

Stalking and Sexual Violence

Stalking

A pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

Context

- Can you threaten someone without using any threatening words?
- Can non-criminal acts be stalking?

Context is critical!

Prevalence of Stalking


3.4 million people stalked annually

- Persons aged 18-24 experienced the highest rates of stalking victimization
- Nearly half experienced at least 1 unwanted contact per week


— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)


Gender of Stalking Victim

Females are nearly **3 times** more likely to experience stalking than males



7 per 1000 males age 18 and over





20 per 1000 females age 18 and over

Victims and Offenders

- Nearly 75% of victims know their offender in some capacity
 - 22% - former intimate
 - 16% - friend, roommate, or neighbor
- Nearly 1/10th of all victims were stalked by a stranger

— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Impact on Victims

- Afraid of:
 - 46% not knowing what would happen next
 - 29% behavior would never stop
 - 9% death
- 1 in 8 of employed victims lost time from work
 - More than half lost 5 days or more

– Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Stalkers



Profiles

THERE ARE NO DEFINITIVE
PROFILES OF STALKERS!

Stalker Typologies

- Multiple typologies – ranging from 3 to 12
- Can be helpful, but are only general classifications
- Individual stalkers may not precisely fit any single category, and often exhibit characteristics associated with more than one category
 - Simple obsessional
 - Love
 - Erotomania
 - False victimization syndrome
 - Intimate
 - Nonintimate
 - o Organized
 - o Delusional

Demographics

Criminal History:

- 27% had no priors
- 33% had prior adult violent criminal history
- 19% had prior adult non-violent criminal record

The RECON Typology of Stalking, Mohandie et al (2006)

Demographics

- 46% of offenders had a clear or probable DSM-IV-TR diagnosis at time of stalking; 30% had none
- Substance abuse present in 32% of cases
- Suicidal ideation present in 25% of cases

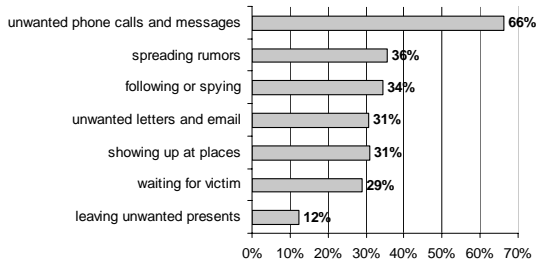
The RECON Typology of Stalking, Mohandie et al (2006)

Pattern of Behavior

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victim at least once per week
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach
- Weapons used to harm or threaten victims in about 20% of cases

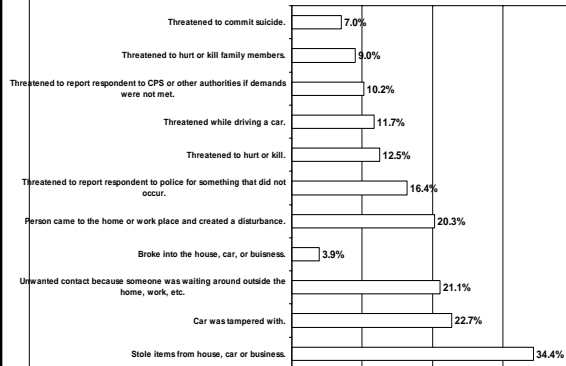
- The RECON Typology of Stalking
 - The RECON Typology of Stalking (2006)

Stalking Behaviors

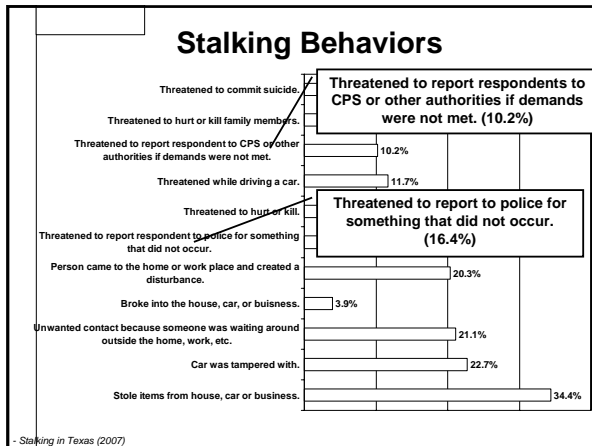


- Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Stalking Behaviors



- Stalking in Texas (2007)



Use of Technology to Stalk

More than 1 in 4 victims reported some form of technology used

- 83% email
- 35% instant messaging (IM)
- 7% electronic monitoring of some kind

Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Why do they stalk?

