

INDICATORS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE
 Kingsbridge Heights Community Center (Bronx, NY) - Changing Futures Program
www.khcc-nyc.org

Physical	Behavioral	Emotional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Bruises, bleeding or other physical trauma in genital or rectal area <input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal dilation of the urethral, vaginal or rectal openings <input type="checkbox"/> Itching, inflammation or infection of urethral, vaginal or rectal openings <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of semen <input type="checkbox"/> Trauma to breasts, buttocks, lower abdomen or thighs <input type="checkbox"/> Unusual odors from the vaginal area <input type="checkbox"/> Sexually transmitted diseases <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy, especially when the child refuses to reveal any information about the father of the baby and/or complete denial of the pregnancy by the child and/or her family <input type="checkbox"/> Psychosomatic illness e.g. abdominal pain, nightmares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty in walking or sitting <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual knowledge beyond child's age <input type="checkbox"/> Manipulative or seductive, attention-seeking behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful behavior towards certain individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive masturbatory behavior in small children (masturbation itself is normal behavior in children) <input type="checkbox"/> Eating, sleeping, toileting disturbances <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive crying, irritability, crankiness <input type="checkbox"/> Regressive behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Psychosomatic complaints (stomachaches, headaches, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Problems in school (inability to concentrate) or not wanting to go home <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of friends, withdrawal from others. <input type="checkbox"/> Acting out behaviors (aggression, truancy, running away, stealing, lying, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Promiscuity <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitution <input type="checkbox"/> Self-destructive behaviors (substance abuse, eating disorders, suicide gestures, cutting or burning oneself) <input type="checkbox"/> Alienation from other family members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lots of new fears, clinging behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Depression <input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal feelings <input type="checkbox"/> Self-image problems <input type="checkbox"/> Low self-confidence <input type="checkbox"/> Guilt ("my fault") <input type="checkbox"/> Shame <input type="checkbox"/> Depression <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety <input type="checkbox"/> Mood swings

Note: These are possible indicators of abuse, but displaying some of these indicators does not always mean a child has been abused. Not all children will demonstrate these signs even when they have been abused.