

Signs of a Child Who May Have Been or is Being Sexually Abused

Behavior problems—acting out in school or acting out against family members
Getting picked on by older siblings or other children
A child who feels uncomfortable with his/her body
A child who feels uncomfortable with his/her gender
Stealing
Taking apart objects/toys
Isolated/withdrawn
Perfectionist
Violent outbursts against others—breaking things intentionally (windows, doors)
A child who avoids certain people with no explanation
Overly emotional around certain people
A child who does not have many friends
Actively burning, cutting, piercing body parts
Purposely setting things on fire—furniture, objects, buildings
Seizures
Using drugs/alcohol
Suicide ideation/suicide attempts
Torturing or killing animals
Ulcers, stomach problems
Pain in areas of the body— anus, vagina
Raw skin in areas of the body—rectum, vagina
Trouble sleeping
Going to bed very late and waking up very early
Anxiety/fear
Losing control of bowels
Diarrhea
Excessive touching or self-harming of private areas (accidental/intentional)
Excessive eating / under eating— Bulimia, Anorexia
Shifts in personality— Talkative to shy, outgoing to isolated, good student to poor
Purposely showing off private parts of the body without embarrassment
Making sexual noises, groans, grunts
Excessive fear of things (real or imaginary) or certain people
Blood from any body openings
Urinary tract infections, throat infections
Unexplained gagging
Any sexually transmitted diseases