- Seeking Affection
- Rejection
- Obsession
- Power & Control
- Sexual Gratification
- Planning to commit a crime
- Because they can





Address: http://www.goffmouth.org/news/stalking.html

Wendy's Stalking Techniques:

How to pursue the guy you adore but are unable to deal with on an adult level

Note: This article is a big fat joke. If you are really stalking someone in a creepy and crazy way, you should stop.

- 1. Find out where he works.**

If he works in a store or food place, shop or eat there regularly. If you're lucky, he might wait on you. Try to get as much interaction out of him as you can. For example, if he comes to your table to check on how things are, ask for a refill of coffee or iced tea. This will force him to come back to your table.

If he doesn't work in a store, you can still stalk him. Receptionists are notorious for leaking information. For example, if you don't know his last name, call and ask for him by his first name. The receptionist will most likely ask for his last name. Pretend that you can't remember his last name and act really embarrassed about it. She will most likely sympathize and tell you. Extra bonus: the receptionist might connect you to his extension and you'll get to hear him say, "Hi. This is Josh," before you hang up really fast.
- 2. Drive by the place he lives.**

When I was a sophomore in high school, my friend Gretchen and I had a route that we drove daily that passed the houses of all the boys we liked - Chris Toupe, Geoff Henderson, and John Livingston. John Livingston is an actor now, appearing as Walter in the fine film "Mr. Wrong". At night, drive by very slowly. Sometimes a curtain will be carelessly left open and you can peek in the living room. If you can walk by his house, that's even better. You never know when he'll be outside playing basketball and you'll be able to strike up a conversation. It is very important that you be subtle about this house thing. You must always have a plausible excuse for being in his presence because you don't want to look psycho -- this ruins all your chances with Mr. Wonderful.

The Route
- 3. Try to obtain objects he owns.**

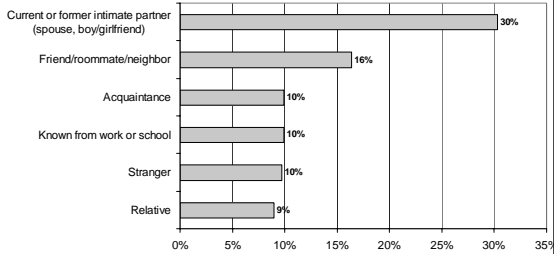
Done Internet







Relationship Between Victim and Offender

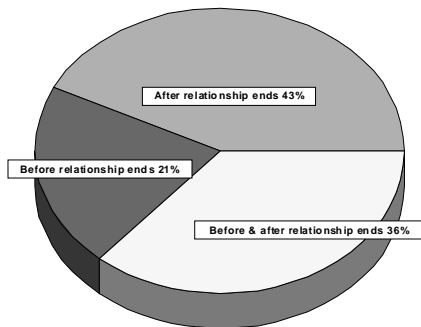


— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

81% of stalking victims who were stalked by an intimate partner reported that they had also been physically assaulted by that partner.

— National Violence Against Women Survey (1998)

Point in Intimate Relationship When Stalking of Women Occurs



Intimate Partner Stalkers: Increased Risk for Victims

- More likely to physically approach victim
- More insulting, interfering and threatening
- More likely to use weapons
- Behaviors more likely to escalate quickly
- More likely to re-offend

- The RECON Typology of Stalking (2006)

Stalking Violence

36% of women stalked by former romantic partners experienced stalking violence

- any physical attack on the victim by the stalker that resulted in physical injury to the victim or that was interpreted by the victim as being intended to result in physical injury

- Women's Experience of Violence During Stalking by Former Romantic Partners (2005)

Stalking Violence

- Greatest risk of violence is when the stalker:
 - issued direct threats of violence
 - was jealous of the victim's relationships with others during the relationship
 - user of illegal drugs
- Where there is evidence of the presence of all of these factors, the risk of stalking violence is heightened.

- Women's Experience of Violence During Stalking by Former Romantic Partners (2005)

Lethality

- 76% of femicide cases involved at least one episode of stalking within 12 months prior to the murder.
- 85% of attempted femicide cases involved at least one episode of stalking within 12 months prior to the attempted murder.

- Femicide Study (1999)

Lethality

- 67% of femicide victims had been physically abused by their intimate partner in the 12 months before the murder.
 - 89% of those victims had also been stalked in the 12 months before the murder.

