# Montreal police hold child car seat safety clinic

## Police say many parents don't install seats properly

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Montreal Police held a safety clinic in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Thursday, where they demonstrated how to properly install child car seats.

According to police, one half of children in car seats are not securely fastened.

When the seats are installed properly, they are crucial safety tools, said Liane Fransblow, coordinator of the trauma unit at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

"We've seen horrible horrible collisions and the child in the car seat is fine," said Fransblow. "Basically if the child is installed properly in the car seat he should be the safest passenger in the car."

The safety blitz comes just over a week after a three-year-old boy was killed in a car accident in NDG.

Investigators are trying to determine whether he was properly fastened in his seat.

That incident is what prompted parent Samantha Singer to attend the car seat clinic, to ensure her nine-month-old son is safe in her vehicle.

"It just kind of reinforced why you need to have your car seats checked," Singer said.

The Société de l'Assurance Automobile du Quebec (SAAQ) and Transport Canada are urging parents to keep their children in car seats or boosters longer.

'If the child is installed properly in the car seat he should be the safest passenger in the car.'

—Liane Fransblow, Montreal Children's Hospital

Starting in January new seats will be made to carry heavier children, said Montreal police agent Elizabeth Kraska.

"Thus far the norms of a car seat and booster is up to 80 lb., "she said. "Come January, those norms will be changing and going up to 100 lb."

Kraska also said that parents should not to switch from a car seat to a booster too fast.

"Measure your son or daughter from their burn all the way to their head. If your child is below 63 cm your child needs to stay in the booster," she explained.

Parents who want to have their child seat checked can call their local police department.

