

# Signs of Abuse and Neglect

**Neglect occurs when parents or caregivers do not provide proper food, clothing, shelter, supervision, medical care, and education for healthy development.**

**Physical signs may include:**

- Poor hygiene
- Inappropriate or ill-fitting clothes
- Obvious lack of necessary

**Behavioral signs may include:**

- Chronic hunger and sleepiness
- Clinging behavior
- Frequent complaints of feeling ill

**Physical abuse is non-accidental injury of a child by a parent or caretaker.**

**Physical signs may include :**

- Bruises, welts, swelling
- Sprains or broken bones
- Burns
- Lacerations or abrasions
- Bite marks

**Behavioral signs may include:**

- Attempts to hide injuries
- Difficulty sitting or walking
- Wariness of physical contact
- Reluctance to go home
- Fear of parent(s) or caregiver(s)

**Sexual abuse is exploitation of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or older child.**

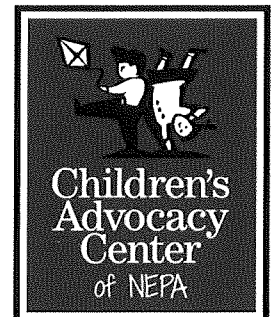
**Physical signs may include:**

- Torn, stained or bloody clothing
- Genital pain or itching
- Sexually transmitted diseases

**Behavioral signs may include:**

- Difficulty sitting or walking
- Precocious sexual behavior
- Self-mutilation

**To report suspected child abuse  
or neglect call Child line:  
1-800-932-0313**



**A Child Abuse  
Intervention Center**