



DISCLAIMER: Persons depicted are models and are used for illustrative purposes only.

Stalking and Older Adults: An Overview

Stalking Prevention, Awareness & Resource Center (SPARC)
and National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)



January 12, 2023

Disclaimer

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The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

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www.StalkingAwareness.org

***Practitioner guides**

***Training modules**

***Victim resources**

***Webinars**



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National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)

NCALL is committed to creating a world that respects the dignity of older adults and enhances the safety and quality of life of older victims and survivors of abuse. We engage communities to foster a collaborative, inclusive, survivor-centered response to abuse in later life.



Learning Objectives

As a result of attending this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize stalking behavior
- Understand how stalking impacts older adults
- Identify resources to improve their response to stalking

Overview

- Elder Abuse: An Overview
- Define stalking
 - Prevalence
 - Dynamics
- Implications
- Resources



Understanding Elder Abuse

The Elder Justice Roadmap

Definition of Elder Abuse

Elder abuse is:

- physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, as well as neglect, abandonment, and financial exploitation of an older person by another person or entity,
- that occurs in any setting (e.g., home, community, or facility),
- either in a relationship where there is an expectation of trust and/or when an older person is targeted based on age or disability.

Prevalence of Elder Abuse



1 in 10 community-residing older adults reported experiencing elder abuse in the past year.

Acierno, R., Hernandez, M. A., Amstadter, A. B., Resnick, H. S., Steve, K., Muzzy, W., & Kilpatrick, D. J. (2010). The National Elder Mistreatment Study. *American Journal of Public Health*.

Elder Abuse: Under the Radar



Source: Lachs et al., Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc. (2011) *Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study*. Slide courtesy of Life Long Justice.

A Survivor's Story: Velva





Poll: That you are aware of, have you ever worked with an older adult who was experiencing stalking?



Stalking: Definition & Dynamics

STALKING IS:



CRIMINAL



TRAUMATIC



DANGEROUS



CRIMINAL

FEDERAL LEVEL

ALL 50 STATES, D.C.,
& U.S. TERRITORIES

TRIBAL CODES

UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE



TRAUMATIC

Many stalking victims:

- * **Experience mental health issues.**
- * **Lose time from work.**
1 in 8 employed stalking victims lose time from work.
- * **Relocate.** 1 in 7 stalking victims move.

Baum, K., Catalano, S., Rand, M. (2009). *Stalking Victimization in the United States*. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Blaauw, E., Arensman, E., Winkel, F.W., Freeve, A., & Sheridan, L. (2002). The Toll of Stalking. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 17(1): 50-63.



DANGEROUS

- Stalking often co-occurs with physical assault and sexual violence, including rape.
- **20%** of stalkers use **weapons** to threaten or harm victims.
- **76%** of **intimate partner femicides** included stalking in the year prior.

McFarlane, J., Campbell, J.C., Wilt, S., Ulrich, Y., & Xu, X. (1999.) Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide. *Homicide Studies* 3 (4), 300-316.
Mohandie, K., Meloy, J.R., McGowan, M.G., & Williams, J. (2006). The RECON Typology of Stalking: Reliability and Validity Based upon a Large Sample of North American Stalkers. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 51 (1), 147-155.



**"Stalking is homicide
in slow motion."**

*– Patrick Brady, Criminology Dept.
University of West Georgia*



Stalking is one of the few crimes where **early intervention** can prevent violence and death.

Reporting Stalking



- 28% of stalking victims report to law enforcement
- 16% of stalking victims seek victim services

Reporting Rates



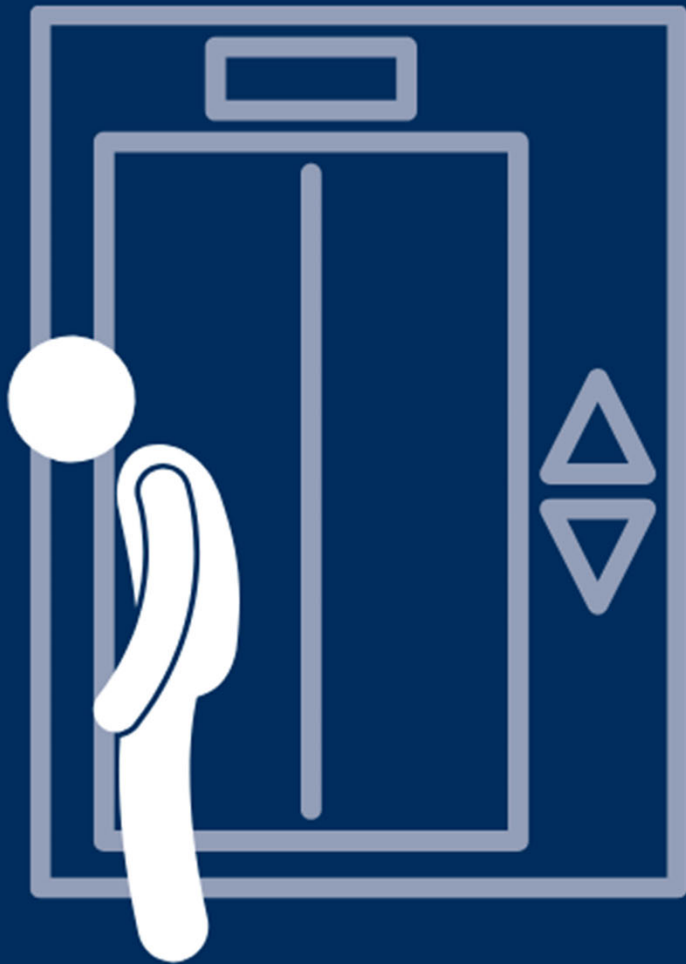
- Why might older victims be hesitant to report?
- What barriers might they face?

Why Don't Stalking Victims Report to Police?

- 42% Not important enough to report
- 40% Dealt with it another way
- 33% Police couldn't do anything
- 19% Police wouldn't help
- 16% Other/Unknown Reason
- 8% Feared offender



Accessing Victim Services



About 16% of all stalking victims sought victim services.

Nearly 1 in 4 victims who sought victim services did not receive any.

Defining Stalking



BEHAVIORAL



LEGAL/STATUTORY

Poll: Is this Stalking?