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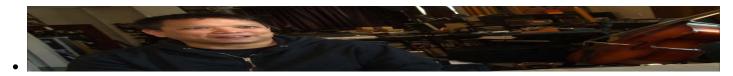
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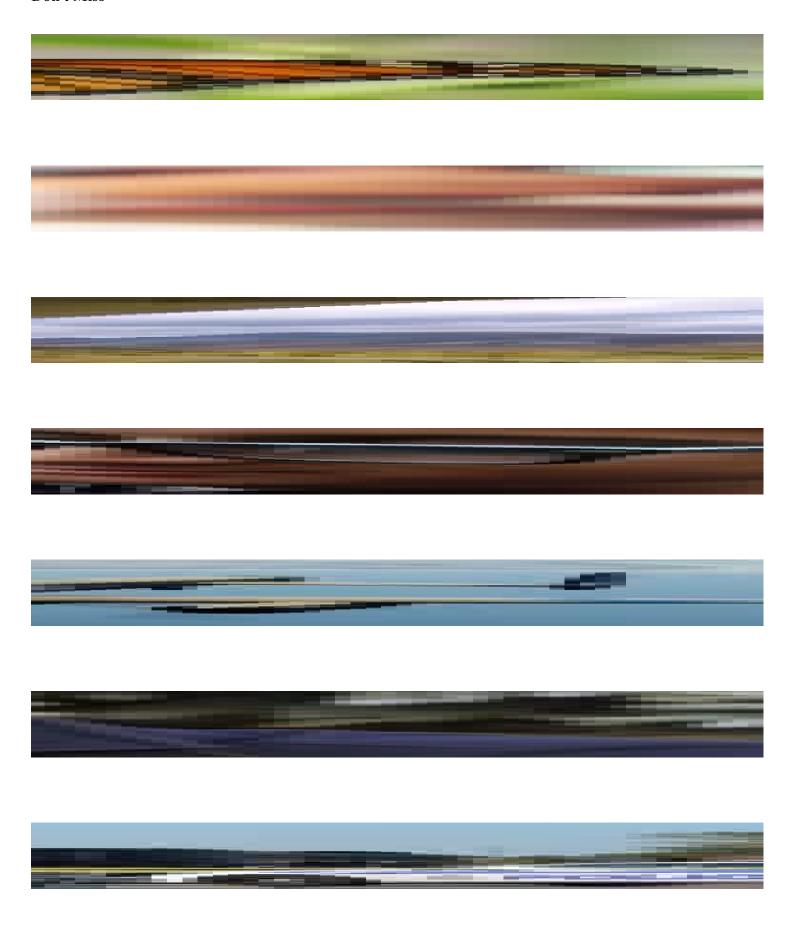
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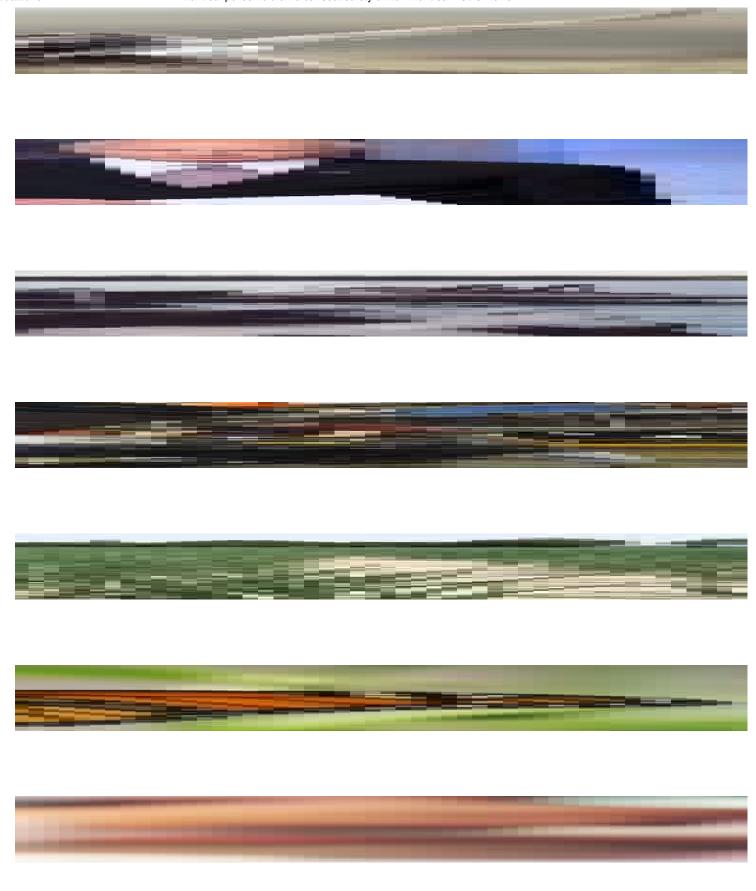
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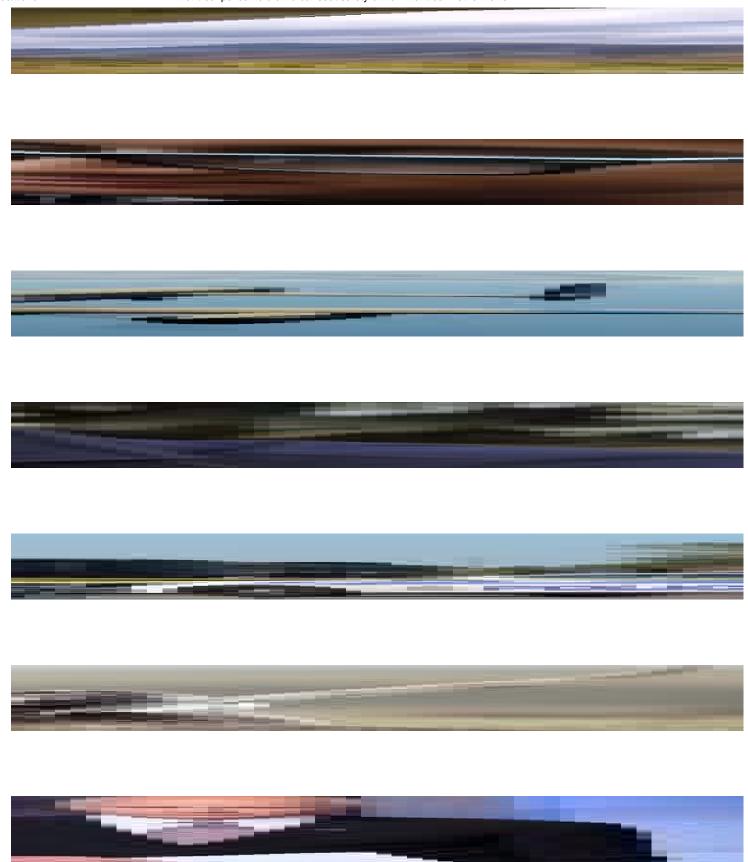
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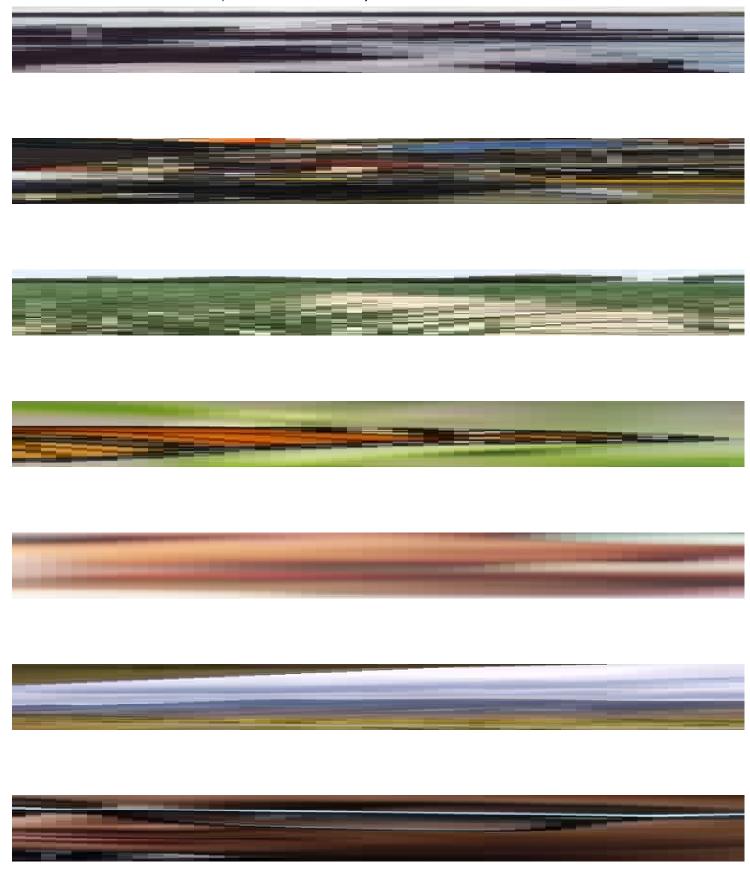


