

# **Stalking Overview/ Stalking and Technology**

Richmond, VA

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# Stalking

resource center

## **Training Technical Assistance Resources**

- Statutes
- Legislative Updates
- Manuals/Guides
- Videos
- Clearinghouse

The Stalking Resource Center is a program of the National Center for Victims of Crime. The mission of the Stalking Resource Center is to enhance the ability of professionals, organizations, and systems to effectively respond to stalking. The Stalking Resource Center envisions a future in which the criminal justice system and its many allied community partners will effectively collaborate and respond to stalking, improve victim safety and well-being, and hold offenders accountable.

The Stalking Resource Center provides training, technical assistance, and resource materials for professionals working with and responding to stalking victims and offenders.

# Overview



- ▣ Defining Stalking
- ▣ Stalking Prevalence and Impact
- ▣ Intersection with Domestic Violence
- ▣ Stalking Behaviors
- ▣ The Use of Technology to Stalk



# Defining Stalking

# Stalking



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

# Stalking



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

- ❑ Repeated behavior – Course of conduct
- ❑ Usually two or more incidents
- ❑ Individual behaviors may not be illegal
- ❑ Can be difficult to recognize the pattern

# Stalking



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

- The target is a specific person
- Others – family, children, friends, intimate partners

# Stalking



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

- ❑ Are we all afraid of the same things?
- ❑ Would a reasonable person in the victim's shoes feel fear?
- ❑ Can you threaten someone without using words?
- ❑ CONTEXT IS CRITICAL!

# Context & Fear



- ❑ Stalking behaviors often have specific meaning that is only understood between offender & victim.
- ❑ Something may be frightening for the victim but not to you.
- ❑ Stalking criminalizes otherwise non-criminal behavior.

# Prevalence of Stalking



- How many people are stalked annually:
  - United States?
- Who is at greatest risk of being a stalking victim?

# Prevalence of Stalking

## NISVS 2010 Report

**6.6 million** individuals stalked in a 12-month period.



# Prevalence of Stalking



- 6.6 million stalked in 1 year
- Stalking victimization at some point in their lifetime:
  - ▣ 1 in 6 women
  - ▣ 1 in 19 men

- The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report (2011)

# Lifetime Stalking Victimization

Stalking victimization at some point in their lifetime:

- Conservative definition – **very** fearful

- ▣ 1 in 6 women

- ▣ 1 in 19 men

- Less conservative definition – any level of fear

- ▣ 1 in 4 women

- ▣ 1 in 13 men

# Youth Victimization



- 1 in 5 female victims

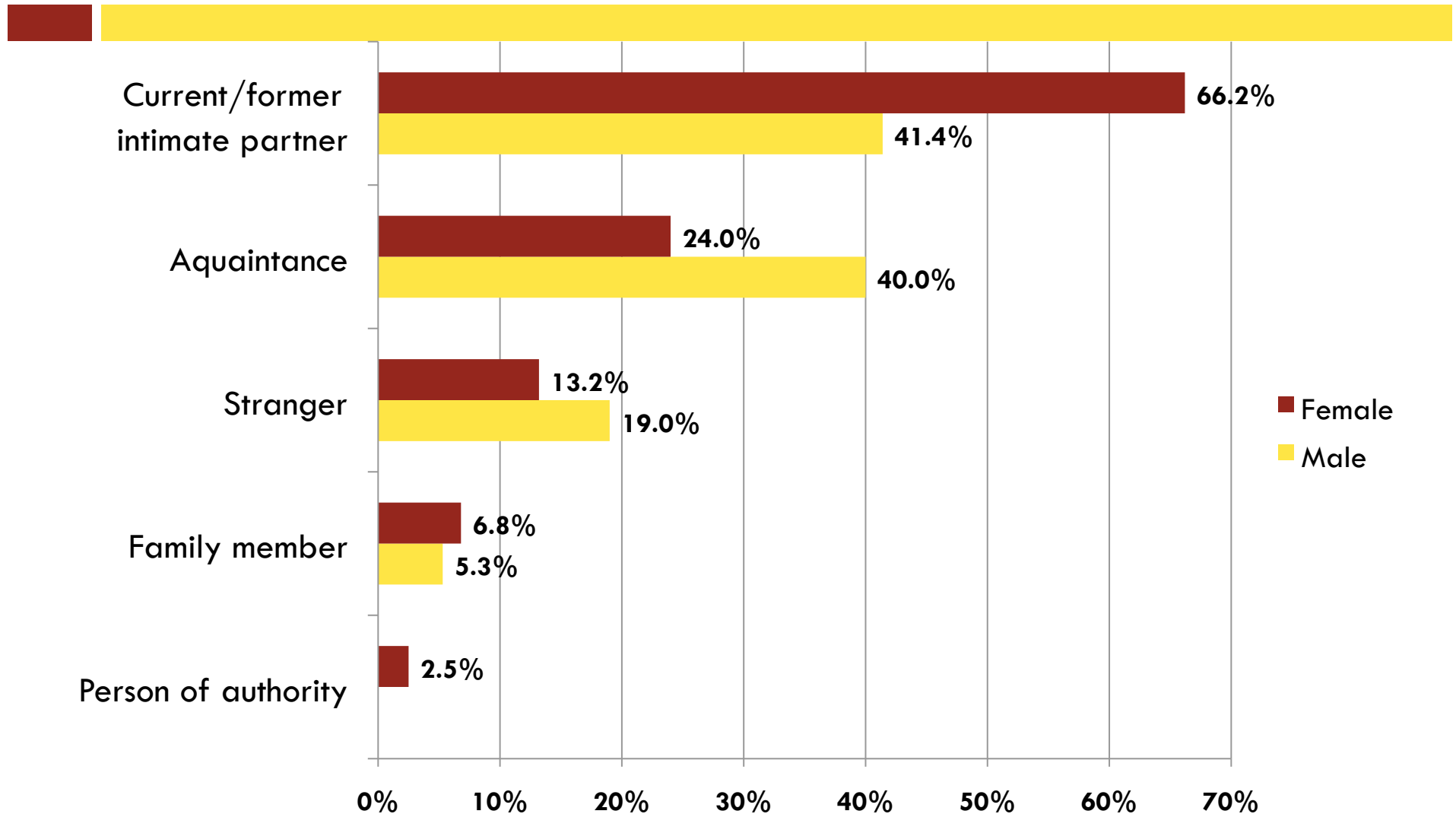
- 1 in 14 male victims

experienced stalking between the ages of 11 and 17

# Stalking Dynamics

- ❑ Women more likely to experience stalking victimization
- ❑ Individuals under age 25 experience the highest rates of stalking
- ❑ Most stalkers are male
  - ❑ Males equally likely to be stalked by a male or female
- ❑ The majority of victims know their stalkers

