



Indicators of Child Maltreatment

Physical Indicators

Behavioral Indicators

Physical Abuse

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unexplained bruises (in various stages of healing), welts, human bite marks • unexplained burns, especially cigarette burns or immersion burns (glove like) • unexplained fractures, lacerations, or abrasions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-destructive • withdrawn or aggressive-behavioral extremes • uncomfortable with physical contact • arrives at school early or stays late as if afraid to be at home • chronic runaway • complains of soreness or moves with discomfort • wears clothing inappropriate to weather to cover body |
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Physical Neglect

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abandonment • unattended medical needs • consistent lack of supervision • inappropriate dress, poor hygiene, lice • consistent hunger, distended stomach, emaciated | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regularly displays fatigue or listlessness, falls asleep in class • steals food, begs from classmates • reports no caretaker is at home • frequently absent or tardy • self-destructive • school dropout |
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Sexual Abuse

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • torn, stained, or bloody underclothing • pain or itching in genital area • difficulty walking or sitting • bruises or bleeding in external genitalia • venereal disease • frequent urinary or yeast infections | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • withdrawn, chronic depression • excessive seductiveness • role reversal, overly concerned for siblings • poor self-esteem • peer problems, lack of involvement • massive weight change • suicide attempts • hysteria, lack of emotional control • sudden school difficulties • inappropriate sex play or premature understanding of sex • threatened by physical contact, closeness |
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Emotional Abuse

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speech disorders • delayed physical development • substance abuse • ulcers, asthma, severe allergies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • habit disorders (sucking, rocking) • antisocial, destructive • neurotic traits (speech disorders, inhibition of play) • passive or aggressive-behavioral extremes • delinquent behavior • developmentally delayed |
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