

LIES AND LURES OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

This alert list was compiled based upon comments from children in a child abuse treatment program. Children recounted the following behaviors, which accompanied a gradual drift toward sexual exploitation:

The "perpetrator" . . .

- Treated me different from other kids.
- Wanted to spend time alone with me. Made excuses to go places or have others leave.
- Asked me to do things that involved physical contact, like giving him back rubs or washing his back.
- Did things to me that involved physical contact, like giving back rubs, massaging me, wanting to help me wash.
- Accidentally-on-purpose touched my "privates" (for example, brushed against my breasts while wrestling, or rubbed his body against mine).
- Looked at or touched my body and said it was for an "inspection" to see how I was developing.
- Put lotion or ointment on me when mother or others were not around or when there was nothing wrong.
- Accidentally-on-purpose came into my room while I was undressed or into the bathroom while I was in there.
- Did not respect my privacy; came into my room without knocking; did not allow me to close doors to the bedroom or bathroom.
- Asked questions or made accusations about sexual relations between me and my boyfriend.
- Taught me about sex education by showing pornographic pictures, showing his body, or by touching mine.
- Said sexual things about my body or how I dressed.
- Talked to me about the sexual things he has done.
- Told me private things about his wife (or about my mother).
- Told me that I understood him better than anyone else -- that I was special, different from others.
- Treated me like I was grown-up; he liked to act like a kid.
- Gave me special privileges or favors and made me feel obligated.
- Treated me more cruelly than others.
- Would not let me have friends or do things that other kids my age did.
- Came into my bedroom at night.
- Accidentally-on-purpose let his robe come apart or sometimes walked around naked.
- Told me not to tell anyone about what happened.