# Victim Offender Relationship



- The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report (2011)

# Stalking & Domestic Violence



# Stalking and Domestic Violence

- 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)

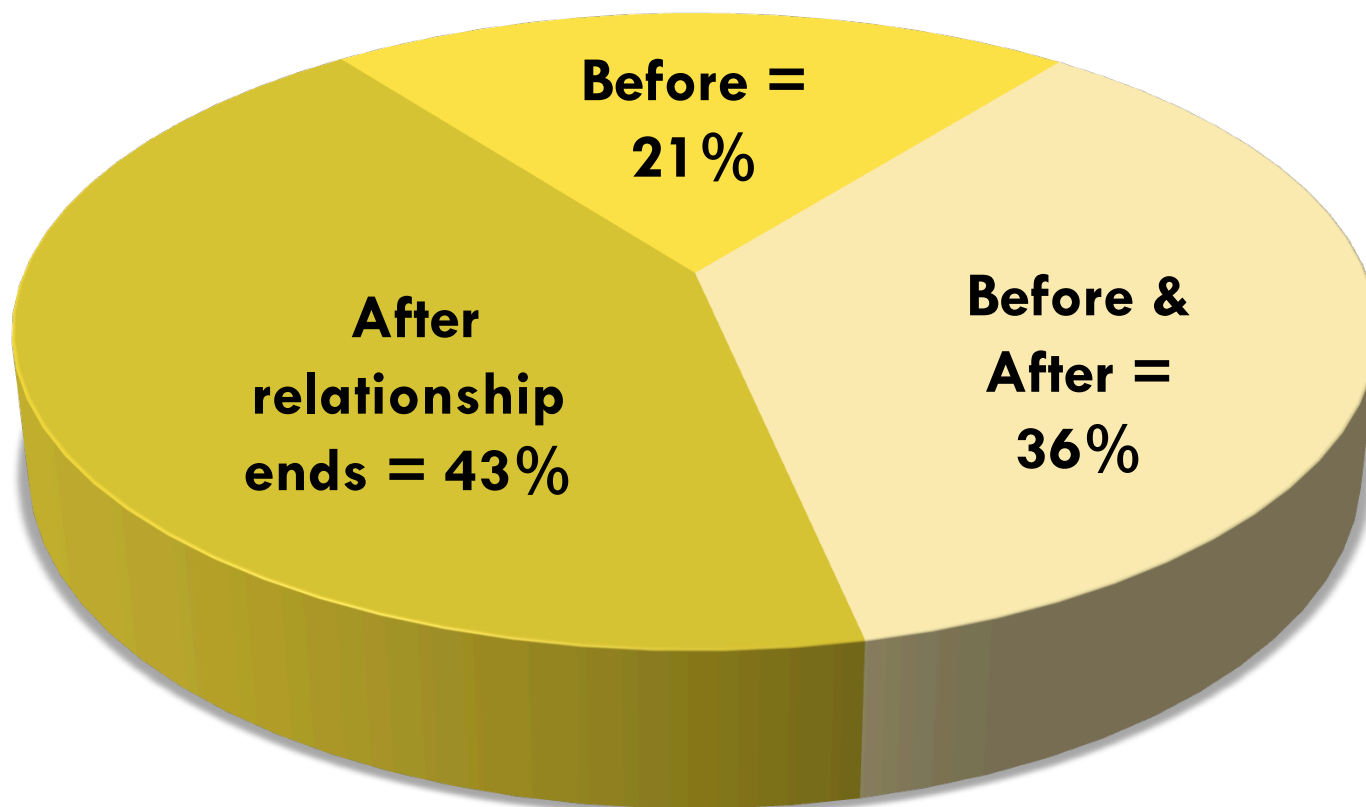
- 3/4 of women who experienced stalking-related behaviors experienced other forms of victimization (sexual, physical, or both)

- Stalking and physical assault only 8%

- Stalking, physical and rape/sexual assault 11%

- Stalking acknowledgement and reporting among college women experiencing intrusive behaviors (2007)

# Point in Intimate Relationship when Stalking of Women Occurs



- National Violence Against Women Survey (1998)

# 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

# Lethality (Femicide)



- 76% of cases:
  - ▣ at least one episode of stalking within 12 months prior to the murder
  
- 85% of attempted cases:
  - ▣ at least one episode of stalking within 12 months prior to the attempted murder

# Lethality (Femicide)

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

# Potential Lethality Indicators

- ❑ Short courtship
  - ❑ More than 50% of the couples had moved in together in under six months
- ❑ Jealous drunks
  - ❑ Substance abuse in combination with relationship jealousy
- ❑ Offender decline
  - ❑ Job loss
  - ❑ Hygiene
  - ❑ Appearance
  - ❑ Increased substance use



