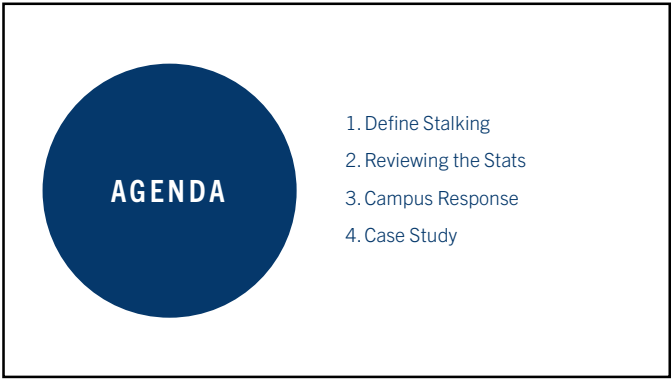




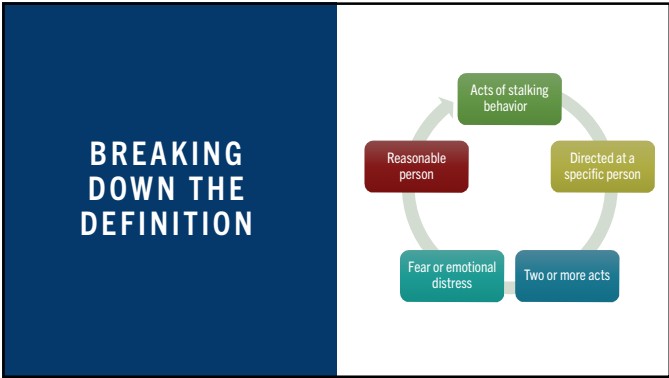
1



2



3



4

DEFINING STALKING

STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.”



5

DEFINING STALKING

- STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.”
- “**Course of conduct** means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person’s property.”

6

DEFINING STALKING

- STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.”
- “**Course of conduct** means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person’s property.”

- Who: stalker or third party
- How: any action, method device or means
- What: follows, monitors, observers, surveils, threatens or communicates

7

DEFINING STALKING

- STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.”
- **Course of conduct** means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person’s property.

- Specific Person: “to or about a person or interferes with a person’s property.”

8

DEFINING STALKING

- STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.”
- **Course of conduct** means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person’s property.

- Doesn’t have to be intentional on their part—are they acting on behalf of the other person?

9



**WHAT IT LOOKS
LIKE ON
CAMPUS**

Stalkers adapt.
On a campus, access is
extensive.

Patterns of weaponizing
college processes by filing **false
reports.**

10

DEFINING STALKING

• *STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would **cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.**”*

- Is the victim:
 - afraid for their safety
 - afraid for the safety of others or
 - suffering substantial emotional distress
- If not, would a reasonable person in the victim’s position experience any of these effects?

11

SUBSTANTIAL EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

• Difficulty eating or sleeping	• Decreased performance at school/work
• Anxiety or nervousness	• Irritability, anger, shock, or confusion
• Nightmares	• Fear response/Hypervigilance
• Increased drug or alcohol use	• Changing routines
• Stress-induced headaches/illness	• Depression

12

DEFINING STALKING

• *STALKING: “engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would **cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or to suffer substantial emotional distress.**”*

• **Reasonable person** means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim (Reasonable college student)

• Determined from the complainant’s perspective (with caveats)

• Considering the totality of the circumstances

13



LET'S DISCUSS:

What is the difference between Stalking and "Healthy Pursuit?"

What is the difference between Stalking and "Conflict?"