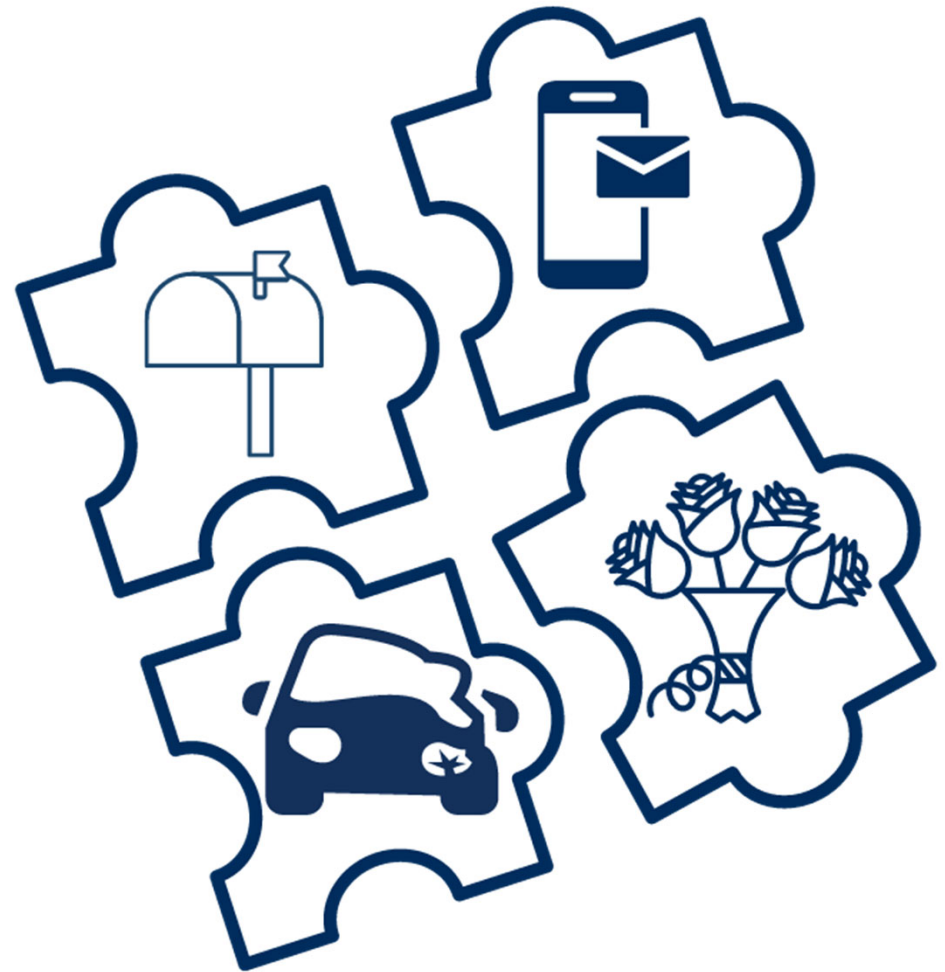
1. A staff member hides a camera in the women's locker room to watch the women undress. It goes undiscovered for months.
2. An ex-partner repeatedly spreads vicious rumors about their former partner on social media.
3. A supervisor regularly asks her employee personal questions, mocks him in meetings, sends e-mails at odd hours, and is verbally abusive when he doesn't respond right away.



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

A pattern of behavior...

- Not a single incident or “one off” event
- Called a “course of conduct” in most statutes



...directed at a specific person...



...that would cause a reasonable person to

feel **FEAR**



for their safety or the safety of others;
or suffer substantial emotional distress.



CONTEXT IS CRITICAL
in stalking cases.

Victim Reaction: Is it Fear?



Document Evidence of Accommodations

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**Changes to accounts,
numbers, and settings**



**Finances spent on safety
devices or accommodations**



**Increased Security/Privacy
Measures**



**Financial impacts, including
employment consequences, identity
theft, and cost of damaged property**

Self-Protective Actions Taken

- 63% Blocked unwanted calls/messages/other
- 27% Changed personal information
- 24% Changed day-to-day activities
- 23% Self-defensive action/security measure
- 9% Applied for a restraining/protective/no-contact order



78% of stalking victims take some kind of protective action

Truman, J.L., & Morgan, R.E. (2022). Stalking Victimization, 2019. Washington, DC: US DOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report.

Stalking Prevalence

NEARLY
1 in 3 women



&

NEARLY
1 in 6 men



experience **stalking** in their lifetimes.

TABLE 4
Prevalence of stalking, by demographic characteristics of victims, 2019

Victim demographic characteristic	Number of victims ^a	Percent of all persons ^b
Age		
16–19	239,650 †	1.5% ‡
20–24*	426,840	2.0
25–34	796,270 †	1.7
35–49	942,610 †	1.5 †
50–64	690,500 †	1.1 †
65 or older	323,830 ‡	0.6 †

Truman, J.L., & Morgan, R.E. (2022). Stalking Victimization, 2019. Washington, DC: US DOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report.

Stalking Prevalence: Older Adults

AGE	# OF VICTIMS	% OF STALKING VICTIMS
16-19	16,149,660	7.0%
20-24	21,412,920	12.5%
25-34	45,537,710	23.3%
35-49	61,677,140	27.6%
50-64	62,651,280	20.2%
65+	533,02,790	9.5%

Nearly 30% of stalking victims are over age 50

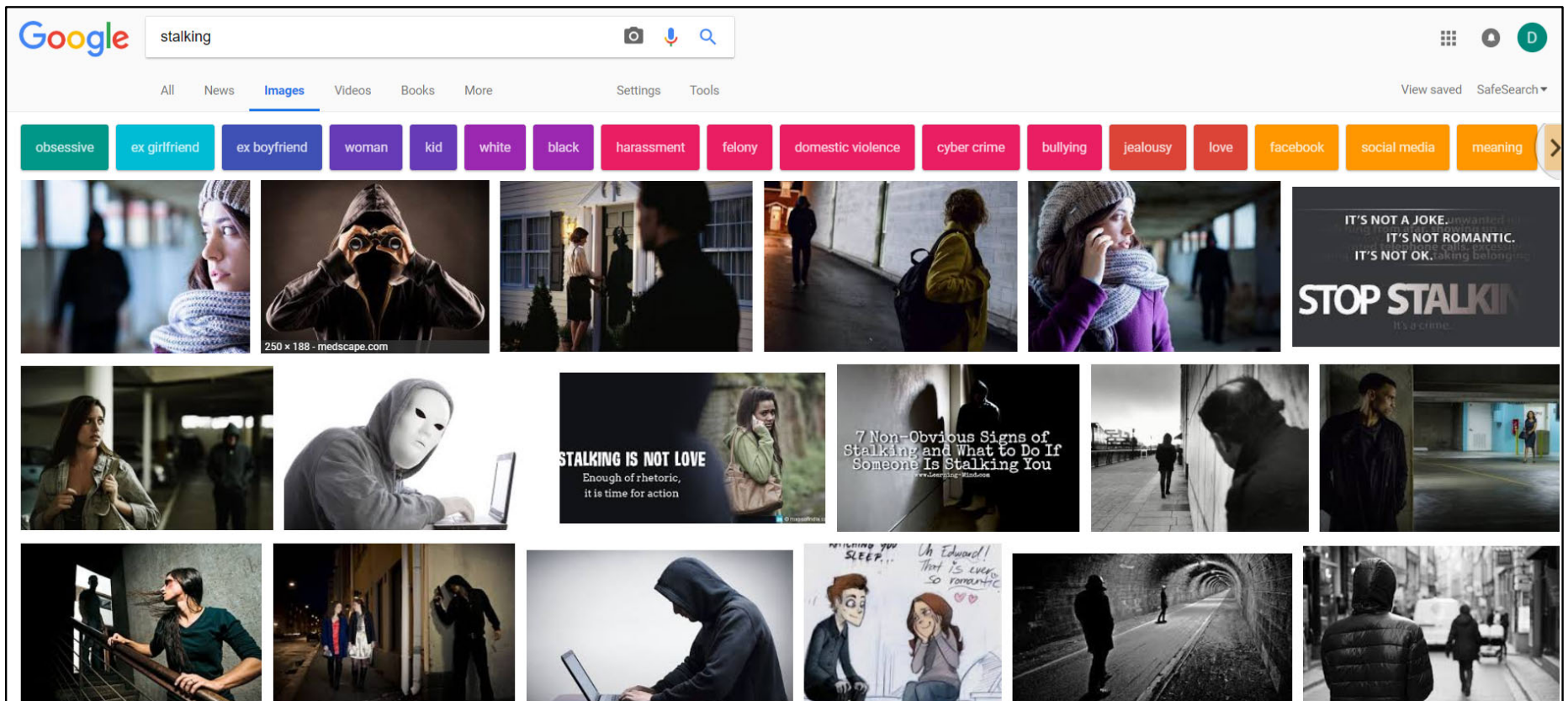
Stalking Dynamics

Women are more likely than men to experience stalking.