**Physical Abuse**

**+**

**Stalking**

**=**

**Higher indicator of potential  
lethality than either behavior  
alone**

**Do most  
stalking victims  
report to law  
enforcement?**

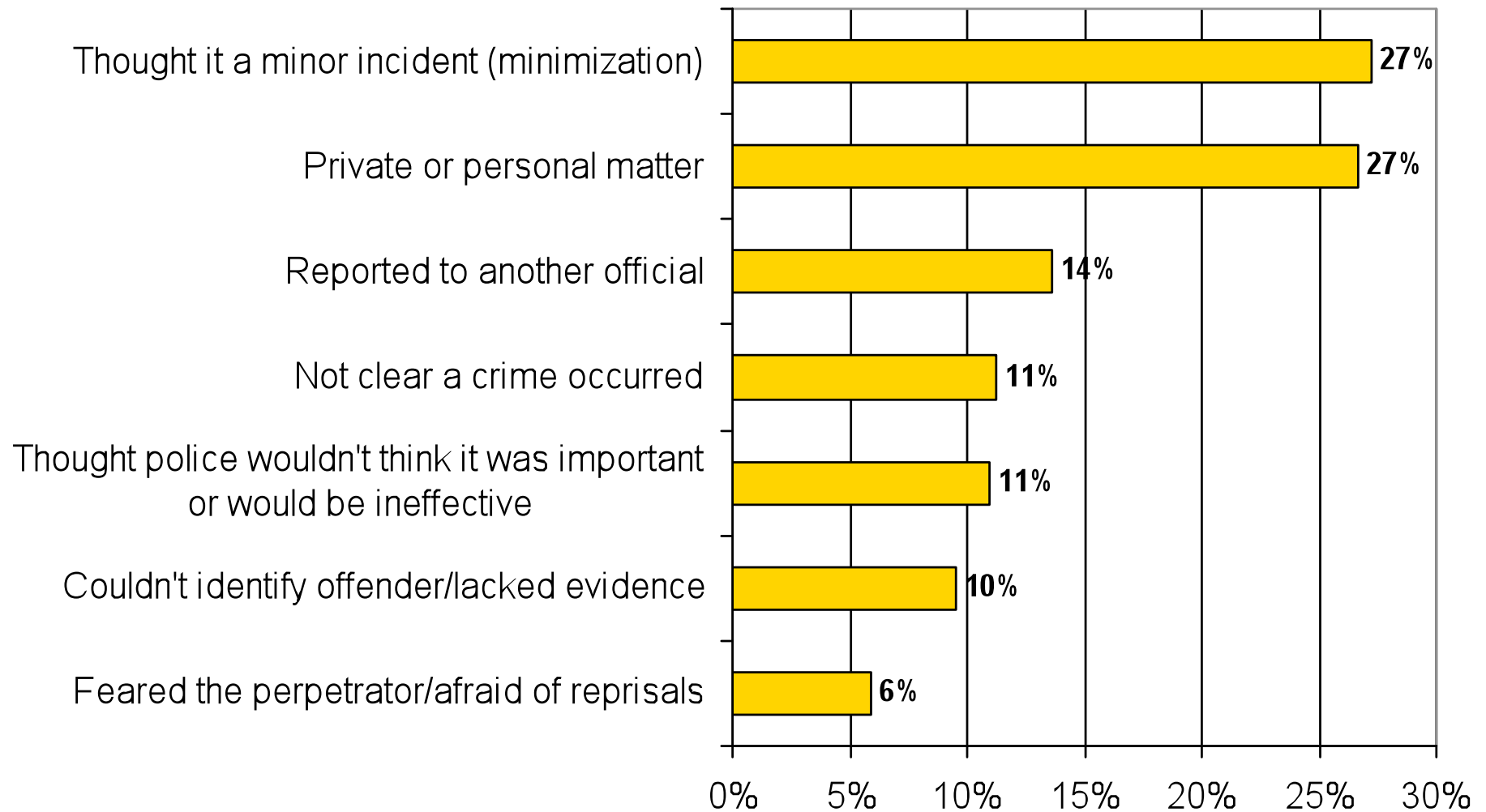


# Reporting to Law Enforcement



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

# Reasons For Not Reporting



# Stalking is Rarely Charged

Between 5 and 16% of stalking cases are actually charged as stalking when police already have all the information they need to charge

- ▣ Stalking is a difficult crime to work with
- ▣ Other charges seem more expedient
- ▣ Resource scarcity
- ▣ Systemic barriers in the rest of the CJS

Klein, A., et.al. (2009). *A Statewide Study of Stalking and Its Criminal Justice Response*.  
Tjaden, P., & Thoennes, N. (2001). *Stalking: Its role in serious domestic violence cases*.

