### Behavioral Indicators

Some behavioral warning signs of child sexual abuse include:

- Unexplained changes in sleeping patterns; like insomnia or increased sleeping.
- Recurrent nightmares or sudden fear of the dark.
- Crying or complaining for no apparent reason.
- Unexplained fear of adults or certain people and/or increased dependency on a few safe, non-abusing adults.
- Use of explicit language, acting out of sexual behaviors with other children or playthings, and/or creating sexually themed drawings or writings.
- Sudden unexplained drop in grades or skipping of class.
- Not keeping clean or caring about hygiene.
- Overly mature appearance—dressing like an adult or dressing provocatively.
- Indiscriminate sexual activity and seductive behavior.
- Withdrawal from friends, isolation from peers, preference for adult companionship.
- Increased anger, aggressiveness. Moodiness or hostility.
- Poor self-esteem or image.
- Excessive bathing.
- Contemplation of suicide or suicide attempts.

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## PHYSICAL Indicators

Some physical warning signs of child sexual abuse include:

- Bruising or discharge around the mouth, vagina or anus.
- Recurring urinary tract infections or a sexually transmitted disease especially in a young child.
- Wet or soiled bedding.
- Torn or soiled undergarments.
- Rashes, itching, or other signs or trauma in the genital area.
- Unusual odor around the genital area.
- Frequent touching or scratching of the genital area.
- Touching themselves sexually or touching others sexually in public—this especially applies to young children.
- Difficulty walking or sitting.
- Self-abuse where children deliberately inflict pain on themselves.
- Unexplained increase in health-related complaints, such as headaches, vomiting, stomachaches, and other physical complaints.