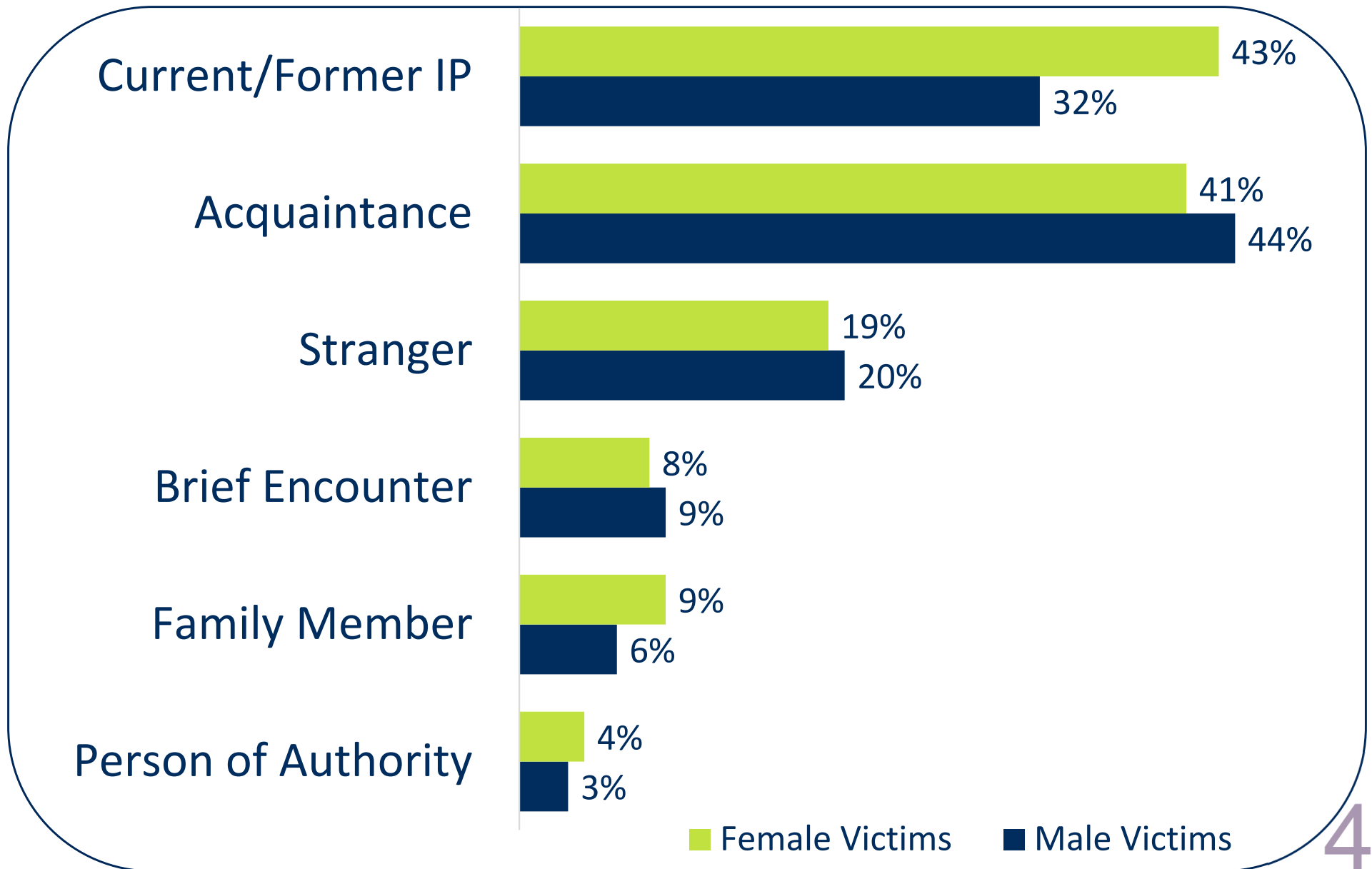
The majority of victims report that the offender is male.



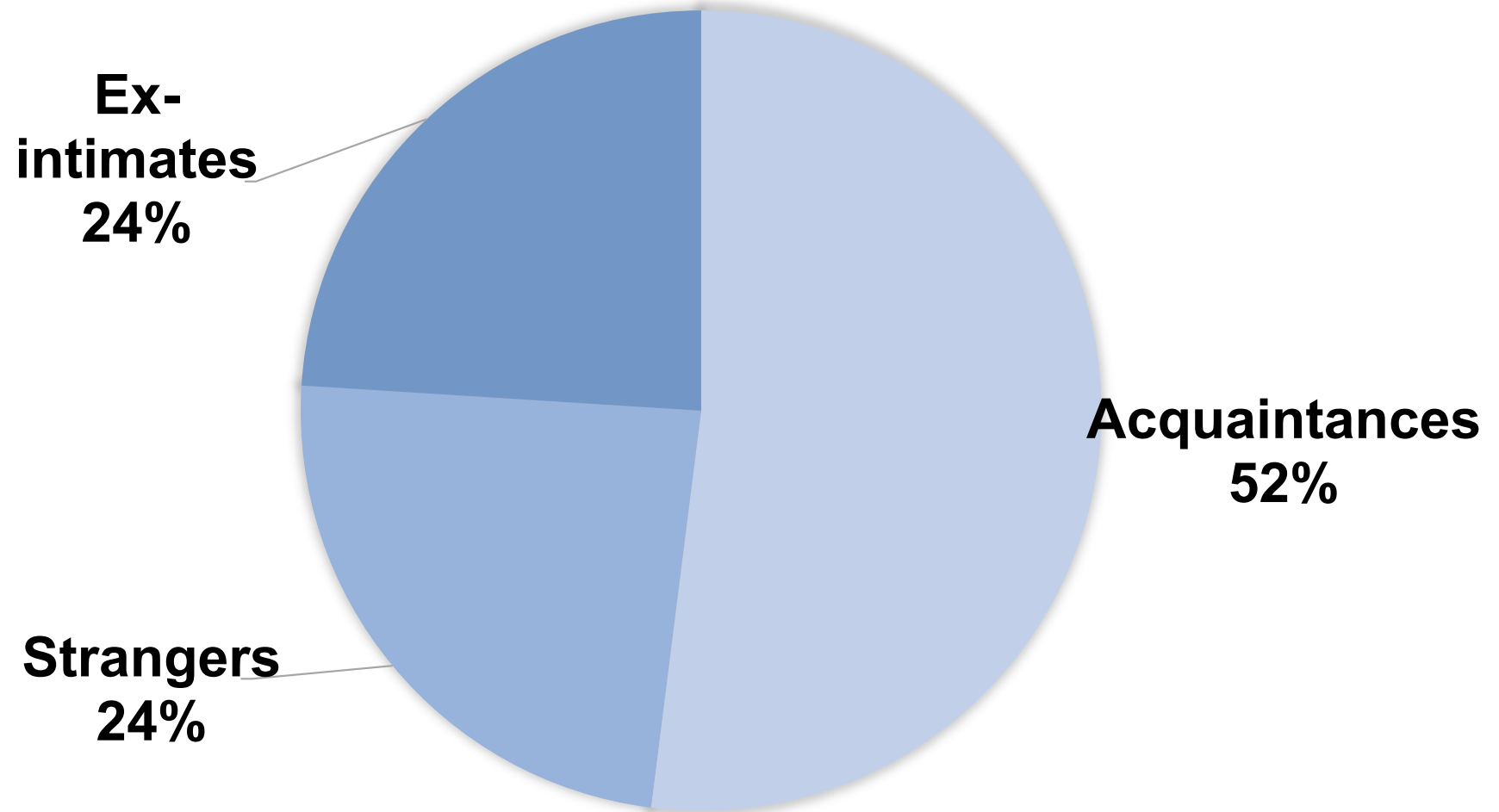
Image Results for “Stalking”