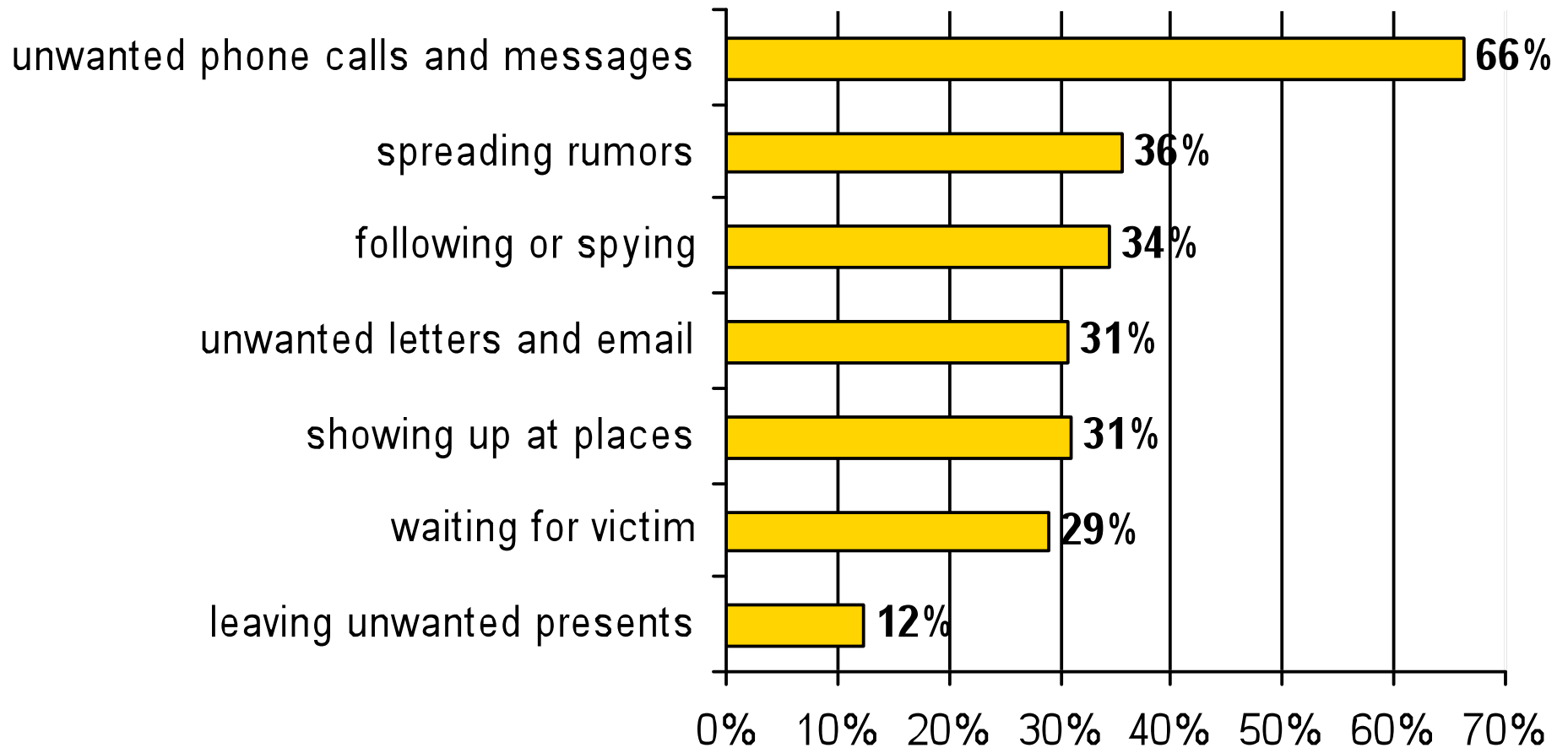


# Stalking Behavior

# Pattern of Behavior

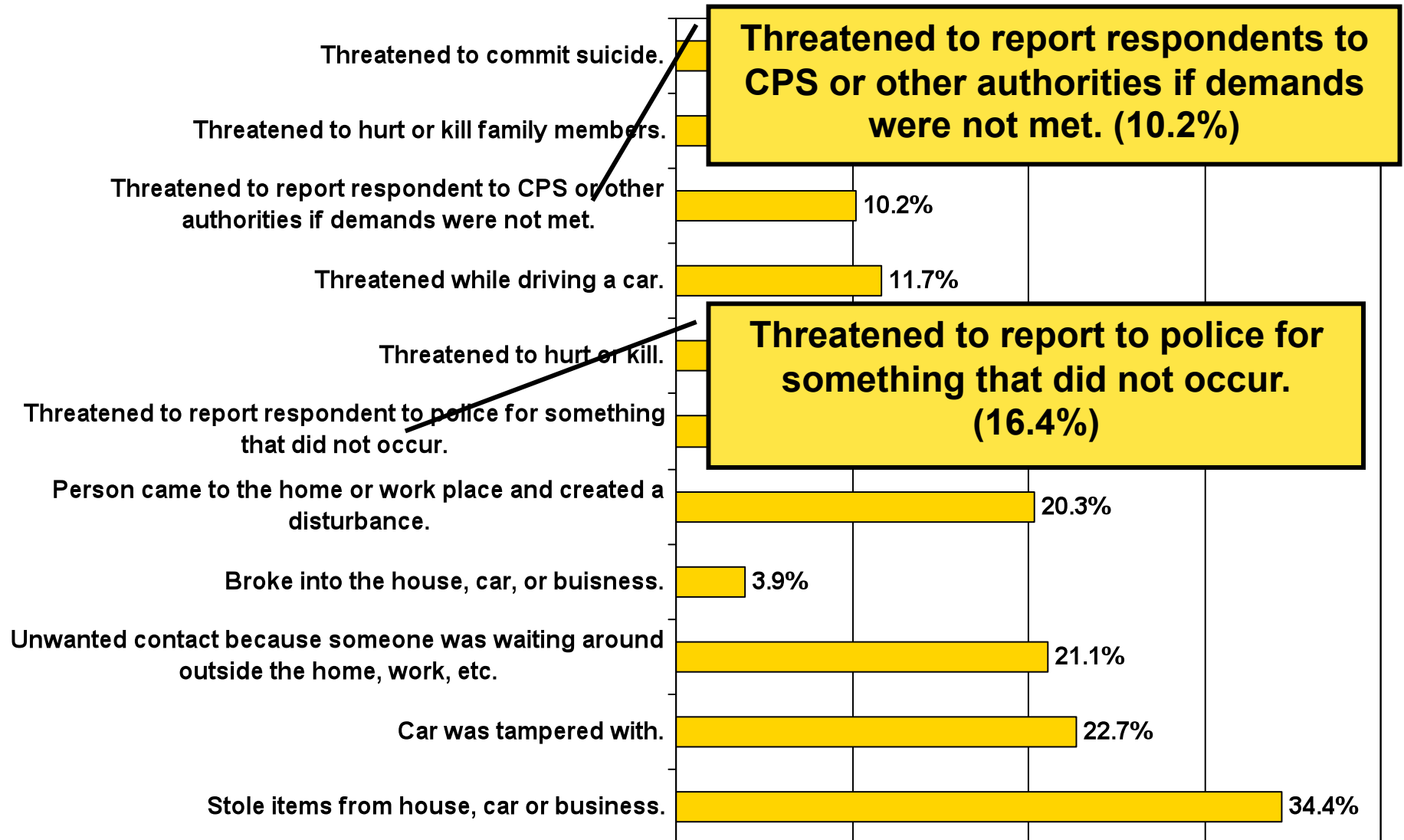
- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victim at least once per week
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach
- Weapons used to harm or threaten victims in about 20% of cases

