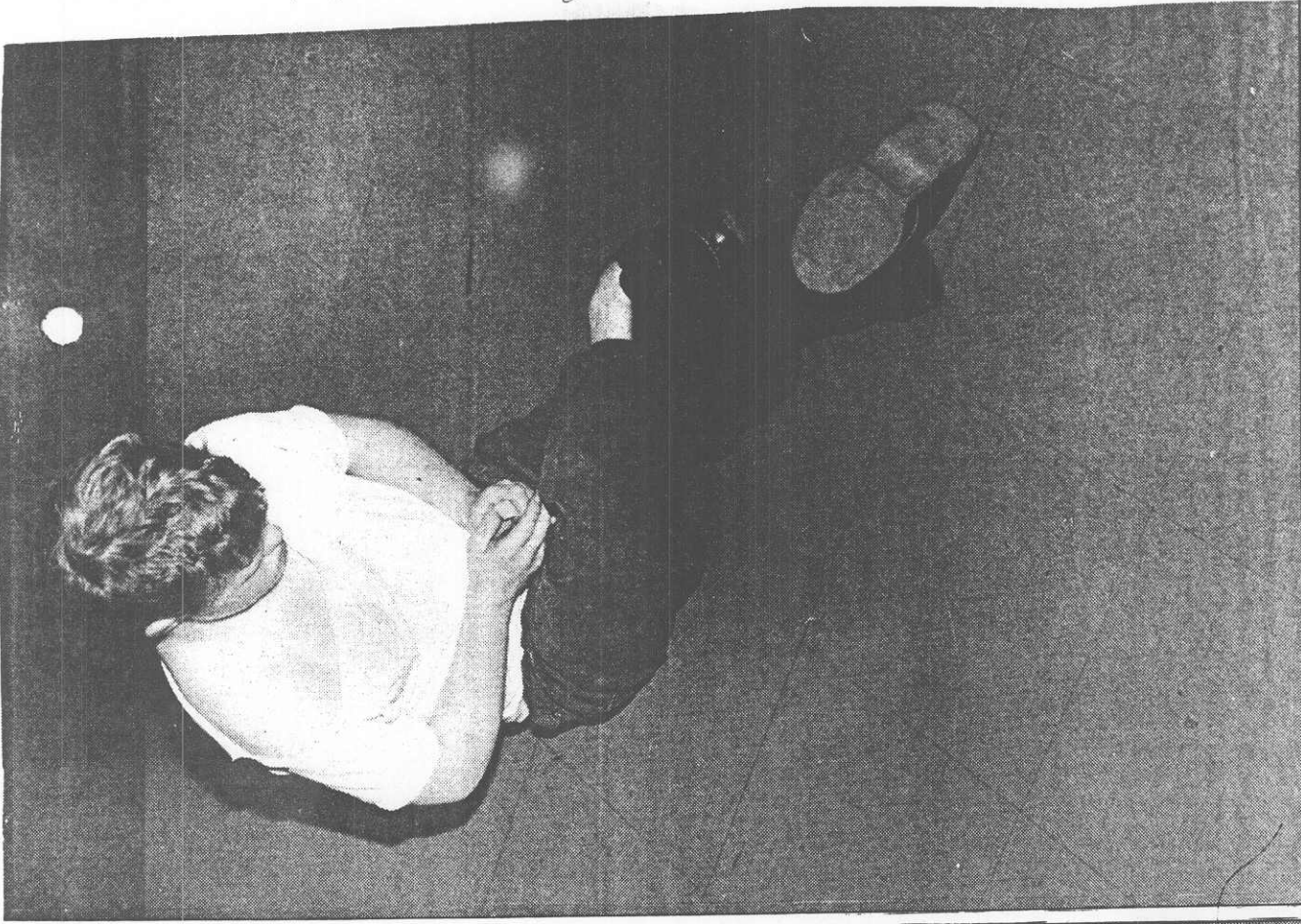


(Continued from Page One) In New York, legal action forced state officials to detail steps which would improve conditions, reduce the population of these institutions, and eventually close them down and place the residents in small, community homes.

Conditions at Willowbrook have improved somewhat. There is less physical abuse of residents, and overcrowding has been reduced by sending residents to other institutions. Yet life is appalling for the mentally retarded whether they remain at Willowbrook or are now at the Glen Oaks, Brooklyn, or Bronx Developmental centers.

In the fall of 1981, the New York Civil Liberties Union and the Legal Aid Society went to court claiming that Willowbrook (now officially called the Staten Island Developmental Center) was still "unsanitary, unsafe, and unhealthy."

NYCLU lawyer Rob Levy took photos at Willowbrook and other local mental institutions to present as evidence in the case. Last week, Federal District Judge John R. Bartels released the photographs at the request of Village Voice attorneys. The trial continues.



A young man (above) sits on the floor at the Brooklyn Developmental Center. Six years after a consent order was signed, many of the former Willowbrook residents have yet to be provided with adequate clothing. At the same center, a young woman (left) lies on the floor while one supervisor sleeps and another watches a soap opera.