Victim and Offender Relationships



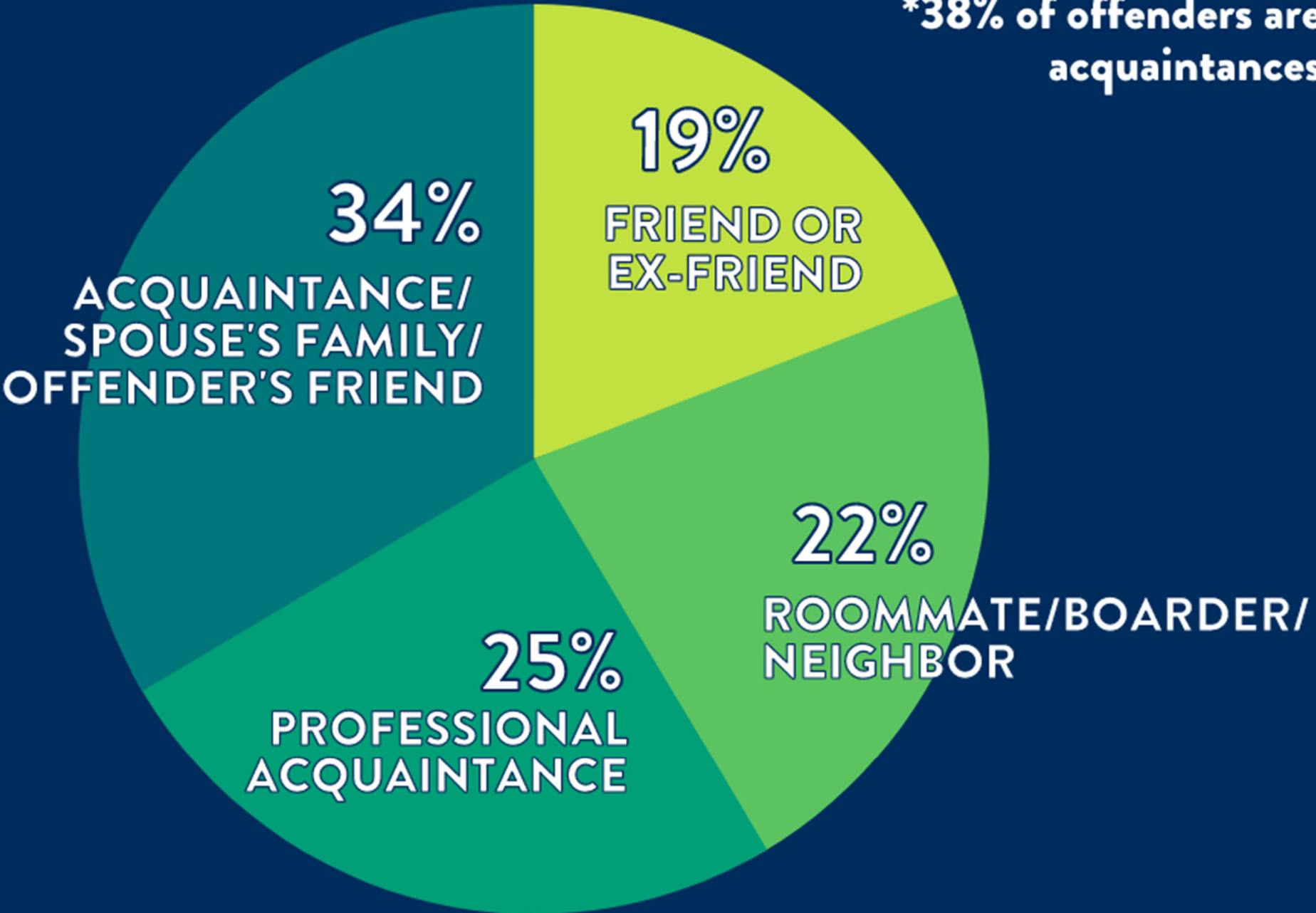
Stalker Relationships: Older Stalkers (60+)



Sheridan, L., Scott, A. J., & North, A. C. (2014). Stalking and Age. *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*, 1(4), 262–273.

WHO ARE ACQUAINTANCE STALKERS?

***38% of offenders are acquaintances**



She got a ride from an elderly St. Paul man, then stalked him for more, charges say

By [SARAH HORNER](#) | shorner@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

PUBLISHED: December 6, 2017 at 1:21 pm | UPDATED: December 7, 2017 at 11:19 am

Man steals more than \$4,000 from elderly victim with 'almost daily' loan requests, police say

[TONY REID](#) tony.reid@lee.net Oct 1, 2018  0

Man pleads guilty to stalking, killing estranged wife

March 31, 2021

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — An Indiana man was convicted Tuesday of stalking his estranged wife to Florida, shooting her and burying her body in Tennessee.

Jarvis Wayne Madison, 62, of New Albany, Indiana, pleaded guilty in Orlando federal court to one count of interstate stalking resulting in death, according to court records. He faces life in prison at his June 14 sentencing.

CRIME

Rock Hill woman withheld meds, stalked and abused vulnerable adult, SC agents say



BY [ANDREW DYS](#)
adys@heraldonline.com



April 02, 2018 01:32 PM
Updated April 02, 2018 12:40 PM



Stalking Behaviors

“I know it
sounds crazy,
but...”

SLII Framework

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SURVEILLANCE

- **Follow**
- **Watch**
- **Wait**
- **Show up**
- **Tracking software**
- **Obtain information about victim**
- **Proxy stalking**

LIFE INVASION



- **Unwanted contact at home, work, etc.**
- **Showing up**
- **Phone calls**
- **Property invasion**
- **Public humiliation**
- **Harass friends/family**

INTIMIDATION



- **Threats**
- **Property damage**
- **Symbolic violence**
- **Forced confrontations**
- **Threaten or actually harm self**
- **Threats to victim about harming others**



INTERFERENCE

THROUGH SABOTAGE OR ATTACK

- **Financial and work sabotage**
- **Ruining reputation**
- **Custody interference**
- **Keep from leaving**
- **Road rage**
- **Attack family/friends/pets**
- **Physical/sexual attack**

Screening for Stalking

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Has the Offender...

been tracking, following, or monitoring Victim in any way?



repeatedly invaded Victim's life/privacy by initiating unwanted contact with Victim?

significantly and directly interfered with Victim's life?

>physically/sexually assaulted Victim during course of conduct?

>forcibly kept Victim from leaving, held against will, caused serious accident, assaulted others, or seriously attacked Victim?



more than one time, intimidated or scared Victim through threats, property damage, threatening or actual harming of pets, or other means?

Screening for Stalking

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If YES to any of the previous, during the actions mentioned above...

Did these actions make Victim afraid or concerned for safety or safety of children, family, and/or coworkers?

Did Victim make significant life changes for safety reason because of these actions? (change day-to-day routines, spend money on home safety, took time off work?)

Did these actions make Victim afraid or concerned about significant financial or social impact?
(Loss of job, loss of housing, financial harm?)

NOT AT ALL? SOMEWHAT? EXTREMELY?



Narrative Report &
Risk Profile

Safety Planning
Suggestions

Narrative Report Sample



Narrative and Risk Profile

Date: 2022-10-25
Situation: An ex-partner
Interviewee: Professional
Agency: School/campus personnel

Stalking and Harassment Assessment and Risk Profile (SHARP) is a research-informed risk profile tool to educate and inform decision-making about stalking or harassment. This narrative report summarizes the responses to SHARP questions and provides a basic risk profile. Please note, any documentation provided to law enforcement or prosecutors could potentially be introduced as evidence or inadvertently shared with Melvin Roland at a future time, so do not include any information that you do not want Melvin Roland to see.

The information below is reported by a professional on behalf of who is Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old female, and an ex-partner of Melvin Roland, a 37-year-old male.

Course of conduct. Melvin Roland may be tracking or monitoring Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland has repeatedly invaded Lauren McCluskey's life and privacy 15 days in a typical month. Melvin Roland has repeatedly intimidated or scared Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland has directly interfered with Lauren McCluskey's life. The information reported suggests Melvin Roland may be stalking Lauren McCluskey.