# Stalking Behaviors



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

# Stalking Behaviors

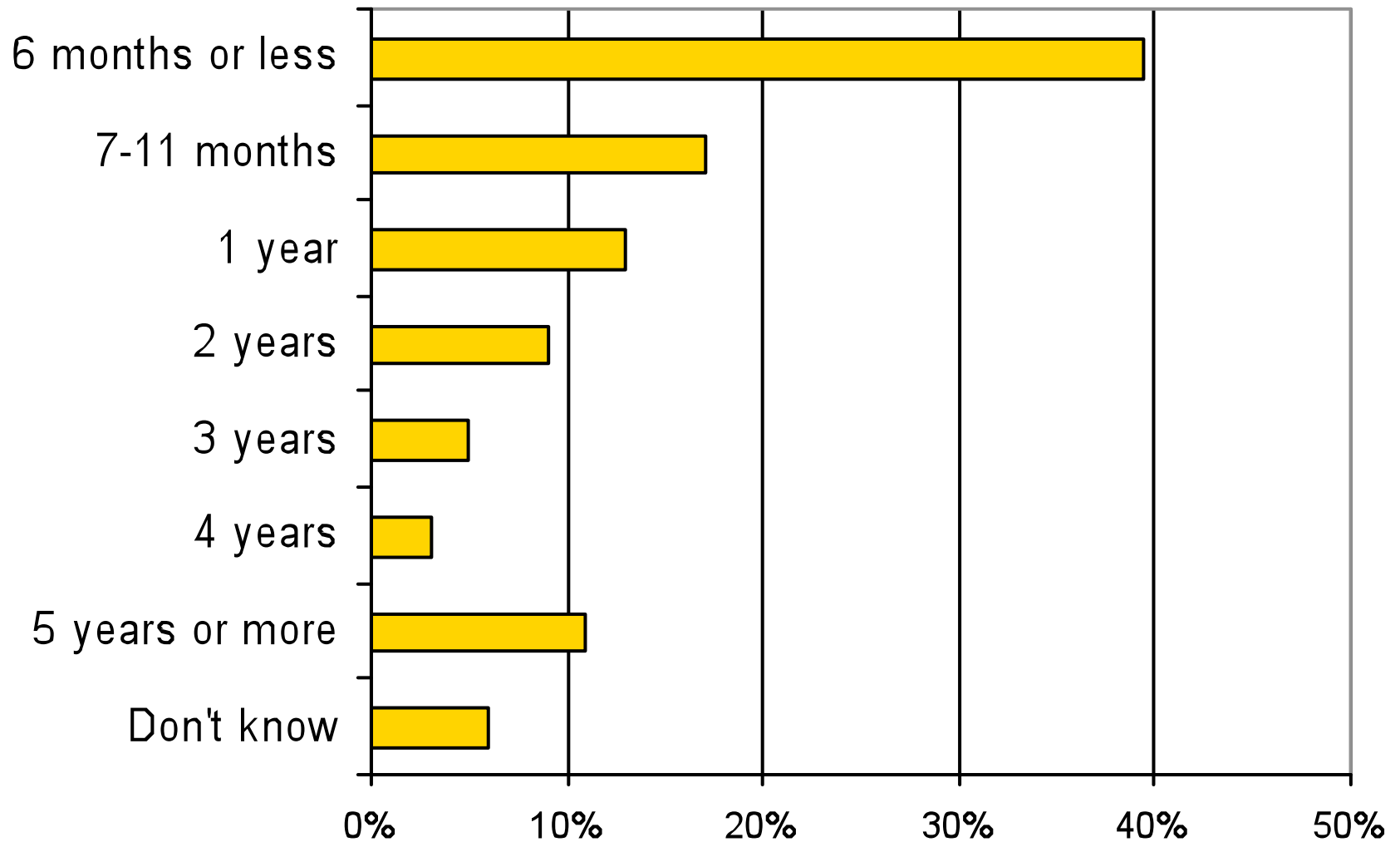


# Stalking by Proxy



- Third party stalking
  - ▣ Friends, relatives, children
  - ▣ Unintentional
  - ▣ Intentional
- 50% - 60% of partner stalking victims say others were involved in stalking - Logan et al. (2006)

# Duration of Stalking



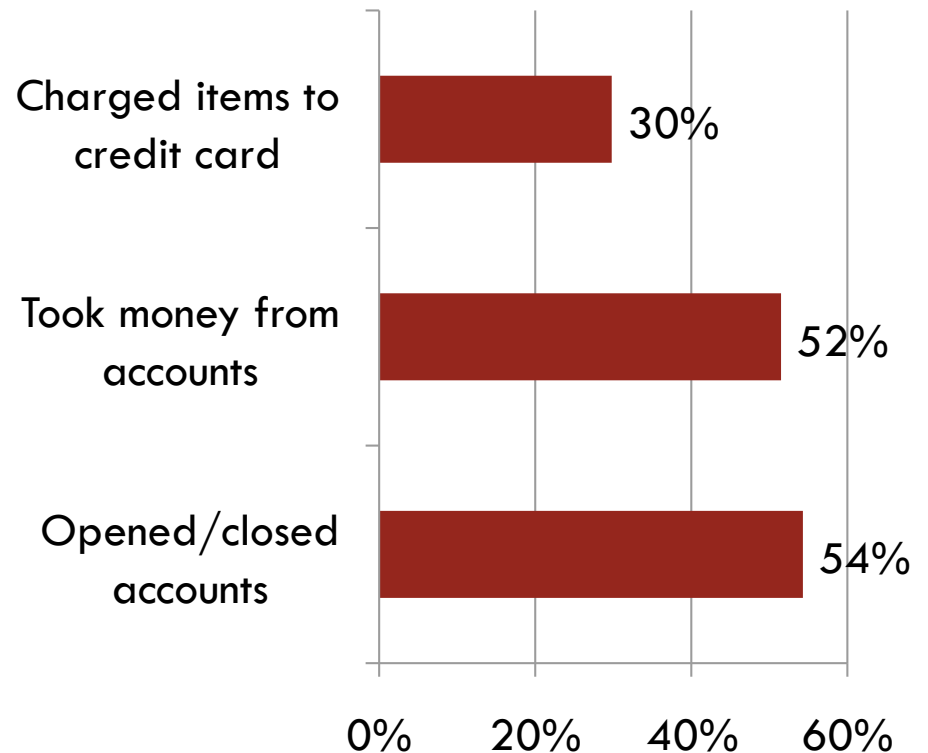
-- Stalking Victimization in the United States, BJS (2009)

# Stalking and Other Crimes

## □ Among stalking cases...

- ▣ 24% involve property damage
- ▣ 21% involve a direct attack on the victim
- ▣ 15% involve an attack on another person or pet

## □ Identity theft



# The Use of Technology to Stalk



- Cell Phones
- Spoofing
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
- Computers
  - ▣ Spyware
  - ▣ Internet/Email
  - ▣ Social Networking
  - ▣ Information Marketplace
- Cameras

# Technology Is Not the Enemy!



**Technology does NOT cause Stalking**

**BUT**

**It Makes it Easier and More Invasive**

# Cell Phones



Offender can maintain Constant Contact:

- ☐ Make repeated calls
- ☐ Send repeated texts
- ☐ Listening and monitoring device
- ☐ GPS device
- ☐ Send emails
- ☐ Internet access

# Cell Phone Spyware



- ❑ Targeted at parents and employers
- ❑ Call logs, contacts, text messages, photos, and other info on phone
- ❑ Internet and email activity on Smartphones
- ❑ Intercept and listen in on calls
- ❑ GPS
- ❑ Need physical access to phone to install
- ❑ Difficult to detect



**Spy Software for  
Mobile Phones**

Monitor Text Messages, Call Details and GPS Online!



