

SIGNS OF DRUG USE IN TEENS

- Strongly inappropriate overreaction to mild criticism or simple requests.
- Avoids interacting and communicating with parents, withdraws from family activities.
- Disrespect for family rules
- Verbally or physically abusive
- Preoccupation with themselves, less concern for the feelings of others.
- Loss of interest in previously important hobbies, sports, activities.
- Loss of motivation and enthusiasm.
- Lethargy, lack of energy and unmotivated. Conversely, hyperactivity can also be a symptom.
- Loss of ability for self-discipline and assuming responsibility, and organization.
- Change in values, ideals, beliefs.
- Changes in friends, unwillingness to introduce friends to parents or provide phone numbers.
- Secretive phone calls--callers refuse to identify themselves or hang up when parents answer phone.
- Periods of unexplained absence from home, won't tell you where they are going.
- Disappearance of money or items of value from home, handling of money becomes secretive.
- Spending too much time in their bedroom; going immediately to their bedroom when home.
- Sudden, unexplained over reaction, "rages"; mood swings
- Lying
- Finding the following: cigarette rolling papers, pipes, roach clips, small glass vials, plastic baggies, remnants of drugs (seeds, etc.), matches, rolling papers, pipes for drugs that are smoked, multiple pill bottles for substances that are in pill form, mirrors for drugs that are snorted, and needles, syringes, and items that can be used as tourniquets for drugs that are injected.
- Sudden drop in grades
- Truancy
- Smell of drugs (for example. solvent smell of inhalants, marijuana smell)