Duration, Intensity, and Frequency. Melvin Roland's course of conduct toward Lauren McCluskey started in September, 2022 and has continued for about 30 days and has been escalating recently. Melvin Roland regularly contacts or harasses Lauren McCluskey in more than one way. In a typical month, Melvin Roland initiates unwanted contact with Lauren McCluskey on 15 days, approaches and confronts Lauren McCluskey directly on 5 days, and significantly interferes with Lauren McCluskey's life on 30 days.

Threats. Melvin Roland has made threats by leaving objects, making gestures, or in ways other than direct threats. Melvin Roland has not threatened Lauren McCluskey directly, however he has had others close to him such as friends or family members threaten, intimidate, stalk, and/or attack Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland has threatened to hurt himself. Lauren McCluskey is concerned there are some upcoming events that may escalate Melvin Roland's stalking, harassing, and threatening behavior. Melvin Roland has threatened to destroy Lauren McCluskey's property, harm her pets, or to sabotage her in some other way.

Fear/Concern for Safety. Based on Melvin Roland's actions, Lauren McCluskey is extremely afraid or concerned for her safety and is afraid or concerned for the safety of her children, family members, or friends. Lauren McCluskey believes that Melvin Roland is extremely capable of harming her or others close to her. Lauren McCluskey has made some life changes for safety reasons because of Melvin Roland's actions. Lauren McCluskey is also extremely afraid or

concerned about a significant financial or social impact Melvin Roland has or might have on her life.

Resistance and Persistence. It has not been clearly and directly communicated to Melvin Roland that he should not be harassing and stalking Lauren McCluskey. At this time there is not a court order banning Melvin Roland from contacting, harassing, or being violent toward Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland is aware that the things he is doing to Lauren McCluskey upset her.

Context. Melvin Roland has a history of being controlling and extremely jealous toward Lauren McCluskey and physically violent toward others. Melvin Roland has a criminal history. Melvin Roland is currently on probation/parole. Melvin Roland may have a history of thoughts about or attempted suicide. Melvin Roland has guns. Melvin Roland is using, or is capable of using, technology to stalk, harass, threaten, or harm Lauren McCluskey.

Melvin Roland indicates he may feel that he has been rejected, humiliated or degraded by Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland seems unconcerned about severe consequences of his behavior such as going to jail or dying.

Lauren McCluskey believes that there have been limited or no consequences for Melvin Roland's stalking, harassment, or threatening behavior. Lauren McCluskey feels that she is more vulnerable to Melvin Roland's stalking, harassment, or threatening behavior because there are things about the environment that limit her ability to be safe. Melvin Roland lives and/or works in the same area as Lauren McCluskey. Additionally, Lauren McCluskey feels isolated.

Risk Profile: Based on the information reported, there are several factors that suggest a serious risk profile for this stalking course of conduct. There is some contextual information about Melvin Roland that is unknown. If the information becomes known, it may be important to consider redoing SHARP with the new information. Please note that the risk profile could change in the future and it may be helpful to reassess the situation using SHARP. Below is the summary of the 13 risk factors that are present in this case out of the 14 risk factors assessed:

- Melvin Roland has been stalking Lauren McCluskey for about 30 days. Melvin Roland approaches Lauren McCluskey and confronts her frequently, regularly contacts or harasses her in multiple ways and significantly interferes with her life.
- Melvin Roland's behavior is increasing in frequency and severity and there are some upcoming events that could escalate Melvin Roland's stalking, harassing, and threatening behavior even more.
- Melvin Roland has made threatening gestures or left threatening objects. Melvin Roland has threatened to destroy property, harm pets or sabotage Lauren McCluskey in some other way. Melvin Roland has threatened to harm himself.
- Lauren McCluskey believes Melvin Roland is capable of harming her and others close to her.
- Lauren McCluskey is afraid and concerned about her safety and the safety of others. Melvin Roland's actions have caused Lauren McCluskey to make some changes to her life for safety reasons. Lauren McCluskey is also extremely concerned about the significant financial and social impacts on her life because of Melvin Roland's actions.
- Melvin Roland indicates he feels he has been rejected, humiliated or degraded by Lauren McCluskey. Melvin Roland seems unconcerned about severe consequences of his behavior such as going to jail or dying. Lauren McCluskey believes Melvin Roland is aware that the things he is doing upsets and bothers her. Melvin Roland may have a history of thoughts about or attempted suicide.
- Melvin Roland has a history of being controlling and extremely jealous toward Lauren

Potential Related Charges

- Property crimes
- Computer crimes
- Voyeurism
- Trespassing
- Harassment
- Witness intimidation
- Nonconsensual image distribution

Changing Behaviors



- **78%** of stalkers use **more than one** means of approach
- **66%** of stalkers pursue their victim at **least once per week**

Mohandie, K., Meloy, J.R., McGowan, M.G., & Williams, J. (2006). The RECON Typology of Stalking: Reliability and Validity Based upon a Large Sample of North American Stalkers. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 51 (1), 147-155.

STALKING DURATION

*ALL STALKING VICTIMS



Truman, J.L., & Morgan, R.E. (2022). Stalking Victimization, 2019. Washington, DC: US DOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report.



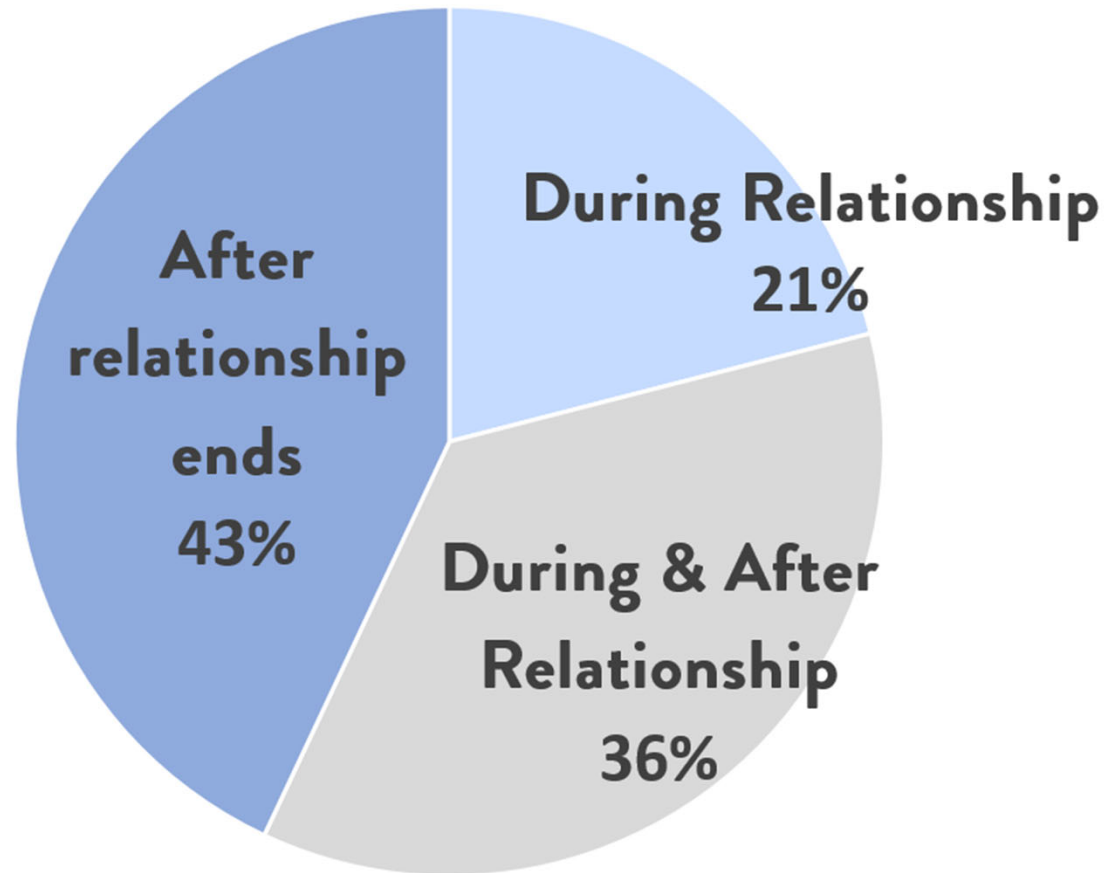
Stalking and IPV



Adapted from the Duluth Model Domestic Abuse Intervention Project's Power and Control Wheel

Point When Stalking Occurs

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■ During Relationship ■ During & After Relationship ■ After relationship ends

Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (1998). Stalking in America: Findings from the national violence against women survey (NCJ#169592). Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/169592.pdf>.



