

# FACT SHEET:

## THE 10 CRITICAL WARNING SIGNS OF VIOLENCE

Tragically, in four out of five school shootings, at least one other person had knowledge of the attacker's plan, but failed to report it.\* Below is a list of 10 potential warning signs that can signal an individual may be in crisis or need help. Knowing these signs and alerting the proper authorities could mean a crisis is averted. **It's always ok** to talk to a teacher, school counselor, or principal if you or your child have a concern.

1. Suddenly **withdrawing** from friends, family and activities (*including online or via social media*)
2. **Bullying**, especially when focused on **people of different races, religions, genders or sexual orientations**
3. **Becoming** very angry quickly or lacking patience
4. Experiencing **chronic loneliness or social isolation**
5. Expressing **persistent thoughts of harming** themselves or someone else
6. Making **direct threats** toward a place, another person, or themselves
7. Bragging about **access to guns** and weapons
8. Recruiting accomplices or audiences for an **attack**
9. Directly **expressing a threat** as a plan
10. **Showing cruelty** towards animals

\* Source: Sandy Hook Promise.

### RESOURCES

**Averting Targeted School Violence 2021: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Plots Against Schools.** U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This study looked at 67 plots against K-12 schools that were averted, from 2006-2018. The key findings show that individuals considering violence often show observable behaviors—and when community members recognize and report them, the next tragedy can be averted.

Guiding Principles for Threat Assessment. Sandy Hook Promise. Does your school have a procedure or safety plan in place? If not, you can encourage them to implement one. These plans commonly include steps you can take to address the physical and behavioral components of keeping children safe. This document can help you.

### WHAT ELSE YOU CAN DO TO HELP

<Add school name> has initiated a Lock Up Safety fundraising for a Code Red Guard door-locking system to help make our classrooms safer. For more information <add details>.

**CODEREDGUARD.COM**

 **LOCK UP  
SAFETY**  
BY CODE RED GUARD