

## **Some Signs of a Possible Sexual Abuse**

Sudden mood swings: rage, fear, insecurity or withdrawal

Leaves “clues” that seem likely to provoke a discussion about sexual issues

Writes, draws, plays or dreams of sexual or frightening images

Develops new or unusual fear of certain people or places

Refuses to talk about a secret shared with an adult or older child

Talks about a new older friend

Suddenly has money, toys or other gifts without reason

Thinks of self or body as repulsive, dirty or bad

Exhibits adult-like sexual behaviors, language and knowledge

Self-injury (cutting, burning)

Inadequate personal hygiene

Drug and alcohol abuse

Sexual promiscuity

Running away from home

Depression, anxiety

Suicide attempts

Fear of intimacy or closeness

Compulsive eating or dieting

Pain, discoloration, bleeding or discharges in private areas of their body