14

THE STATS

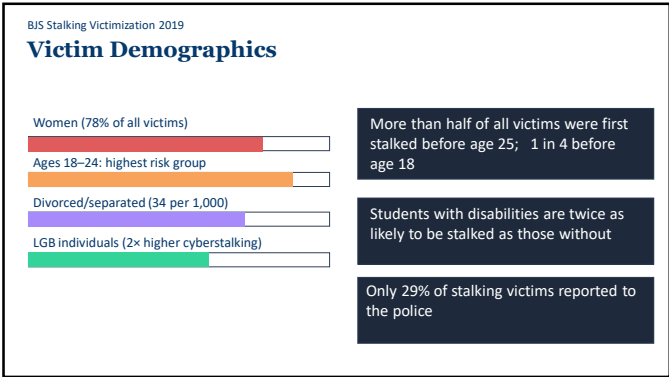
15

WTCS Compliance Collaborative Symposium

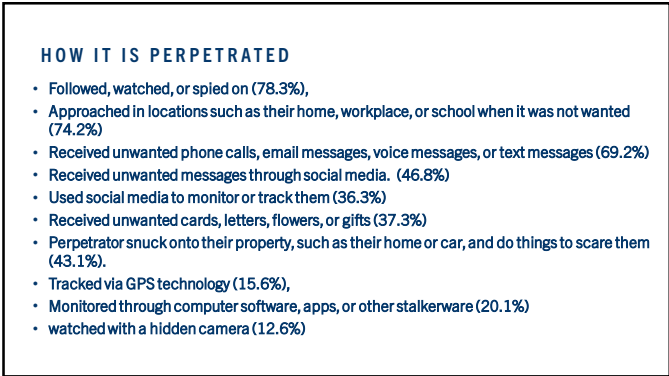
5



16



17



18

Rejected

Largest group. Triggered by relationship breakdown. Mix of reconciliation & revenge. Personality disorders most common. Widest range of methods.

Intimacy Seeker

Pursues perceived 'true love.' 50% have erotomantic delusions. Most persistent group over time. Delusional disorder common.

Incompetent Suitor

Poor social skills. Seeks dates, not love. Feels entitled. Often repeat offenders against multiple different victims.

Resentful

Feels humiliated or wronged. Intent to frighten. Most likely to make threats. Some choose random targets.

Predatory

Smallest group. Prepares for sexual attack. Enjoys power. Paraphilias most common.

Study findings: 30% had delusional disorders · 63% made threats · 36% were assaultive · Rejected & predatory types most assaultive

Sources: Mullen et al., American Journal of Psychiatry, 1999; West & Friedman, Psychiatry, 2008

19

Most Dangerous Category

Ex-Partner & Intimate Partner Stalking

40%

of all stalking victims are stalked by a current/former intimate partner

66%

of female stalking victims are stalked by a current/former intimate partner

81%

of women stalked by IP were also physically assaulted by that partner

31%

of women stalked by IP were also sexually assaulted by that partner

3x

Stalking increases intimate partner homicide risk by 3 times

DURATION & DANGER

Avg. duration — intimate partner stalking

2.2 yrs

Avg. duration — non-intimate stalking

1.0 yr

Victims stalked during the relationship

57%

Had history of violence during relationship

74%

Any contact initiated by the victim increases stalking 68% of the time — even asking them to stop. (Melo y & Boyd, 2003)

Sources: SPARC Stalking & IPV Fact Sheet; SPARC/ActivatingChange 2025

20

An Under-Studied Population

Research on Female Stalkers

Typically single, mid-30s, white, educated; childless (67%)

Most common issue: borderline personality disorder

Less likely than males to have criminal history or substance use

Avg. stalking duration: 22 months; 50% recidivism rate

Motivation Difference

Females more often seek to ESTABLISH intimacy; males more often seek to MAINTAIN a former relationship. Females pursue acquaintances more than ex-intimates — unlike males.

Violence Threshold

25% become physically violent overall. If prior sexual intimacy: 55% violent.

