

Intersections of Stalking + Sexual Violence

connecting the dots to improve our work

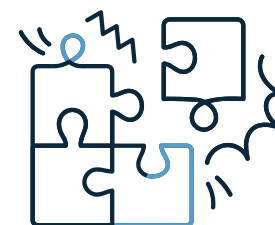
OREGON SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE



What is stalking?

A **pattern of behavior** directed at a **specific person** that would cause a reasonable person to **fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.**

Stalking is a complex crime that often involves other forms of interpersonal violence, including sexual violence.



4 Tactics of stalking

People who stalk others often utilize the following tactics to cause fear or apprehension: ¹

- Surveillance
- Life Invasion
- Interference
- Intimidation

Who experiences stalking?

Stalking can impact people from every gender, socio-economic background, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, and age. Recent estimates suggest that 1/3 women and 1/6 men are stalked at some point in their lifetime, with most victims experiencing stalking before age 25 (Smith, Basile, & Kresnow, 2022).

As with sexual violence, youth, people with disabilities, 2SLGBTQQIA+ communities, Black, Indigenous, and additional communities of color experience disproportionate rates of stalking due to systemic inequity.

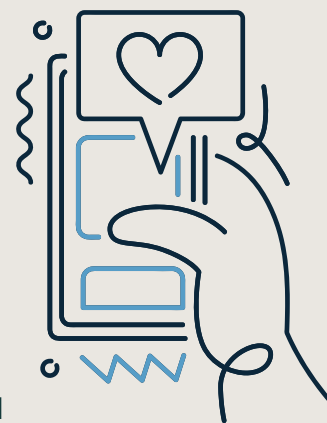
Victims / Survivors who are stalked by an abusive partner are more likely to experience sexual violence²

48%

of sexual assault survivors ages 18–24 report also experiencing stalking³

Technology + Stalking

Many people who choose to stalk others utilize technology to surveil, harass, intimidate, threaten, and target their victims. For survivors of sexual violence, this can include having intimate images of them shared online, being monitored, or harassed by the person who assaulted them. Recent studies of women utilizing confidential advocacy services (including shelters) found that 60–63% of participants reported experiencing stalking through social media or other apps.⁴



Shared Prevention Strategies for Stalking + Sexual Violence⁵

- **Empowering everyone** to understand, recognize, and address stalking
- **Mobilizing men and boys as allies** in prevention efforts
- **Creating and supporting safe environments** within relationships, schools, and communities through programs and policies that reduce risk and promote healthy relationships

Citations

- 1 Logan, T.K. & Walker, R. (2017). Stalking: A Multidimensional Framework for Assessment and Safety Planning. *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*, 18(2), 200–222.
- 2 Logan, T., & Cole, J. (2011). Exploring the Intersection of Partner Stalking and Sexual Abuse. *Violence Against Women*, 17(7), 904–924. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801211412715>
- 3 Brady, P. Q., & Woodward Griffin, V. (2019). The Intersection of Stalking and Sexual Assault Among Emerging Adults: Unpublished Preliminary Results. *mTurk Findings*, 2018.
- 4 Messing, J., Bagwell-Gray, M., Brown, M.L. et al. Intersections of Stalking and Technology-Based Abuse: Emerging Definitions, Conceptualization, and Measurement. *J Fam Viol* 35, 693–704 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-019-00114-7>
- 5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2020, June 15). Preventing Stalking | Violence Prevention | Injury Center | CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/stalking/fastfact.html>



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