

Refuses to let a child or teenager set any of their own limits? For example, tells a teenager that only a parent can decide when privacy is allowed in the home, even in the bathroom?

- Insists on hugging, kissing, tickling, wrestling or holding a child even when the child does not want this affection?
- Is overly interested in the sexuality of a particular child or teen, such as talking repeatedly about the child's developing body or interferes with normal teen dating?
- Insists on uninterrupted time alone with a child?
- Talks excessively and/or secretively to a child/teen online?
- Spends most of their spare time with children and has little interest in spending time with people their own age?
- Regularly offers to babysit many different children for free or takes children on overnight outings alone?
- Buys a particular child or teen gifts, takes them on special adventures, or gives them money for no apparent reason?
- Offers alcohol or drugs to teens or kids when other adults are not around?
- Frequently walks in on children/teens in the bathroom?
- Allows children or teens to consistently get away with inappropriate behaviors?
- Often has a "special" child friend, maybe a different one from year to year?
- Spends their spare time on activities involving children or teens, rather than other adults?
- Does not have any close adult friends or just a very few that are kept at a distance?
- Makes fun of a child's body parts, calls a child sexual names such as "stud," "whore," or "slut"?
- Talks again and again about the sexual activities of children or teens?
- Encourages silence and secrets with a child?

Talks about sexual fantasies with children?

Have you ever felt uncomfortable observing someone playing with a child or flirting with a teen? Maybe you thought, "I'm just over-reacting," or "Why is he/she doing that?" or "They don't really mean anything by that." Maybe you even thought that something was wrong with you because you were even thinking that something seemed inappropriate. Don't ignore comments or behaviors that make you uncomfortable and worried.

You do not need to know someone's intention before speaking up. You can talk about someone's behaviors without making accusations, and you can even create a family safety plan without a disclosure

of sexual abuse. You don't need to have "proof" to begin a conversation or intervene in a way that could protect a child before they are harmed.

Trust your feelings, observations and gut. Often your gut instinct is a reaction to something you might have seen or heard but don't have words to describe. If you are seeing something, consider saying or doing something. It may be tempting to put off any action and say that "there is nothing worrisome going on." It's natural to worry that someone you care about will feel "accused" of doing something illegal or harmful, but it is our responsibility as adults to speak up about a questionable behavior or concerning situation involving children's safety.