Intimate partner stalkers are more likely to:



- **physically approach the victim**
- **be interfering, insulting, & threatening**
- **use weapons**
- **escalate behaviors quickly**
- **re-offend**

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Study of Women with Protective Orders

Women who were **abused and stalked** experienced **significantly higher rates** of the following than women who were abused but not stalked:

- Verbal abuse, degradation, jealousy and control
- Serious threats
- Moderate and severe physical violence
- Sexual violence and sexual assault
- Threats to kill and threats with a weapon
- Being beat up, attacks with a weapon and injury

Logan, T.K., Shannon, L., & Cole, J. (2007). Stalking Victimization in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence. *Violence Vict.* 22 (6), 669-683.

Leaving an IP Stalking Relationship

Experiencing intimate partner stalking made victims more likely to want to leave the relationship than other factors -- including psychological aggression and past injury.



Victims of intimate partner stalking have more separation attempts than victims of IPV alone.



Stroshine, M. S., & Robinson, A. L. (2003). The decision to end abusive relationships: The role of offender characteristics. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 30(1), 97-117.

Sheridan, L. & Davies, G.M. (2006). Violence and the Prior Victim-Stalker Relationship. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health* 11(2): 102-116.

Stalking is a Lethality Risk

Top 10 risk factors for intimate partner homicide

Risk for male perpetrated & female IPH victimization

1) Direct access to guns	11-fold increase in risk of IPH
2) Threatened victim with a weapon	7-fold increase in risk
3) Non-fatal strangulation	7-fold increase in risk
4) Perpetrated rape/forced sex	5-fold increase in risk
5) Controlling behaviors	6-fold increase in risk
6) Threatened to harm the victim	4-fold increase in risk
7) Abused victim while pregnant	4-fold increase in risk
8) Perpetrated stalking	3-fold increase in risk of IPH
9) Jealousy	2-fold increase in risk
10) Substance abuse	2-fold increase in risk

Spencer, C.M. & Stith, S.M. (2018). Risk Factors for Male Perpetration and Female Victimization of Intimate Partner Homicide: A Meta-Analysis. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse* 21(3): 527-540.

Domestic Violence Crimes Study

- 1785 cases of domestic violence
- 298 involve stalking (1 in 6)

How many cases were charged as stalking?

Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (2001). Stalking: Its Role in Serious Domestic Violence Cases, Executive Summary. Center for Policy Research: Denver, CO. Retrieved from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/187346.pdf>.

Stalking within Domestic Violence

Woodruff (2010)



Evidence of stalking

Arrests for stalking

Tjaden & Thoennes (1998)



Evidence of stalking

Arrests for stalking

Brady & Nobles (2017)



Stalking incident reports

Stalking calls resulting in an arrests for stalking



Stalking and Sexual Violence

Intersections of Sexual Violence and Stalking

A stalker may:

- Threaten to sexually assault the victim
- Sexually assault the victim
- Attempt to get someone else to sexually assault the victim

How Offenders Groom for Sexual Violence

1. Research and identify vulnerable victims
2. Establish relationships: contact, build trust
3. Meet in-person and isolate the victim
4. Coerce into sexual act(s)
5. Contact after

Women with Protective Orders

Behavior	Abuse Only No Stalking or Rape	Stalking
Sexual Degradation	45%	61%
Sexual Coercion	49.3%	78%
Verbal Pressure	33.8%	68%
Substance Use	4.2%	19%
Implicit Threats/Force	21%	47.5%
Penetration While Victim Sleeping	11%	15%

Logan, T.K, & Cole, J. (2011). Exploring the Intersection of Partner Stalking and Sexual Abuse. *Violence Against Women* 17 (7), 904-924.

31% OF WOMEN
STALKED
BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER WERE ALSO
SEXUALLY
ASSAULTED
BY THAT PARTNER.

Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (1998). Stalking in America: Findings from the national violence against women survey (NCJ#169592). Washington, DC: NIJ CDC.





The Use of Technology to Stalk

Technology Use Among Older Adults



- 80% own cell phones, 40% own smartphones
- 67% of adults ages 65 use the internet
- 34% use social media
- Younger seniors (65-69) have significantly higher rates of technology use than older seniors

Anderson, M. & Perrin, A. (2017). Technology Use Among Seniors. *Pew Research Center on Internet and Technology*.

