



Stalking: Know It. Name It. STOP IT.

WHAT IS STALKING?

A course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

Stalking is a dangerous crime that affects 3.4 million adults in the United States each year.

Victims of Stalking:

- 3 in 4 stalking victims are stalked by someone they know.
- 30% of stalking victims are stalked by a current or former intimate partner and 10% of stalking victims are stalked by a stranger.
- Persons aged 18-24 years experience the highest rate of stalking.
- 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for 5 years or more.
- 46% of stalking victims experience at least one unwanted contact per week.
- 1 in 4 victims report being stalked through the use of some form of technology (such as e-mail or instant messaging), 10% of victims report being monitored with global positioning systems (GPS), and 8% report being monitored through video or digital cameras, or listening devices.

Stalking Laws:

- Stalking is a crime under the laws of 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Territories, and the Federal government.
- Less than 1/3 of states classify stalking as a felony upon first offense.
- More than 1/2 of states classify stalking as a felony upon second or subsequent offense or when the crime involves aggravating factors. Aggravating factors may include: possession of a deadly weapon, violation of a court order or condition of probation/parole, victim under 16 years, or same victim as prior occasions.

What you can do:

- If you are in immediate danger, call 911.
- Trust your instincts
- Take threats seriously
- Contact a crisis hotline, victim services agency, or a domestic violence or rape crisis program.
- Devise a safety plan
- Don't communicate with the stalker or respond to attempts to contact you.
- Keep evidence of the stalking.
- Consider getting a court order
- Tell family, friends, roommates, and co-workers about the stalking