- Femicide Study (1999)

Physical Abuse
+ Stalking
= Higher indicator of lethality
than either behavior alone

The Intersection of Stalking and Sexual Assault



Prevalence of Sexual Assault

- Almost 18%, or 17.7 million women, in the United States have been victims of rape or attempted rape sometime in their lives.

- National Violence Against Women Survey (1998)

- In a 2005 survey of 600 women and men, ages 16-24, six in 10 say that they know a woman who has been sexually assaulted.

- Anti-Violence Youth and Young Adult Survey (2005)

- An estimated 248,300 individuals were raped or sexually assaulted in 2007

- The National Crime Victimization Survey (2007)

Stalking and Sexual Assault

- 2% of stalking victims were raped/sexually assaulted by their stalker

- Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

- 31% of women stalked by her intimate partner were also sexually assaulted by that partner

- National Violence Against Women Survey, Tjaden & Thoennes (1998)

Stalking and Sexual Assault on Campus

- In 10.3% of campus stalking incidents, the victim reported that the stalker forced or attempted sexual contact
- National Sexual Victimization of College Women (2000)
- 3/4 of women who experienced stalking-related behaviors experienced other forms of victimization (sexual, physical, or both)
 - Stalking and rape/sexual assault only 26%
 - Stalking, physical and rape/sexual assault 11%- Stalking acknowledgement and reporting among college women experiencing intrusive behaviors (2007)

Premeditation and Stalking

- What does premeditate mean?
- How might someone premeditate a sexual assault?
- Can premeditation = stalking?

“Nondomestic Organized Stalker”

Case example from *A Typology of Interpersonal Stalking*; Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Vol. 11, No. 4, December 1996.

- Journal article discusses what they call the **nondomestic organized stalker**.
- Victim is unlikely to know she is being stalked by this person until stalker chooses to let her know.

“Nondomestic Organized Stalker”

- A man who was stalking a woman was arrested outside her apartment after she observed him & called police.
- Woman recently found her bathing suit taped to windshield of her car.
- On another occasion, she found some of her undergarments draped on the car’s mirror.
- 1 week prior to the arrest, the victim found cartridge casings from a handgun taped to her car’s window.

“Nondomestic Organized Stalker”

- Stalker was found sitting in his car less than 100 yards from victim’s apartment.
- He was carrying:
 - Knife
 - Key to woman’s apartment

“Nondomestic Organized Stalker”

In his car they also found:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| – .22 caliber pistol & ammunition | – Rubber gloves |
| – Stun gun | – Cotton gloves |
| – Mace | – Stocking mask |
| – Camera & film | – Large nylon bag |
| – 2 sets of binoculars | – Bag w/ change of clothing |
| – 2 tape recorders | – Several condoms |
| – 2 flashlights | – Book of nude pictures |
| – Pictures of victim’s apartment & car | – Gun cleaning kit |
| | – Cooler filled with ice & beer |

“Nondomestic Organized Stalker”

- Months prior to this incident the offender was acquitted of burglarizing the woman’s home.
- What do you think he was planning to do?
- Is “nondomestic organized stalker” another way of saying *rapist*?

What kind of rape do you have to commit to end up in a place like this?



Common Societal Beliefs About Rapists?



- Ski mask
- Knife
- Blitz attack
- Brutal injuries
- Strangers

FBI Research

- Interviews with convicted rapists in prison
- General pattern for rape:
 - Targeted women
 - Watched them over time
 - Waited for opportunity when woman was vulnerable
- Is this stalking?

FBI Research

- Appearance and/or dress of victim was virtually never a factor in how or why the rapist picked his victim.
- Rapists picked victims based on observation (voyeurism).
- Rapists essentially were stalking several women at a time... waiting for an opportunity.

The Rape Paradox

Millions of victims...

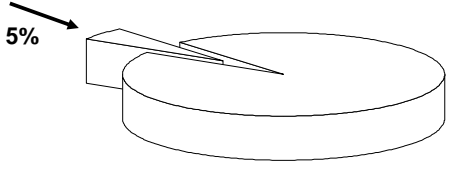


The image shows a grid of 17 female icons, each enclosed in a square box. The icons are arranged in three rows: the top row has 5 icons, the middle row has 6 icons, and the bottom row has 6 icons. A single female icon is also shown in a box in the top right corner of the grid area.

Relatively few rapists incarcerated...


Rapists who go to prison or treatment centers (and are studied)

5%



The image features a 3D pie chart with a very thin slice cut out. An arrow points from the text '5%' to this slice. The rest of the pie is a large, flat disk.

Where are all the rapists?



The image shows a circular icon with a question mark inside. The icon has a dark, textured background with a lighter question mark in the center.