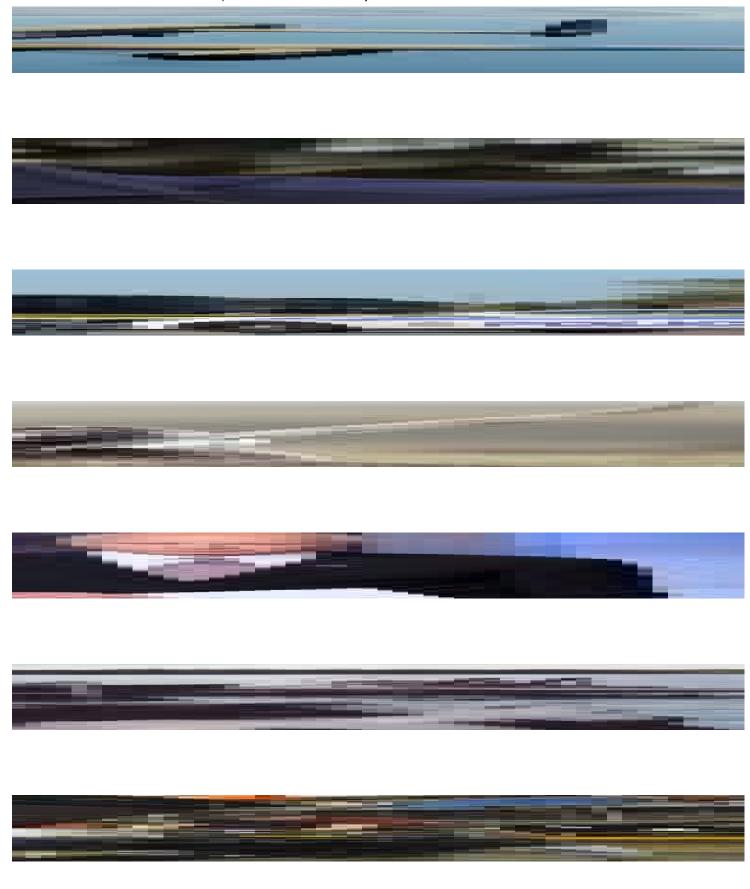
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