HOME >

SMS LOGS >

CALL LOGS >

GPS LOGS >

SUPPORT >

LOGOUT >

**LOG VIEWERS**

- View SMS Logs
- View Call Logs
- View GPS Logs
- View URL Logs
- View Photo Logs
- View Contact Logs
- View Email Logs
- View Calendar Logs
- View Cell ID Logs
- View Task Logs
- View Memo Logs
- View LIVE Panel

**USER TOOLS**

- Search Logs
- Clear All Logs
- Logs Summary
- Export Logs
- Change Password
- SMS Commands
- Logoff Account

**USA Based Support!**  
7 Days Per Week  
9AM-5PM EST

**QUESTIONS?**  
**1-888-475-5345**  
1-904-696-1438

Or Click here  
to Contact Us

**SMS LOGS MOBILE SPY**

SMS Messages Sent and Received

Showing 1 - 9 of 9 records

[Download CSV](#)

	TIME	SENDER	RECEIVER	DIRECTION	TEXT MESSAGE
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 23:01:19 PM	Monitored Device	845-429-6244	Outgoing	Hi honey, my boss is making me stay another 30 min. I will be home soon, dont wait up. Good night, I love you!
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 21:50:08 PM	Monitored Device	845-624-2203	Outgoing	Of course babe, on my way now!
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 21:49:07 PM	845-624-2203	Monitored Device	Incoming	Hey you still coming?
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 18:07:36 PM	Monitored Device	845-624-2203	Outgoing	I should be there around 10:30 or 11
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 17:18:25 PM	845-624-2203	Monitored Device	Incoming	What time will you be able to come tonight?
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 16:37:08 PM	Monitored Device	845-624-2203	Outgoing	Me too baby :p
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 16:32:20 PM	845-624-2203	Monitored Device	Incoming	Me too. I cant wait to see your fine booty :)
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 16:12:24 PM	Monitored Device	845-624-2203	Outgoing	Im looking forward to tonight... Im telling him I am working late
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011-05-03 11:28:56 AM	845-624-2203	Monitored Device	Incoming	Good morning, are we still on for tonight?

Select All | Deselect All | Delete

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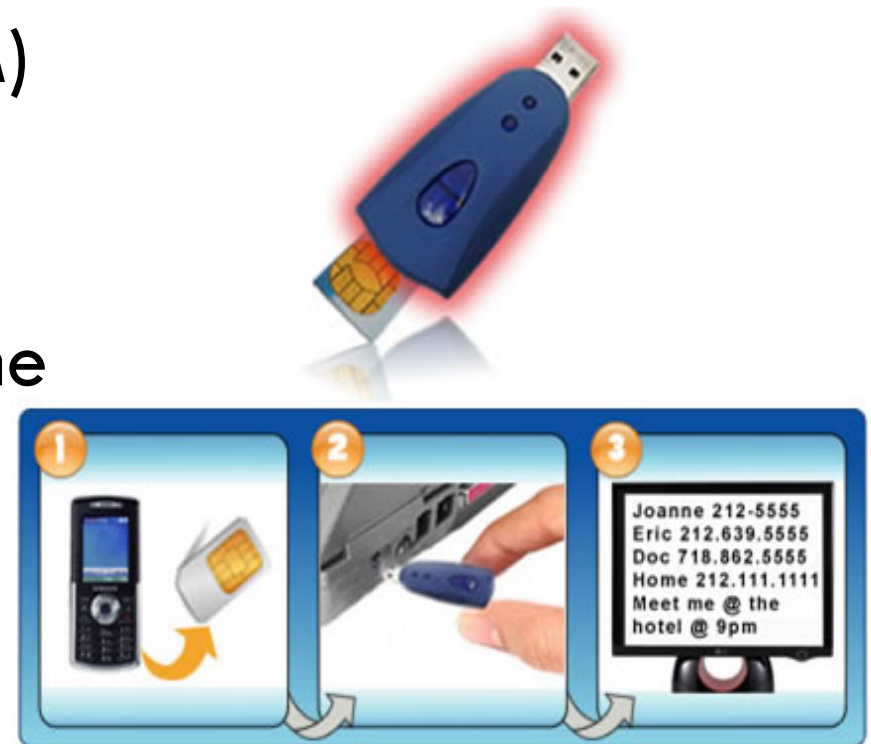


# SIM Card (Subscriber Identity Module)

Portable memory chip in cell phones on the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network

Stores all information on phone (call logs, texts, contacts)

Information can be accessed by using a SIM card Reader



# Cell Phone GPS Tracking





## Sprint Family Locator

From the **Safely** family

*Locate Your Children with GPS*

See their real-time locations on interactive satellite maps from any PC or web-enabled mobile phone.

*Make Sure Your Kids Arrive Home Safe*

Automatically check to make sure your kids got home safe and receive notifications if they're not there.

[➔ Learn More](#)

**Get Your First 15 Days Free**

[Try Now!](#)



### Sign In

Phone number:

Password:

☐ Remember my phone number

[Sign In](#)

[Forgot your password?](#)



*Have a kid on Facebook?*

Safely Social Monitor helps you guide your kids decisions on Facebook. Its free for Sprint Family Locator customers

[➔ Try It Now](#)



*Android Phone?*

Check out the new Sprint Family Locator for Android app and locate your kids from your phone.

[➔ Free Download](#)



*Tip: Better Accuracy with GPS*

Keeping GPS enabled on your family's phones greatly improves the accuracy of locates.

If you have a hard time locating a phone, check its GPS settings.



Use Sprint Family Locator on Your Mobile Phone: visit <http://sfmobile.com> in your phones browser.

