

# #5 TERRORIZING

- making child feel excessively guilty
- behaving chaotically to frighten child
- punishing child by playing on normal childhood fears
- using bizarre means of discipline
- laughing/ridiculing child when frightened or putting child down for expressing normal fears
- threatening/continually threatening suicide/abandonment
- refusing to comfort infant in distress
- knowingly allowing child to be involved in or view violent behavior
- threatening/frightening child w guns, knives, whips, etc.
- disciplining child inconsistently/capriciously
- routinely engaging in fights/frightening behavior in front of child

# #6 CORRUPTING EXPLOITING

encouraging & reinforcing destructive, antisocial behavior until the child is so impaired in socioemotional development that interaction in normal environments isn't possible  
\*using child as a spy

# #7 OVERPRESSURING

using subtle but consistent pressure on child to grow up quickly & achieve too early in areas of academics, physical, motor skills, social interactions, leaving child feeling never good enough

# #8 OVEREXPOSING

child to domestic/community violence & other behaviors that prevent children's personal safety

# PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

- ✓ Acts of commission
- ✓ Acts of omission
- ✓ Presence of hostile behavior
- ✓ Absence of positive parenting techniques

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# #1 IGNORING

Failing to...

- respond to child's needs
- stimulate the child in an appropriate manner
- look at the child or call the child by name
- attach/bond to child
- recognize child's presence
- show affection for child
- be psychologically available on consistent basis

# #4 VERBALLY ASSAULTING

constant name-calling, harsh threats & sarcastic put-downs that continually beat down child's self-esteem w humiliation

# #2 REJECTING

- belittling/ridiculing
- purposefully & continually embarrassing child
- singling child out for criticism/punishment
- failing to allow child to develop autonomy/independence
- undermining child's attachment w others
- routinely rejecting child's ideas
- calling child names i.e. dumb, stupid, freak, nerd
- routinely putting child down publicly & privately
- inappropriately attributing undesirable characteristics to the child
- continuing to treat adolescent as young
- denying child needs/making child meet his/her own needs
- refusing access to needed psychological/medical/educational services

# #3 ISOLATING

- disallowing child to participate in normal family routine
- disallowing child normal contact w peers
- physically separating child fm family unit
- disallowing child to participate in social aspects of school
- routinely teaching child to avoid and distrust peers
- locking child in room, basement, attic
- punishing requests for interaction w family or others
- binding or gagging child to prevent interaction
- refusing to allow child contact w noncustodial parent, grandparent, siblings without justifiable reason
- hiding child from outside world