The Population of Rapists



5%

Ski Mask
Knife
Blitz Attack
Brutal Injuries
Strangers

Who are these men?



False Stereotypes of Rapists



- Ski mask
- Knife
- Blitz attack
- Brutal injuries
- Strangers



- "Nice guy"
- Drank too much
- Miscommunication
- Unpremeditated
- Won't happen again

Men Who Rape

- 1 in 12 men admit committing acts that meet the legal definition of rape or attempted rape. Of these men who committed rape, 84% said that what they did was definitely not rape.

- I Never Called it Rape (1988)

Dr. Lisak's Research

- 1,882 men interviewed as part of the study...all were volunteer participants
- Sample question:
Have you ever had sexual intercourse with an adult when they didn't want to because you used physical force (twisting their arm; holding them down, etc.) if they didn't cooperate?

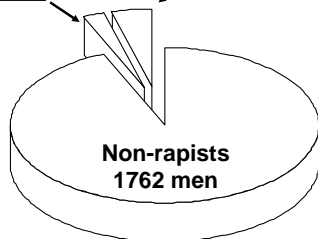
Lisak, David. *Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists*, *Violence and Victims*, Vol. 17, No. 1, 2002.

Of the **1,882** men:

- 120 (6.4%) met criteria for rape or attempted rape
- 76 reported committing multiple rapes
- 120 committed a total of 483 rapes, but the **76 repeat rapists** committed **439** of them (average of 5.8 each).
- 70 of the 120 admitted to other acts of interpersonal violence, including battery, physical/sexual abuse of kids, and sexual assault short of rape/attempted rape.

Single Act Rapists
44 men
44 rapes & attempted rapes

Serial Rapists
76 men
439 rapes & attempted rapes



76 Serial Rapists Identified

- 439 rapes of adults
- 49 sexual assaults of adults
- 277 acts of sexual abuse of children
- 66 acts of physical abuse of children
- 214 acts of battery

1,045 TOTAL Self Disclosed Offenses

The Undetected Rapist



Implications of Research on Undetected Rapists

The Typical Rapist:

- Does not use a weapon
- Uses instrumental, not gratuitous violence
- Has access to consensual sex
- Comes from all racial and ethnic groups
- Is not mentally ill

Implications of Research on Undetected Rapists

The Typical Rapist:

- Premeditates & plans his attack
- Uses multiple strategies to make victim vulnerable
- Uses alcohol deliberately
- Increases violence as needed

Common Characteristics Between Incarcerated and Undetected Rapists

- Angry at women
- Need to dominate women
- Believe in rape myths
- Hold hypermasculine attitudes
- See “intimate” violence as normal
- See women as objects to be conquered
- Have deficits in empathy

Similarities between non-stranger and stranger rapists:

- Many rapists are serial rapists
- Rape is usually planned in advance
- Victim's accessibility was primary factor in rapist's decision
- Victim's appearance had little or nothing to do with the rapist's decision

Interviews with the men revealed:

- Rapist feels anger not empathy when a victim resists.
- Rapist minimizes and sanitizes his violence.
- **Women are “targets” & “prey”**
- **Women are “staked out”**

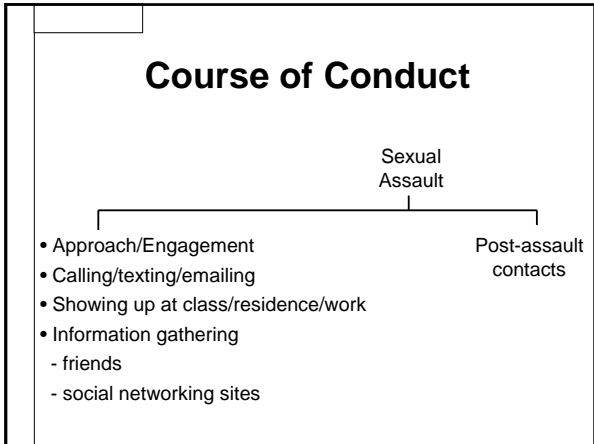
Rapes were preceded by:

- Following
- Surveillance
- Information gathering
- Voyeurism

Is this stalking?

Post-Assault Contact

- Threatens victim
 - Implicit or explicit
- Attempts to frame the incident
- Maintain social contact



What do you think?

Is there a connection between stalking and sexual assault?

So What?

What benefit is there to making a connection between stalking and sexual assault?