# Spoofing



# Call Spoofing



Can be used by offender to:

- ☐ Change number in caller ID
- ☐ Change voice
- ☐ Record conversation
- ☐ Major Providers: spoofcard.com, telespoof.com, phonegangster.com, itellas.com, and spoof.tel.com

# Text Message Spoofing

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fakemytext.com

spoofcard.com

spoof.tel.com

txtspoof.com



**SpoofCard**  
BE WHO YOU WANT TO BE

Send Text Messages  
From Any Phone Number.

**NEW** Now Featuring Text Message Spoofing!

**BUY CREDITS NOW!**

The image is a rectangular advertisement with a light blue background. At the top, the word 'SpoofCard' is written in a large, stylized font. 'Spoof' is in white with a blue outline, and 'Card' is in orange with a blue outline. Below this, in a smaller blue box, is the tagline 'BE WHO YOU WANT TO BE'. The main text in the center reads 'Send Text Messages From Any Phone Number.' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, a yellow banner with the word 'NEW' in black and the text 'Now Featuring Text Message Spoofing!' in black is displayed. At the bottom, a green button with a gradient and a drop shadow contains the text 'BUY CREDITS NOW!' in white, bold, uppercase letters.

# Tips for Victims



- ❑ Preserve and document:
  - ❑ Take photos of text messages
  - ❑ Write down incidents
- ❑ Spyware:
  - ❑ Best option is to get a new phone, but also keep infected phone
- ❑ Cell phone access:
  - ❑ Who has access?
  - ❑ Passwords

# GPS



# GPS



## Passive:

- ❑ Tracks and records movements for future retrieval
- ❑ Requires stalker to access the actual device in order to retrieve information

## Active:

- ❑ Monitors movements in real-time (instant viewing)
- ❑ More expensive
- ❑ Involves a companion software program which can be accessed by a computer



# Computer Spyware



# Computer Spyware



## Software and Hardware

- Records and monitors all computer activity:
  - ▣ Programs Used
  - ▣ Keystrokes typed
  - ▣ Screen snapshots
  - ▣ Internet Searches/Websites
  - ▣ Emails/IM/Chat

# Keystroke Logging Hardware



# Social Networking

- ❑ Monitor and keep tabs on the victim
- ❑ Threatening messages and posts
- ❑ Impersonation
- ❑ Discover location of victim due to geo-tagging
- ❑ Privacy and security settings
- ❑ What you post on your profile



# Information on the Internet



- ❑ What information is out there about you?
- ❑ Information from public records, property records, tax records, court records, retailers, etc.
- ❑ Veromi.com
- ❑ Zabasearch.com
- ❑ Intelius.com
- ❑ Google.com

# Tips for Victims



- ❑ Preserve and document:
  - ❑ Print emails
  - ❑ Screen shots
  - ❑ Write down incidents
- ❑ Spyware:
  - ❑ Safer computer
- ❑ Privacy/security settings on social networking sites
- ❑ Check what information is out there about you

# Cameras



# Cameras

- ❑ Used to watch, monitor, and spy on the victim
- ❑ Extremely discreet and easily disguised
- ❑ Difficult to detect:
  - ▣ Signal Detection – if camera is remotely transmitting, a signal can be detected by certain devices
  - ▣ Lens Detection – device that can search for a reflection from a camera lens



# Victims of Stalking



# Impact of Stalking

- ❑ Minimization; Self-blame
- ❑ Guilt, shame or embarrassment
- ❑ Frustration, Irritability, Anger
- ❑ Shock and confusion
- ❑ Fear and anxiety
- ❑ Depression
- ❑ Emotional numbness
- ❑ Flashbacks
- ❑ Isolation/disconnection from other people
- ❑ Difficulties with concentration or attention
- ❑ Feeling suicidal
- ❑ Decreased ability to perform at work or school, or accomplish daily tasks
- ❑ Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- ❑ Sleep disturbances, nightmares
- ❑ Sexual dysfunction
- ❑ Fatigue
- ❑ Fluctuations in weight
- ❑ Self-medication with alcohol/drugs
- ❑ Feeling on guard most of the time - hypervigilance

# Impact on Victims

## Afraid of:

- ❑ 46% not knowing what would happen next
- ❑ 30% bodily harm
- ❑ 29% behavior would never stop
- ❑ 13% harm or kidnap a child
- ❑ 10% loss of freedom
- ❑ 9% death
- ❑ 4% losing one's mind