COMMON TECHNOLOGY TACTICS EXPERIENCED BY STALKING VICTIMS

66%



UNWANTED PHONE CALLS,
VOICEMAILS, TEXT MESSAGES

UNWANTED E-MAILS OR
SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGES



55%

32%



MONITORED ACTIVITIES
USING SOCIAL MEDIA

POSTED/THREATENED TO POST
INAPPROPRIATE/PERSONAL INFO



29%

22%



SPIED ON/MONITORED
ACTIVITIES USING TECH

TRACKED LOCATION WITH
ELECTRONIC DEVICE OR APP



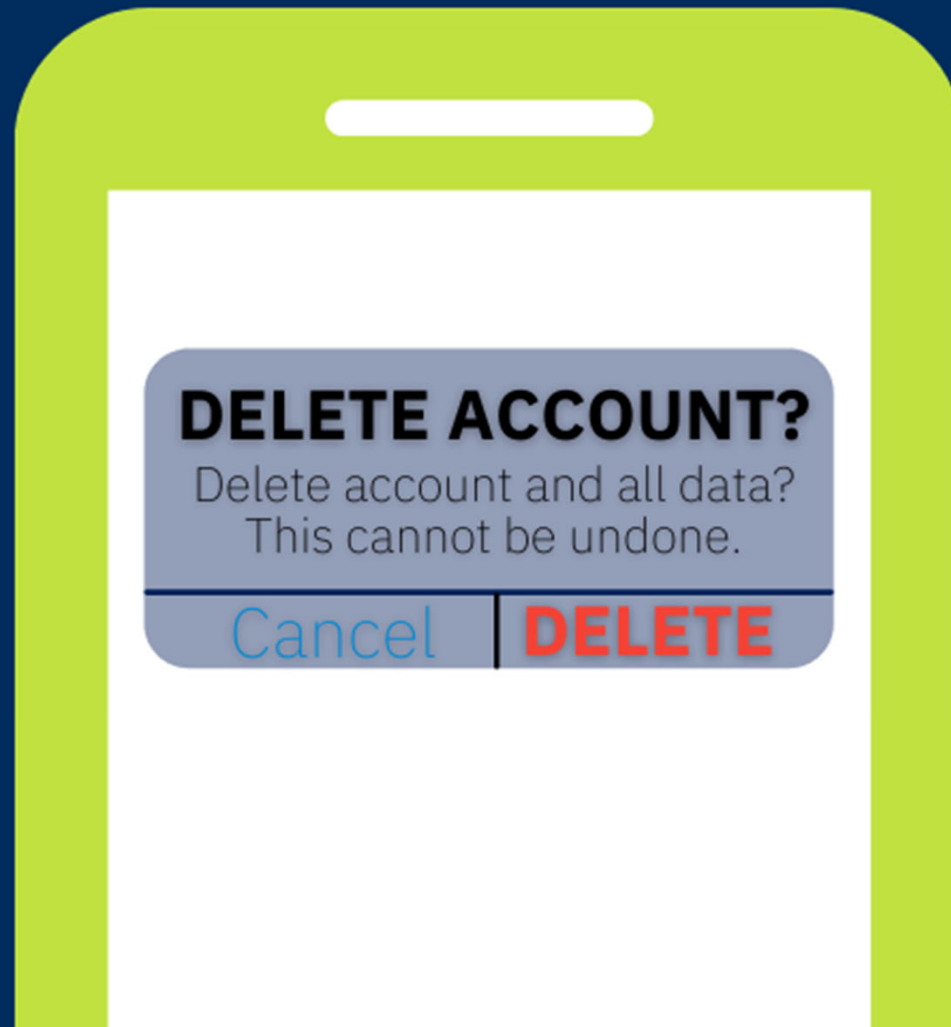
14%

76

Warning Signs: Stalkers' Use of Technology

- Knows where victim is
- Has access to information that victim never shared with him/her
- Victim is locked out of accounts, passwords changed, etc.

Should victims just log off?





“...the victim’s attempts to distance themselves from their stalker actually frustrate or anger the stalker, leading to an increase in the physical threat to their lives.”



NNEDV
Tech Safety

Tech Safety

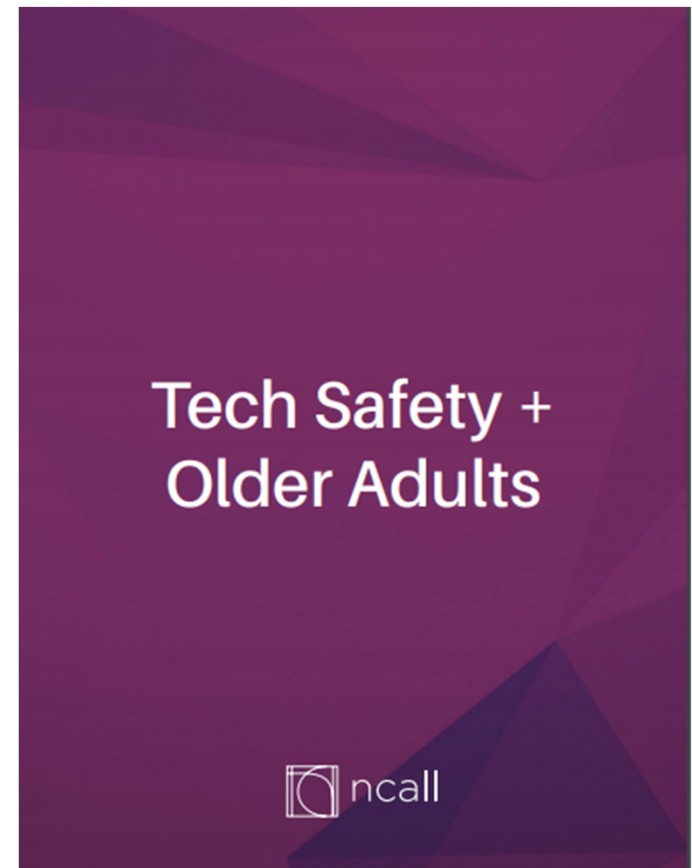
Welcome to the Tech Safety App. This app contains information that can help someone identify technology-facilitated harassment, stalking, or abuse and includes tips on what can be done.



Technology Safety Toolkit

Tech Safety + Older Adults

- NCALL's new toolkit released in November 2020
- Created in collaboration with the Safety Net team at the National Network to End Domestic Violence
- <https://www.ncall.us/resources/publications-library/>





Response to Stalking

Specific Challenges

What are some of the challenges older victims of stalking face?

**Confusion
around
technology**

**Minimizing
the threat**

**Perceived
dementia/
Alzheimer's**

Medications

**What
else?**

**Others can't
comprehend**

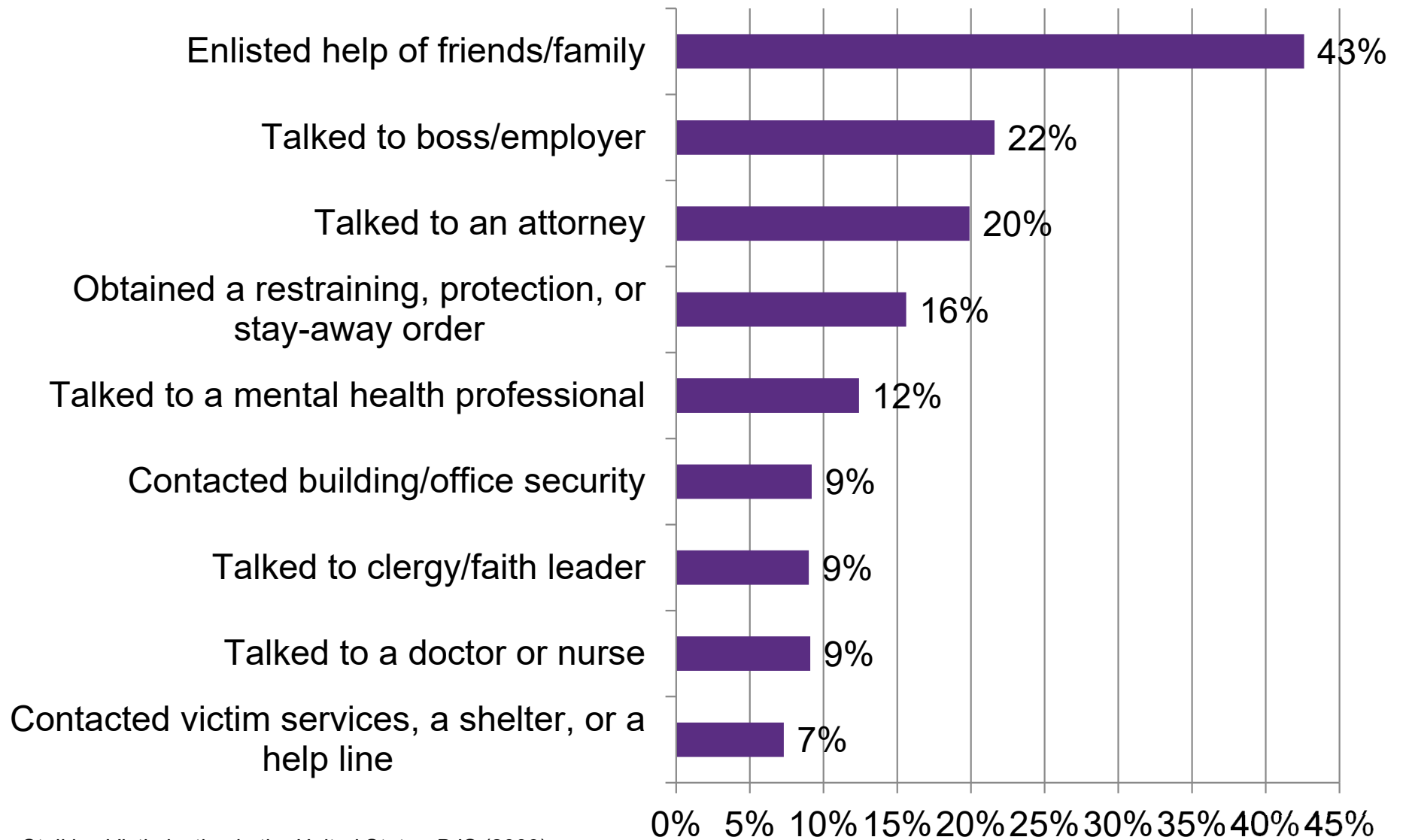
Reaction to Older Stalking Victims

77% of older victims were told they were overreacting

66.7% of older victims were not taken seriously by the police

Sheridan, L., Scott, A. J., & North, A. C. (2014). Stalking and Age. *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*, 1(4), 262–273.

