

**DURING THE COURSE OF YOUR INTERVIEW:
SIGNS SOMETIMES SHOWN BY ABUSED CHILDREN**

Children who are living in an abusive environment may show the following symptoms or chronic behavior patterns:

1. Nausea/ Upset Stomach, Changes in Appetite
2. Crying/ Nightmares
3. Changes in Sleep Patterns
4. Anger and Mood Changes
5. Withdrawal from Others/ Avoidance of School & Friends
6. Clinging to Parents
7. Aggressiveness
8. Lying or Attention Seeking
9. Reversal of Toilet Training/ Loss of Abilities Which Were Mastered at an Earlier Time
10. Self-inflicted Injuries
11. Fears and Phobias
12. Complaints of Pain, Burning, Itching in Private Parts
13. Dressing Inappropriately/ Either in Sexually Provocative Clothing Inappropriate for the Child's Age, or in Many Layers as if Hiding Their Body
14. Age Inappropriate Sexual Knowledge
15. Reports of Displays of Inappropriate Sexual Behavior or Attempts at Sexual Acting Out

The single most important factor which can help a child recover from abuse is the level of SUPPORT and LOVE the child receives from their Primary Caregiver. Reinforce those relationships as best you can.

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