



Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**ACTIONALLIANCE**

Welcome! This webinar  
will begin at 1:00 PM.

# HOW CAN WE MAKE THE MOST OF THIS ONLINE SPACE?

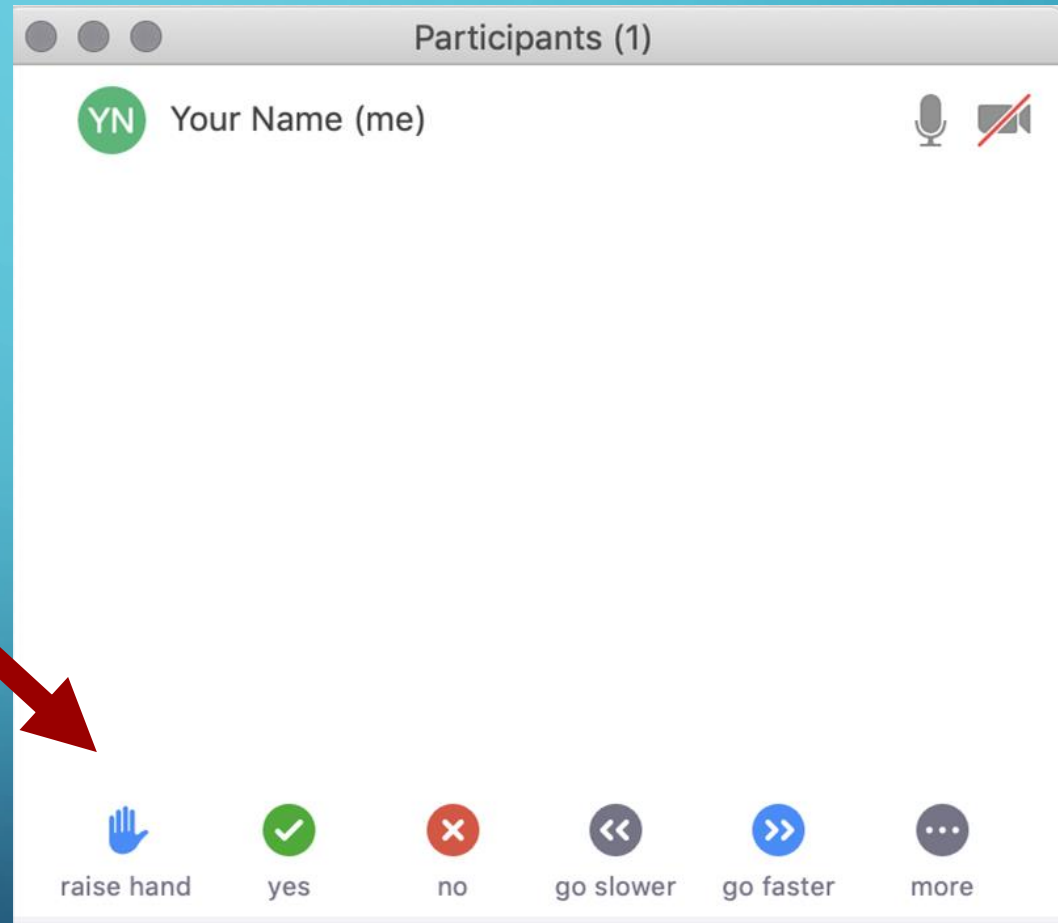
- ★ Pay attention to your needs & reactions
- ★ Minimize distractions, if you can
- ★ Grab your snacks & beverages now
- ★ Have something to take notes
- ★ Use the chat in Zoom
- ★ Raise your hand in Zoom if you would like to unmute yourself to say or ask something
- ★ Use a thumbs down in Zoom OR send the facilitators a private chat if you'd like to take a break, and we'll reply privately
- ★ Have patience for us and your fellow participants

# MEETING REACTIONS: RAISE YOUR HAND IN ZOOM

Use the  
participants  
menu tool

--or--

Type \* in chat





# SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS INSIDE SHELTERS RUN BY SDVAs

CONSIDERATIONS AND COMPLICATIONS

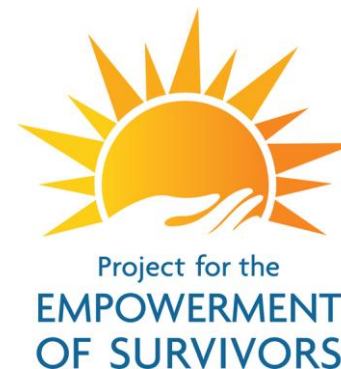
# THE ACTION ALLIANCE IS VIRGINIA'S LEADING VOICE ON SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.