# Resources

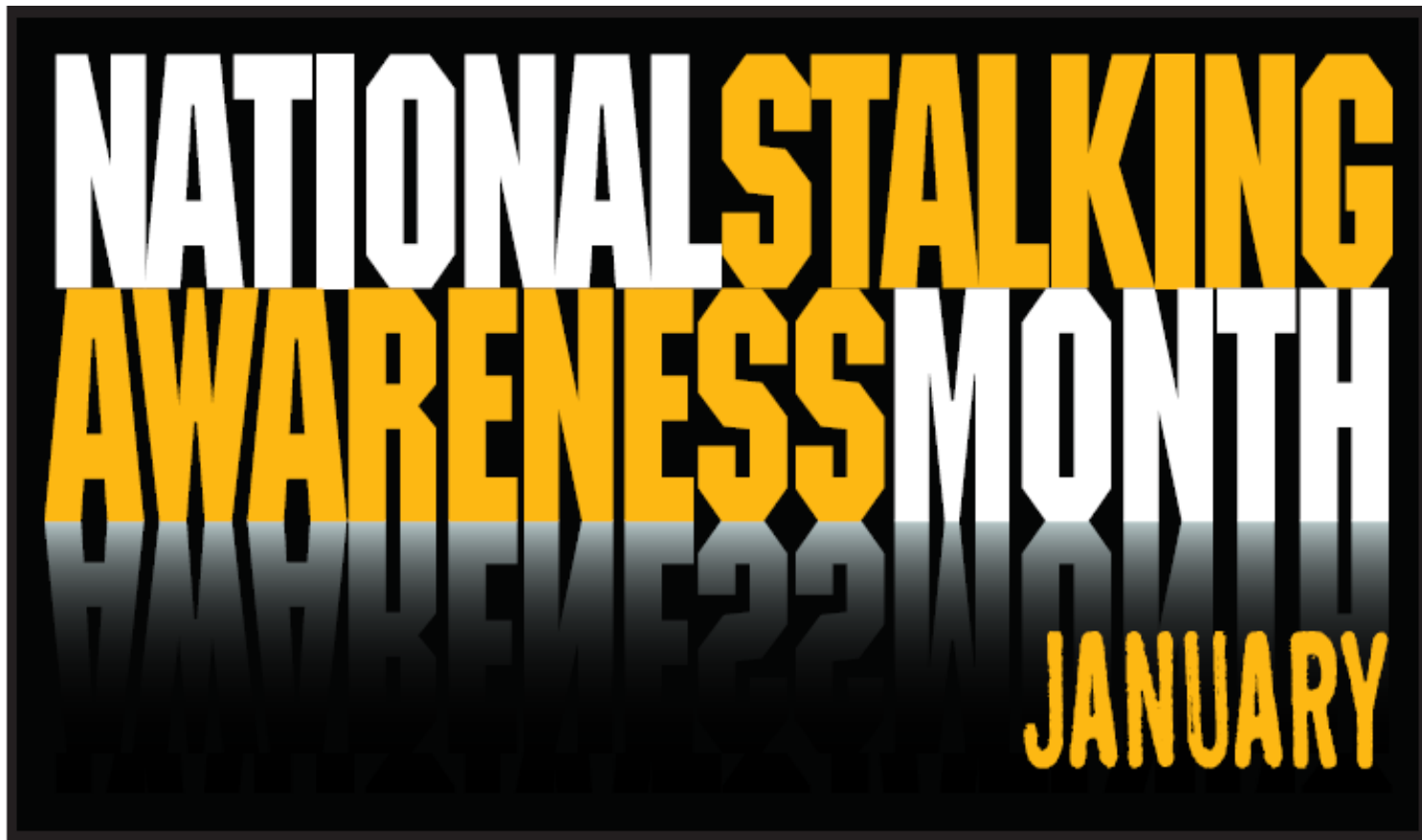


- ☐ **Brochure for Victims (Are You Being Stalked?)**
- ☐ **Stalking Fact Sheet**
- ☐ **Stalking Questions and Answers**
- ☐ **Stalking Incident Behavior Log**
- ☐ **Sample MOU - Stalking CCR**

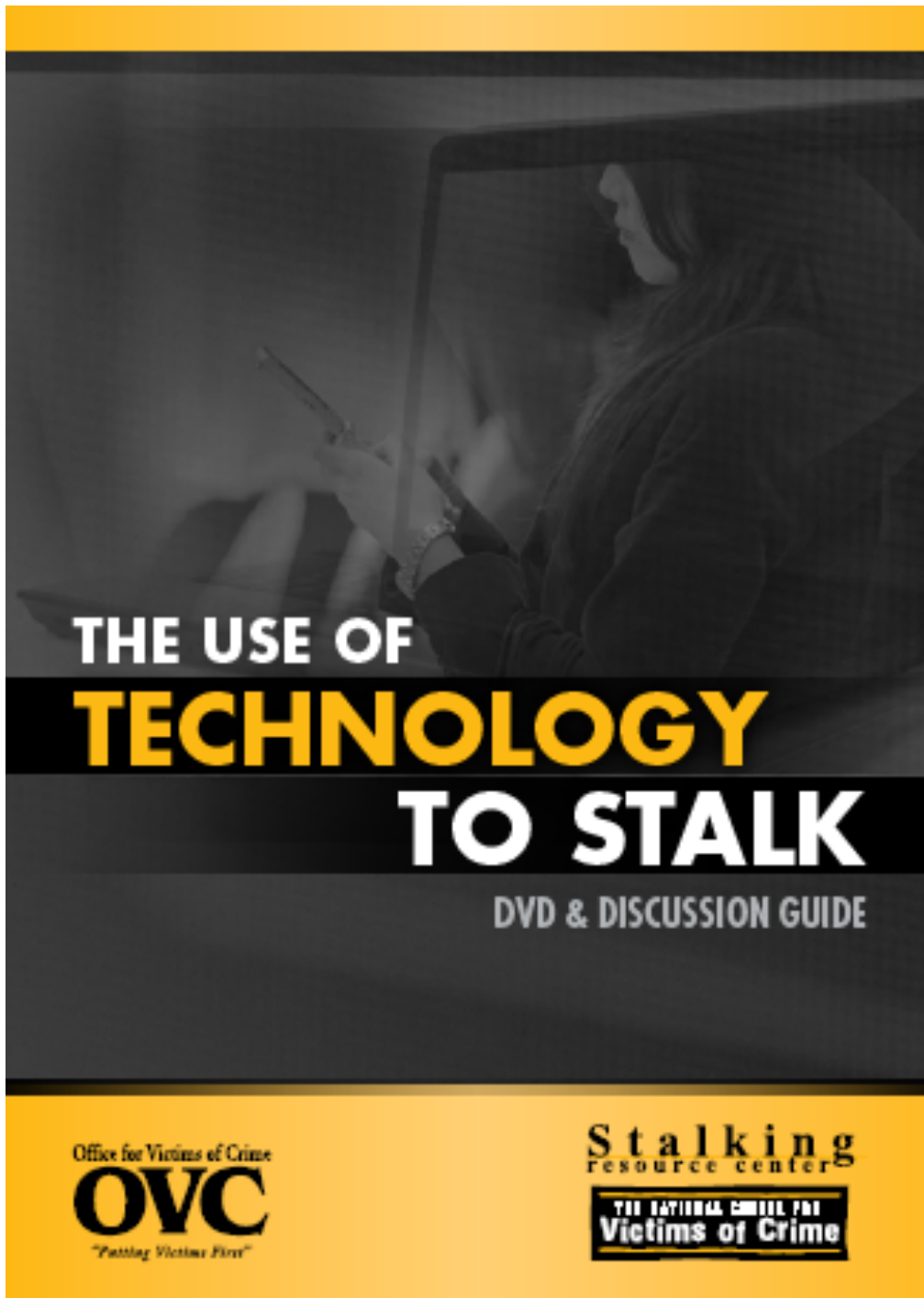
**[www.ncvc.org/src](http://www.ncvc.org/src)**

# Raising Awareness

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[www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org](http://www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org)



Visit  
[www.ncvc.org/src](http://www.ncvc.org/src)  
to order a free  
copy

# Stalking

resource center

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**Victims of Crime**