

# THE 5 WARNING SIGNS OF GROOMING



## Age Difference

Even a 2-3 year age difference matters. Exploiters will use their age to create a power imbalance as they have access to money, alcohol, and transportation.

Age difference can also be used to normalize unhealthy behaviours.



## Gifting

In grooming relationships, youth are spoiled with things they can not normally afford themselves such as: cell phones, puppies, salon services, drugs, etc. Gifting is done to create a debt down the road or to lure a youth into false promises of a better lifestyle.



## Isolating

Isolation may be physical or emotional. Exploiters may convince a youth that they are not understood by their parents or friends. They may try and limit the time a youth spends with their peers. Exploiters may also try to lure a youth out of their community or home.



## Control

Can be physical, mental, or emotional through requiring secrecy, blackmailing, or withdrawing friendship, gifts, or love.



## Unhealthy Changes

The introduction of the exploiter in a youth's life may cause the youth to skip school, be tired from late nights, party more often, develop a drug addiction, or hang around older peers.



**Exploiters and pimps will pose as boyfriends or friends in order to groom youth. Grooming is a process, and warning signs gradually appear. If you are concerned, reach out to SEE or a safe adult.**