



EARLY SIGNS OF POSSIBLE DRUG USE BY AN ADOLESCENT

ISOLATION FROM FAMILY: Periods of prolonged isolation from family, including nonproductive seclusion for hours in a bedroom listening to hard rock music resistant to open communication between self and parents.

UNDESIRABLE BEHAVIOR: Untrustworthy, insincerity, Lying, argumentative, anger, blaming others and

EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS: Intense depression or unrest without apparent cause, confusion, progressive irritability, decreased tolerance or frustration. Unempathetic, selfish, cruel behavior in a young person who is normally friendly and caring suggests possible drug use.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS: Repeated disappearance of family or personal possessions or money from the house or family members.

COGNITIVE PROBLEMS: Deterioration of school performance, curtailment of healthy extracurricular activities such as sports, music lessons, hobbies, school clubs, or social groups, frequent truancy and conflict with school authorities.

EVIDENCE OF PROGRESSIVE DRUG USE BY AN ADOLESCENT

LEGAL: Driving while intoxicated, detainment or arrest for possession of drugs, theft, vandalism or breaking and entering.

MEDICAL: Visit to emergency room or physician's office for drug-related accident or illness, suicide attempts or overdoses of illicit drugs by a frequent irresponsible, hedonistic, or intensely mood adolescent.

SCHOOL: Multiple unexcused absences or truancy: "D" or "F" grades, chronic tardiness, intoxicated at school; drugs in his/her locker; dealing in drugs; frequent association with known drug users; drug-related doodling in school notebooks, yearbooks or textbooks.

COMMUNITY: Expression of concern by other adults (parents, teachers, coaches or peers regarding the adolescent's drug usage.

FAMILY: Intoxicated behavior observed by parents or siblings, drugs or drug-related paraphernalia found on adolescent's person or in his/her room or "stash" in house or on cloths; phone conversation or letters in which the adolescent admits to drug use.

HelpPeopleSM
Employee Assistance Program

For more information or help, please call
HelpPeople (315) 470-7447 or 1-800-777-6110.