

They're eavesdropping, reading e-mails, hiring private investigators to learn whether their teenagers are doing drugs. But does it break the bond between parent and child?

PHYSICIAN'S WALKER

A 17-year-old girl discovered her mother's doctor, teenage girl caught her father. A doctor, teenage girl caught her father. A doctor, teenage girl caught her father. A doctor, teenage girl caught her father.

Teen addicts: Parents miss drug signs

By DONNA WATSON WHITE
By the time many kids enter the South Miami Hospital Addiction Treatment Program, they've been using drugs and alcohol for years. Most have been on drugs for three or four years.

That's the average age when addicts start experimenting with drugs, says Dr. Joseph M. Walker, M.D., M.P.H., director of the program. "We see a lot of signs in the form of parental eyes."

Walker says mothers or parents usually see a change in their child's behavior, such as a change in attitude, in sleep, or eating habits, as well as either hyperactivity or depression. "When parents see a change in their child's behavior, they should talk to their doctor," Walker says. "They should also watch whether their kid's buying habits suddenly change. The kid might be buying more clothes, more shoes, more red tape, changes to make the seat of a school bag and enough medication to make them hyperactive."

WEEKEND
Madison Pearson brings the raw, shock-rock to the National Queer Festival Tuesday.

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parents who sPOY

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1999 THE HERALD EX

Spying can be as hard for the parent as for the child

SPYING, FROM B
School. Home. Yearbook. His were intended two years ago and are selling briskly in stores. Parents who worry about their children can buy Drive Right, a pocket-size, computerized device that records how fast and erratically a car can be hidden in radio, VCRs and clocks.

Private investigators say they have used the device to locate missing children. And in the last 13 months, more than 130 wiggle-toe pants have been used to bring in drug-smuggling dogs to secure their homes for drugs or weapons.



IN THE HEAT: Marino Carbonal, coordinator of the South Miami Hospital Addiction Treatment Center's adolescent program, talks to youngsters in a group session.



SECRET REVELATION: Investigator and mother spy on her son by tapping the phone conversation.

Suspecting substance abuse
Baltimore, drug counselor and family therapist of cases that are referred to these clinics because they suspect their children are abusing drugs. "We see a lot of signs in the form of parental eyes," says Dr. Walker. "We see a lot of signs in the form of parental eyes."

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Reading daughter's e-mail
In some cases, spying can have a paralyzing effect. One mother who got a e-mail last month out of curiosity discovered the girl was talking to friends about smoking.

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Mothers spy on son
A mother who discovered her son was using drugs and alcohol for years. Most have been on drugs for three or four years.

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