

## Interpreting the behaviour of individuals affected by FASD— What Youth Court professionals need to know

The following advice was produced by the Police Service, Edmonton Canada.

What we SEE	What we THINK	What's REALLY GOING ON
<b>NON-COMPLIANCE</b> (eg. Not obeying rules, trying to make me mad)	Resistant and controlling Attention seeking Stubborn Manipulative	Difficulty translating verbal directions into actions Does not understand Slow cognitive pace Unable to remember, over-stimulated
<b>REPEATEDLY MAKING THE SAME MISTAKES</b> (eg. A repeat offender)	Doing it on purpose Manipulative Impulsive	Cannot link cause to effect Cannot see similarities Difficulty generalizing from one event to another Has difficulty remembering
<b>OFTEN LATE</b>	Lazy, slow Poor parenting Doing it on purpose	Cannot understand the abstract concept of time Tries hard, exhausted or can't start, needs assistance getting organised and remembering
<b>NOT SITTING STILL</b>	Seeking attention Bothering others / resisting Doing it on purpose	Neurologically-based need to move while learning Sensory overload Doesn't understand, has difficulty in paying attention
<b>POOR SOCIAL JUDGEMENT</b>	Takes the blame Poor parenting Abused child Doing it on purpose Uncaring Untruthful	Easily led by others Not able to interpret social cues or know what to do in social settings Impulsive—unable to perceive consequences of their actions Fills in the blanks An adult with FASD may be articulate but have the functional capacities and judgement of an average 8 year old
<b>OVERLY PHYSICAL</b>	Uncomfortable body language Inappropriate sexual behaviour	Does not understand social cues regarding boundaries Hyper—or Hypo-sensitive to touch (feels things to much or not enough)