

WARNING SIGNS OF ALCOHOL OR DRUG ABUSE BY TEENS

Sometimes its tough to tell. Most kids won't walk up to someone they're close to and ask for help. In fact, most of the time kids will deny and hide their problems especially when it has to do with substance abuse.



But there are signs that someone is using alcohol and/or drugs:

- Your child begins lying about things, like where they were and who they were with.
- Your child may begin avoiding you and refuse to talk about their lives in any manner.
- Your child becomes very moody or irritable.
- Your child no longer has an interest in things that they previously enjoyed.
- A previously happy child becomes depressed and angry.



One mother said, "It was so hard to tell. I had never had a teenager before and so you don't know if what you are experiencing is normal or not. I just say, ask someone if you don't know—before it's too late."

- Money or other valuables comes up missing with no explanation where it has gone.
- Your child begins hanging out with new friends that they don't bring around or they don't want to introduce to you.
- Your child develops an attitude and refuses to listen to any kind of advice or direction.
- Your child takes an inordinate interest in TV shows, movies or other forms of media where drug and alcohol abuse is glorified.
- You find drug paraphernalia such as pipes, rolling papers, baggies or needles in their room.
- Your child is overly protective of their bedroom and do not want you in it under any circumstances.
- Your child gets extremely lazy and begins staying up really late and sleeping in and/or refusing to go to school.

If you do have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Student Assistance Program. If we don't know the answer, we will direct you to someone who does.

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