



DO YOU KNOW THE SIGNS OF AN ABUSER?

90%+

Over 90% of sexual abuse is committed by someone who is known to the child and/or the child's family.

Sexual "grooming" is how an abuser gains access to a child.

Grooming is the action or behavior used to establish an emotional connection with a minor, and sometimes the child's family, to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse. It can occur in various settings, including online, in-person, and through other means of communication. Children who are groomed may experience mental health issues including anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress, and suicidal thoughts.

RECOGNIZE THE RED FLAGS:



Prefers the company of children over adults



Goes overboard with physical touching



Encourages youth to break their parents' rules



Takes photos of minors for no apparent reason



Sends personal messages to youth



Showers a child with gifts or special attention



Goes out of their way to have alone-time with a child



Shows preference for a particular child



Tries to meet up with a child outside of scout meetings



Provides alcohol, pornography or drugs to minors

STAY ALERT AND BE VIGILANT!