

5. I remember young boys in my high school often times talking about how they had oppositional defiant disorder. They all just said, "it's because I don't like to be told what to do." They would always try to convince me that it wasn't because they were rude to other people, in fact two of them really pushed that ODD made them more protective and better friends, because they would be there for their friends even if their parents tried to stop them. Clearly, not the most sound thinking, and it screamed of red flags, even to my 15 year old self. Oppositional defiant disorder is more common in boys and tends to be diagnosed due to repetitive arguments with adults and can be coupled with anger or resentment. Several of the young men that came into shelter had ODD, but seemed relatively aware and would often apologize to staff after an outburst.

Children with conduct disorder are of much greater concern, due to the fact that many young individuals diagnosed with conduct disorder are violating the basic human rights of others. These acts of violence and aggression are often displayed towards animals, property destruction, fire setting, theft, or breaking and entering. These types of crimes and offenses often escalate into much more serious crimes as these young people age. In bad cases individuals might be more prone to rape, and in rare cases, homicide.