

Do You Know the Signs of Elder Abuse?



[Elder abuse](#) is one of the most seldom talked about forms of criminal abuse that exists today, mainly because it often goes undetected. We hear stories of child abuse, spousal abuse, and even animal abuse far more than we hear about elder abuse, in part because it is one of the most difficult forms of abuse to spot.

You might have elderly parents who could be enduring abuse without you even knowing it, or you could someday find yourself a victim of elder abuse. Here are some warning signs and symptoms to look out for to make sure one of your loved ones is not being abused, neglected, or [taken advantage](#) of due to their age or circumstances. Use this checklist and [help](#) someone today. Elder abuse is against the [law](#) and we need to protect one another.

Elderly Abuse Checklist

Sign or Symptom to Consider	True	False
Unexplained burns, cuts, bruises, and bleeding.		
Injuries that happen over and over including sprained or broken bones.		
Changes in behaviour that are not explainable.		
Depression, confusion and lost of interest in things.		
Sudden weight loss and/or no appetite.		
Unexplained accidents.		
Feelings of fear or anxiety.		
Currently experiencing unsanitary living conditions: dirt, bugs, soiled bedding and clothes.		
Unusual financial activity or negative change in finances.		

* See how you or your loved one rates. If you answered True to any of these, you may need to consider that abuse is happening. Talk to a professional or local police department and seek support.