

Conifer Counseling Informational Page

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Signs of Sexual Abuse

If you are a parent of a child, a professional who works with children, or any of the number of people who come in contact with our youth- know how to identify and define Child Sexual Abuse:

Know the signs in children:

- * Sexualized behaviors
- * Injured genital areas
- * Avoidance of physical touch
- * Sudden development of phobias
- * Increased anxiety (e.g., separation anxiety)
- * Reported pain or illness with no known reason
- * Inappropriate knowledge of sex
- * Regression (thumb sucking, bed wetting)
- * Self-harm
- * Depression

Know the types:

Contact abuse

- * Having the child touch the perpetrator in a sexual manner
- * Penetration
- * Touching the child in a sexual manner
- * Having the child touch someone else in a sexual manner
- * Instructing the child on how to touch themselves in a sexual manner
- * Any other situation where the child is used for the purpose of sexual stimulation through physical contact with the child

Non- Contact Abuse

- * Voyeurism (watching the child) or exhibitionism (exposing themselves)
- * Taping or photographing the child in sexual positions or engaged in sexual acts
- * Purposefully engaging in sexual acts in front of the child
- * Exposing the child to pornography
- * Any other situation where the child is used for the purpose of sexual stimulation without contact

If you suspect sexual abuse of a child or disabled adult, please contact the Colorado Child Abuse Hotline at [\(844\)264-5437](tel:8442645437).