

# 5 Warning Signs of Grooming into Sexual Exploitation



## 1 Age Difference

Even a 2-3 year age difference can create a power imbalance. An older person may have access to ID for alcohol, a drivers license for transportation, money, or the ability to normalize exploitative behaviours as normal for an older age group.



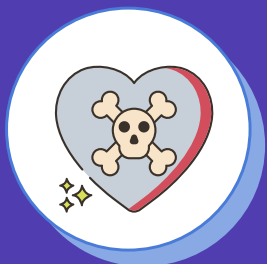
## 2 Gifting

Being provided with items you can not afford for yourself is what we refer to as "gifting". This is a subtle tactic used to build a debt that is revealed later. Gifting can look like free alcohol at parties, technology, money, or beauty treatments. Gifting also creates the illusion of an alluring lifestyle.



## 3 Isolating

Isolating can be physical or emotional. It can look like asking you to move out of your family home, offering to pay for your transportation, making statements that would cause you to feel friction with your family or friends, or speaking poorly about your family or friends.



## 4 Unhealthy Changes

A positive and healthy relationship will bring out the best in you, but when it comes to an exploitative relationship, you may find yourself losing your friendships, attending more parties with alcohol and drugs, dropping your grades or skipping classes.



## 5 Control

Control can be physical, mental, or emotional. It can involve blackmail, guilt, withdrawing love and affection, or threats. It can also look like coercion, which involves being persuaded even after you have said "no" to something.