this year over the record \$60.41 billion grocery bill in the U.S. last year.

IT AVERAGES out to nearly \$1,025 for each family, up 6.6 per cent from 1964 and the biggest jump since 1957.

In its 19th annual consumer expenditure study, Food Topics, a supermarket trade publications, predicts a four per cent price increase during the year, with higher per capita consumption accounting for the rest.

Food prices increased 2.3 per cent in 1965, according to the survey.

Higher meat prices were the principal factor in the 1965 increase, the study said.

Americans spent \$13.7 billion on meat, fish and poultry, compared with \$12.49 billion in 1964.

AS USUAL, since Negroes constitute a large number of fixed-income families, they are hardest hit by the rise in food prices.

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