

UNETHICAL BEHAVIOURS IN FAMILIES

Unethical behaviour can be defined as actions that are considered unacceptable. It **manifests in various** ways, causing emotional, psychological, and physical harm. They include:

1. FAVOURITISM OR UNFAIR TREATMENT

When parents or guardians show **preferential treatment** toward one child over another, it can create feelings of resentment and inequality. This leads to emotional neglect or division among siblings.

2. EMOTIONAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

Parents or family members who **manipulate, gaslight, or emotionally control** others are engaging in unethical behaviour. This can lead to a toxic environment that harms a person's mental health.

3. NEGLECT

Failing to **provide necessary care, love, and support** to family members, especially children, constitutes neglect. This can include ignoring emotional needs, failing to provide for physical needs.

4. PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE

Any form of **physical violence or sexual exploitation** within a family is a severe ethical violation. It causes lasting trauma and damages family trust and safety.

5. FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

When one family member **exploits another financially**—such as stealing money, using resources without permission, or coercing someone to hand over assets

6. LACK OF PRIVACY AND AUTONOMY

Unreasonably intruding into a family member's personal life, dictating their decisions (e.g., whom to marry or what career to pursue), or violating their privacy and autonomy,

7. DISHONESTY AND SECRECY

Lying, hiding important information, or being deceptive within the family undermines trust. This includes hiding major decisions, such as finances or personal issues, from other family members.

8. SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Abusing alcohol, drugs, can lead to unethical behaviour, such as neglecting responsibilities, creating a dangerous environment, or engaging in harmful behaviours that affect the whole family.

9. COERCION AND MANIPULATION

Using **guilt, threats, or manipulation** to control family members, whether it's for personal gain is an unethical practice. This forces a family member into certain life choices.

Addressing the above unethical issues requires **open communication, counselling,** and in severe cases, **legal or professional** intervention to restore a healthy family dynamic.