

Running Away: The Warning Signs

There are warning signs that may indicate that your child may be thinking about running away from home. Pay attention to these behavior changes:

1. Your child talks about running away, running away with friends, or discusses friends who have run away.
2. Your child begins to withdraw more and becomes isolated from family and friends.
3. There is a sudden and abnormal change in mood or behavior, including depression or anxiety.
4. There is a recent family crisis that can trigger feelings from which a child may want to escape, including divorce, remarriage, alcoholism, drug abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and incarceration.
5. Rebellious behavior and rule breaking increases.
6. Your child begins having problems in school, including truancy, a lack of interest in school work, and a sudden drop in grades.
7. Your child begins to accumulate money and possessions.



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