

# Warning Signs of possible Sexual Deviance

- The following are some factors that may make a person more likely to act on their deviant sexual desires and are factors to look out for in a person who may spend a lot of time with children or has been acting strange around children.
- Stress
- Dysfunctional home situations
- Family Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Interpersonal deficits
- Failure of the incest taboo
- Antisocial mores
- Distorted Beliefs

# Common Misconceptions of possible perpetrators

- The following are some distinguishing characteristics that DO NOT make a person more prone to sexual deviance.
- Religion
- Intelligence
- Education
- Occupation
- Social Class
- Race

## Some excuses that sexual predators make for their actions:

- A child who does not physically resist must really want to have sex.
- Having sex with a child is a good way to introduce them to sex education.
- The adult child relationship is enhanced by having sex with young people.

The following are some of the guidelines that doctors are to follow when treating and evaluating a known sex offender as per the Journal of the American Medical Association

- Effort should be made to prevent child sexual abuse before it occurs and to interrupt the abusive pattern in established molesters.
- Doctors must remember that this problem will not just go away and they must constantly be aware and watch if they suspect that a patient is still abusing.
- The doctor must educate the patient on his deviant behavior and familiarize him with treatment programs.
- The doctor must let his patient be aware that he is required to report any suspected abuse to authorities.
- Patient must be taught that his distorted thinking is wrong and be taught how to think clearly.
- The doctor reserves the right to administer any type of treatment he feels is necessary for the success of the patient.

**Treatment of the violator is the next best thing to prevention. Some of the treatments available are as follows:**

- **Drug Treatment:** Medications can be administered to suppress testosterone levels in perpetrators which can drive down the need for sex and aggression. Medications should only be used with regular therapy sessions.
- **Psychotherapy:** This may familiarize the perpetrator to the problems of sexual abuse but is not a very effective treatment.
- **Group Therapy:** Though group therapy was evaluated poorly it is still the most commonly used therapy because it is both cost and time effective. Group therapy is used primarily in hospitals and prisons.
- **Behavioral treatment:** Behavioral treatments emphasizes self observation and monitoring to increase the perpetration awareness of habit activities that could lead to victimizing children. Behavioral treatment has shown to decrease deviant sexual arousal and has also been shown to enhance non-deviant sexual performance.

## BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

1. **Intrusiveness** - It may seem like he doesn't have limits concerning someone else's physical or emotional space.
2. **Need to control** - He may appear to have a strong need to have everything under his control and management. Sense of rigidity and difficulty coping with the unexpected.
3. **Emotional immaturity** - He may seem much like a little boy, he seems to need unlimited love, support and nurturance.
4. **Standards of morals** - He may often have strict sexual morals in which he believes rigidly. Whore/Madonna concept is adhered to. Though he may believe it's OK for men to view pornography and x-rated movies, it definitely is not for women or children.
5. **Sexuality** - He may be quite unskilled in this area, and doesn't understand the nuances of the sexual response pattern. Some are quite demanding often requiring sex on a daily basis. Sex is more for their enjoyment, and they like the feeling of being more powerful than their partner. They are more sexually aroused by children than adult assertive women. Often date very young and immature women, if date at all.
6. **Denial or minimization of details** - He may not report details of incidents without referring to other's behavior and other extraneous factors.
7. **Severe stress reaction** - Overwhelmed by life demands and feeling helpless to control life forces, he has extreme difficulty taking responsibility and perceiving the consequences of his own actions. He may use sex to express non-sexual needs.
8. **Lack of empathy for others** - More concerned with own feelings and clearing self. Less concerned about impact on child or spouse. If angry with spouse, wants revenge no matter how it impacts on children.
9. **Manipulative and "con" men** - Try to take data and twist it so they always look good. Shower investigator with details to "prove" innocence. Explain contradictory evidence with obsessive repetition or ignore and trivialize it.