Sources: Melo y & Boyd 2003; Purcell, Pathé & Mullen 2001; Mohandie et al. 2011

Sources: West & Friedman, Psychiatry 2008; Purcell et al., Am. J. Psychiatry 2001

21

WTCS Compliance Collaborative Symposium

7

A Complex Campus Reality

Neurodivergent Individuals & Stalking

- ▶ Developmental delays in romantic milestones — peer-inappropriate courtship tactics
- ▶ Difficulty reading nonverbal cues, social norms, and rejection signals
- ▶ Hyper-fixation on a specific person
- ▶ Inability to interpret indirect communication ('I'm busy' = go away)
- ▶ Individuals pursue romantic targets longer

Intent v. Impact

22

The Bottom Line

Relationship to Victim

- ▶ 40% current/former intimate partners
- ▶ 42% acquaintances
- ▶ Only 18–23% are strangers
- ▶ Victim knowledge enables personalized fear tactics

Violence Risk Predictors

- ▶ Prior sexual intimacy most predictive of violence
- ▶ 63% of stalkers make threats; 36% are assaultive
- ▶ Prior criminal record, substance use, prior threats all ↑ risk
- ▶ 1 in 5 stalkers use weapons to threaten or harm

Escalation is the norm: most stalking cases show increased frequency and intrusiveness over time.

23

Stalking in 2026: What Has Changed

Cyberstalking affects 7.5M people per year in the U.S., with 80% tracked via technology. Women, LGBTQ, and young adults most vulnerable.

Only 26.7% of victims identified stalking as a crime. 48.7% said 'wrong but not a crime.' Young victims — most affected — least likely to perceive it as criminal.

AI-Enabled Stalking
AI tools automate data collection, generate deepfakes, mimic social media accounts, and impersonate victims. Increasingly sophisticated and harder to detect

Stranger Cyberstalking ↑
Only 32% of cyberstalking victims had a domestic relationship with the perpetrator (vs. 69% for cyber-enabled stalking).

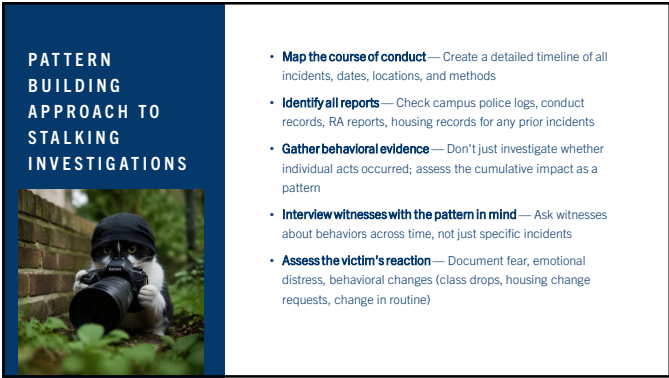
24



25



26



27

SANCTIONING AND REMEDYING STALKING

•Motivation

☐ Revenge

☐ Fear

☐ Joke

☐ Power

•Impact

☐ Severity

☐ Work/School

☐ Reputation

☐ Emotional distress

28

SANCTIONING
FACTORS AND
KEY TAKEAWAYS

Separation of Findings and Sanctioning

Findings are distinct from sanctions; intent does not negate findings but informs sanctioning decisions.

Mitigating/Aggravating Considerations

Disability and interpersonal violence dynamics may impact sanctions

Key Takeaways Summary

All elements are required; context and reasonable person analysis guide evidence-based findings.

Adjudicator Responsibility

Adjudicators must apply policy carefully to ensure safety, fairness, and accountability.

29

CASE STUDY

• Maya and Jordan dated for 3 weeks during the fall semester. Maya ended the relationship. Since then:

• Jordan has texted Maya 47 times in 6 weeks (she has not responded)

• Jordan showed up at Maya's residence hall twice "to talk" — refused to leave until an RA intervened (RA made notes, did not file a report)

• Jordan messaged two of Maya's friends asking for her class schedule; one friend passed along the information

• Jordan emailed Maya through the student email system with a message saying "I just need five minutes, I care about you, please"

• Jordan began sitting in the same section of the library where Maya studies; Maya changed her study location twice

• Jordan's roommate texted Maya saying "Jordan hasn't eaten in days and it's your fault"

• Maya comes to your office and says: "I don't want to get Jordan in trouble. I just want him to leave me alone. I don't know if this is even a 'real problem.'"

30

MEOW.

Ann Todd, Esq.

Terry-Todd Consulting, LLC

ann@terry-todd.com



31