- **Validation of Victims' Experiences**

- Provides context
- Places blame solidly on the perpetrator
- Provides additional proof

- **Increased opportunities for offender accountability**

Charging

- **Criminal Charges**

- State Stalking Statutes
- Federal Stalking Statute
- Tribal Stalking Codes
- Creative Charging
- UCMJ Article 120a Stalking

Protective Orders

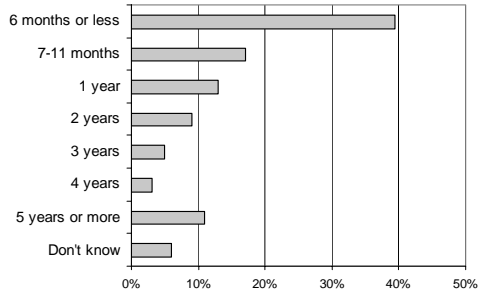
- **Domestic violence PO**

- **Sexual assault PO**

- **Stalking PO**

- Violations
 - o 81% male victims
 - o 69% female victims

Duration of Stalking



— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Recidivism Rates

- Occurred in 60% of cases
- Time between intervention and recidivism was about 2 months
 - Ranged from 1 day to 6 years

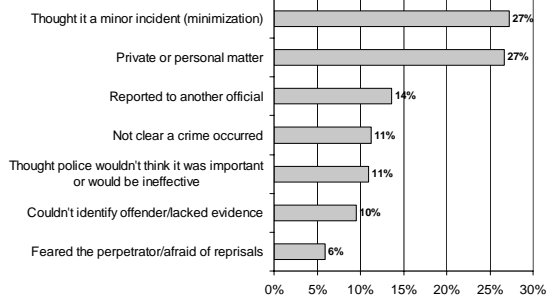
— The RECON Typology of Stalking (2006)

Reporting to Law Enforcement

- 37% of male stalking victims
- 41% of female stalking victims

— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Reasons For Not Reporting



— Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Working With Stalking Victims

- Safety
- Advocacy
- Documentation
- Support

ARE YOU SAFE?

Safety

Disengage/No Contact

- Intermittent Reinforcement
- Negotiation
- Minimizing Harm
 - “Just one last lunch...”
- Challenges

Safety

- Threat Assessment & Safety Planning
- “No contact” letters
- Offender picture or flyer

Safety

- Defining our roles
- Privacy and confidentiality

Working With Stalking Victims

- Safety
- **Advocacy**
- Documentation
- Support

Advocacy

Allow victims to tell their story

- Telling the story allows survivor to remember more details and put all the pieces in place
- Telling the story facilitates the transition from traumatic memory to day-to-day memory

Provide validation

- Validation is the process by which service providers teach victims that most reactions to traumatic events are normal
- Validation should reinforce that most reactions of anger, fear, frustration, guilt, and grief are natural and common

Advocacy

Prediction & Preparation

- Victims need **information**
 - Practical information
 - Emotional responses
- Can help the victim regain control

Working With Stalking Victims

- Safety
- Advocacy
- Documentation
- Support

Documentation

STALKING INCIDENT LOG

Date	Time	Description of Incident	Location of Incident	Witness Name(s) <small>(Attach Address and Phone #)</small>	Police Called <small>(Report #)</small>	Officer Name <small>(Badge #)</small>


Documentation

Stalking sacks

- Cell phone (not same one you had during relationship!)
- Personal alarms, whistles, pepper spray
- Cameras
- Log
- Watch with date
- Tape recorder (check laws in your state)

Documentation

Victim & Offender Folders



- Courtesy of Sacramento Area Stalking Survivors, Inc.

Victim & Offender Folders

Dear Law Enforcement Officer:

This folder contains descriptive information regarding the victim and possible offender related to your current call. The information contained herein was compiled because the described victim has experienced on-going domestic violence and/or stalking behaviors. As such, the victim should be considered at high risk and this call should be handled accordingly.

Thank you for your prompt and professional response.

Working With Stalking Victims

- **Safety**
- **Advocacy**
- **Documentation**
- **Support**

Support

- Cocooning
 - Buddy System
- Community services
- Stalking support groups
 - Manual coming soon

Resources for Victims

- Brochure for Victims (Are You Being Stalked?)
 - Stalking Questions and Answers
 - Stalking Incident Behavior Log
 - Safety Plan Guidelines
 - Cyberstalking: Dangers on the Information Superhighway
 - Ten Things You Should Know About Stalking
- www.ncvc.org/src

Stalking resource center

Practitioners: 202-467-8700



Victims: 1-800-FYI-CALL

www.ncvc.org/src
