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## WARNING SIGNS OF AN ABUSER



### **Intensity: “Too much, too soon”**

- Pushes for a quick relationship; wants to move in together or marry soon after meeting
- “Sweeps you off your feet” with expensive gifts, constant messaging and calling, and wants to be with you all the time
- Uses conversation that is inappropriately intimate

### **Power and Control**

- Jealousy (it is not a sign of love but of possession)
- Demands your undivided attention, even at inappropriate times
- Doesn't want you to spend time with your friends or family
- Invades your personal space by sitting or standing uncomfortably close, touching you constantly or in ways that make you uncomfortable
- Refuses to take responsibility for his own behavior or mistakes, blaming you and/or others when something goes wrong
- Wants to be in control and make all the decisions

### **Sexual Entitlement**

- Sexualizes non-sexual situations and relationships (e.g., in the workplace)
- Makes inappropriate comments about people's bodies or sexuality
- Pushes you to have sex when you don't want to; makes you feel guilty when you refuse sex
- Wants you to have sex in a way that makes you uncomfortable or is painful
- “Playful” use of force during sex
- Believes in male superiority over women; believes in rigid gender roles

### **Anger and Hostility**

- Becomes angry easily and quickly
- Does not tolerate frustration or disappointment well
- Teases animals, children or other adults in a mean or physical way and doesn't stop when asked; may be cruel to animals
- Yells, calls you names or belittles you
- Looks at you or acts in ways that intimidate you
- Gets into physical fights with other people
- Drives in a dangerously aggressive way