L G B T Q  
partner abuse  
& sexual assault  
HELPLINE  
1.866.356.6998  
TEXT: 804.793.9999  
CHAT: www.vadata.org/chat

THE RED FLAG CAMPAIGN

VAdata



# PRESENTER

- Amanda Pohl: Data Systems and Evaluation Director

# RISE OF SECURITY CAMERAS

- The U.S. is outpacing China and the U.K. in security cameras per person.
- “The United States has 15.28 CCTV cameras every 100 individuals, followed by China with 14.36 and the United Kingdom with 7.5.<sup>1</sup>”
- It is estimated that 20% of U.S. households had security cameras inside their homes in 2016<sup>2</sup>.
- With falling prices of in-home cameras and ease of use, it is likely this number has increased significantly

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.inverse.com/article/61552-united-states-china-surveillance-cameras>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ipvm.com/reports/home-security-camera-statistics-2016>



“

*Our professional commitment to privacy and survivor control over their own information (how it is collected, maintained, and shared) is paramount. It is never advisable to audio or video record a survivor without his or her consent. A person's recorded image could be considered personally identifying information and subject to federal VAWA and state protections.*

”





# WHY WOULD YOU WANT SECURITY CAMERAS?

- Feeling of safety and security
- Monitoring property
- Monitoring people and who may be coming and going
- Evidence
- Ensuring compliance with laws/rules and protect the shelter
- Protect children

The background is a dark teal gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line-art elements resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines connecting to small circles.

# WHY WE DO NOT RECOMMEND SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS INSIDE A SHELTER

THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES THAT CAN DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD

# RECORDING IN VIRGINIA, LEGALLY

- Audio consent (one party)
- Video without Audio (reasonable expectation of privacy)
- Video that includes Audio (case law in unclear)

# CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

- Definition: “any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor (someone under 18 years of age)”
- Includes a picture of a naked child if sufficiently sexually suggestive
- Consider: is the benefit of camera surveillance in a shelter outweighed by the risk of inadvertently capturing video of children that may violate federal child pornography laws?

# TOOL FOR ABUSERS

- Abuser may learn that camera are being used in shelter and seek to gain access to the footage
- Could attempt to use this to prove the survivor was not acting in the best interest of the child in custody case
- Could this be harmful to survivors in other ways?
- Does your agency want to be in this position?

The background is a dark teal gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line-art elements resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines connecting to small circles.

# CONSIDERATIONS FOR THOSE WITH CAMERAS

IF THERE ARE CAMERAS INSIDE THE SHELTER, SOME PRECAUTIONS MUST BE TAKEN

# CONFIDENTIALITY

- Adhere to VAWA, FVPSA, state laws, etc.
- Permission
- Video scrubbing
- Evidentiary issues

# CLIENT RECORDS

- Personally-identifying information
- Follow rules for how these need to be maintained
- Know what you must keep and for how long
- Know how you must store and label this as part of the client record



# ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

- Turn off cameras when an attorney visits a client
- Do not compromise privilege

# CONSIDERATIONS

It's complicated

- Consider whether it is worth the risk
- Consider whether it is worth the workload
- Consider what you really gain
- Consider if surveillance cameras inside shelters maintain survivor power and control over their own information and encourage survivor autonomy

The background is a solid teal color with a subtle gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line-art elements resembling circuit traces or data paths, with small circles at the end of the lines.

# ANY QUESTIONS?

CONTACT:

AMANDA POHL, DATA SYSTEMS AND EVALUATION DIRECTOR

804-377-0335 X228

[APOHL@VSDVALLIANCE.ORG](mailto:APOHL@VSDVALLIANCE.ORG)