Victim Help Seeking



Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

Older Stalking Victims

Least likely to be aided
by family and friends



Less likely to access
sources of support

Sheridan, L., Scott, A. J., & North, A. C. (2014). Stalking and Age. *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*, 1(4), 262–273.

Lethality of Elder Abuse



Elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation victims are three times more likely to die prematurely than non-abused older adults.

Lachs, et al. (1998). The Mortality of Elder Mistreatment. *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Implications

- Are we recognizing stalking in older adults?
- *Or*, are we calling it elder abuse?
- Are there disadvantages of labeling it as elder abuse?

Possible disadvantages to labeling stalking as “elder abuse.”

- May allow ageist assumptions to impact potential response/investigation
- People tend not to think of stalking as a crime experienced by older victims
- Typical elder abuse services may not address the specific dynamics of stalking
- May diminish others' perceptions of the victim's experience if we apply a term with a broader meaning than 'stalking'



Strategies & Resources

First Response

Any time a victim reports any kind of harassing behavior:

- Consider the possibility of a stalking case
- Determine whether this is an isolated incident or repeated conduct



How do Victims Cope?

Move
INWARD



Move
AWAY



Move
TOWARDS



Move
AGAINST



Move
OUTWARD



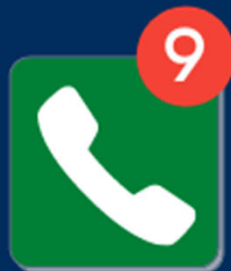
Advise Disengagement

Recommend no contact with the stalker

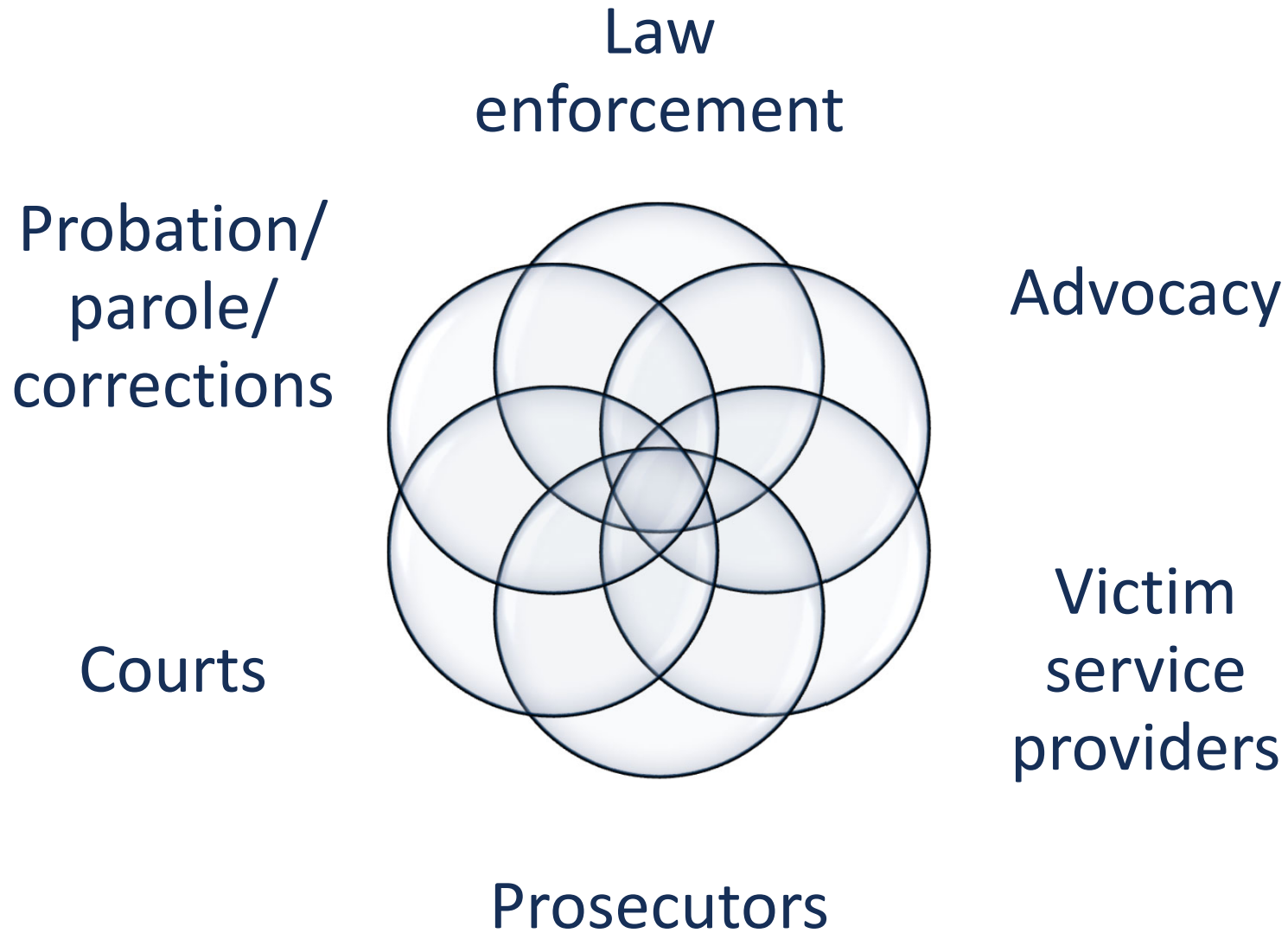
- Explain intermittent reinforcement

BUT realize victims engage in behaviors to keep themselves safe.

- Maintain contact, negotiation, minimizing threat
- Contact may be a safety strategy



Coordination ^{1/2}



Coordination *2/2*

- Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)
- Aging network services
- Adult Protective Services

Safety Planning

Jointly create a plan to enhance safety. Consider:

- Where will the victim live, if not at home?
- Does the victim have access to resources?
- Are there health issues that affect the options available to the victim?
- Who else is affected by the stalking?
- What legal issues need to be addressed in the safety plan?

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Champions for Justice

AEquitas is a nonprofit organization focused on developing, evaluating, and refining prosecution practices related to gender-based violence and human trafficking. We're a team of former prosecutors with decades of experience, working globally to hold offenders accountable and promote victim safety.

[About Us](#)



OVW Abuse in Later Life (ALL) Program



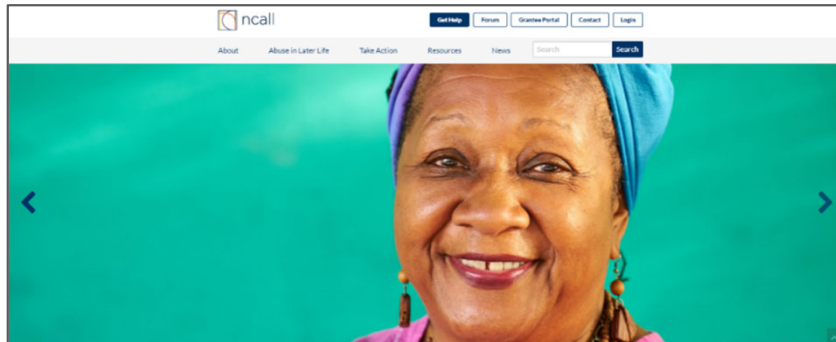
- Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life
- The maximum funding request for new projects is \$750,000 to be used over four years.

ALL Program Purpose Areas



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Awareness/Outreach Materials



<https://www.ncall.us/resources/graphics-library/>

Thank You!

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