

No. But you find, once in awhile they have dental troubles. But generally, the younger generation having quite a bit of that trouble with that dental work.

(Do you think a lot of that is "pop"?)

Yeah. A lot of candy. A lot of other things they shouldn't eat or drink, such as that. You know, in the early days, way back in the olden times, the majority of the women, the Indian women, and the men, too, they used a lot of snuff. They always claimed that if you used snuff, you would never have dental trouble. And I know lots of them lived to be a 100 years old or longer, that used snuff, and they didn't have no dental trouble. The only trouble they had was just that their teeth wore out. That was the only trouble they had. They never did complain about their teeth.

(Oh, do you think there's something to that, too?)

Could have been. I know my brother was quite a bit older than I was, and he always says if you dip snuff or chew tobacco, all time, well, you'll never have no trouble with your teeth. No pyorrhea, no wat at all. I didn't I just ignored him and went on. Well, for the last 25 or 30 years, the Indian people, this young generation, complains about their dental trouble problems, more so than they ever have. I guess it's caused from eatin' too much sweet stuff or don't take care of their teeth. Well, lots of them went to these government boarding schools, and they seen that the children always try to take care of their teeth, or anything else that they needed in medical attention. They - the government boarding schools was a lot of help in lot of their problems. But after they got away from there, they forgot everything, about even brushing their teeth.

(So it's mostly with the younger generation, well, say the real young ones and maybe twenty or thirty, that have the dental problems. The older Chickasaws don't have these problems so much.)