# **ARE YOU BEING STALKED?**

Stalking is a series of actions that make you feel afraid, distressed, or in danger.

Stalking can be online or in-person, is serious and often violent, and can escalate over time.

#### Are you...

- Always looking over your shoulder?
- Worried that the person knows your schedule and will show up?
- Struggling to focus on school, extracurriculars, or other important activities?
- Nervous about checking your messages or phone because it might be them again?
- Changing your routine?
- Scared of what that person might do next?

You may be a victim of stalking.

"It's not easy to describe the fear you have when you see the stalker, or signs of the stalker, everywhere you go. I have given up all hopes of ever having a safe life.

For the rest of my life, I will be looking over my shoulder, expecting to see him there."

-Stalking Survivor

### RESOURCES

For additional assistance, contact these national hotlines:

#### Victim Connect

victimconnect.org/ 855-4-VICTIM (855-484-2846)

#### **National Sexual Assault Hotline**

RAINN.org 800.656.HOPE (4673)

#### National Domestic Violence Hotline

thehotline.org 1-800-799-SAFF (7233)



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# UNDERSTANDING STALKING ON CAMPUS



18-24 year olds experience the highest rates of stalking among adults.

Learn more at StalkingAwareness.org

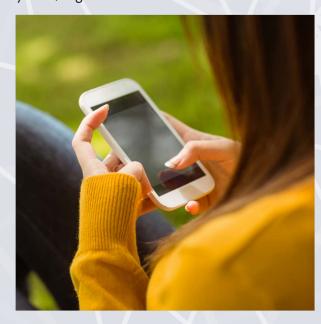
# WHO ARE STALKERS?

#### Most stalkers target people they know.

Many stalkers commit this crime against people who they've dated/been romantically involved with, during and/or after the relationship. Stalkers may also be acquaintances, classmates, friends, family members, and/or strangers.

# Stalking violates student conduct codes and is a crime in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.

Among undergraduate stalking victims, 59% of men and 86% of women are stalked by men, regardless of sexual orientation.



## WHAT DO STALKERS DO?

Most stalkers use multiple tactics to scare their victims. These behaviors may include (but are not limited to):

- Unwanted contact through repeated calls (including hang-ups), texts, e-mails, messagesor social media.
- Following you.
- Sending unwanted gifts or letters.
- Tracking you using technology (like GPS, apps or hidden cameras).
- **Showing up** or **waiting** for you at places like class, your dorm, the library, or the gym.
- Damaging your property.
- Spreading rumors about you in person or online.
- Posting, sharing or threatening to post or share intimate photographs of you.
- Harassing your classmates, roommate(s), co-workers, family, or friends.
- **Gathering information** about you through social media or asking people about you.
- Sharing private information about you online and/or in-person.
- Hacking your accounts, changing your passwords, or impersonating you online.
- Threatening to hurt you or those close to you – family, friends, pets.
- Other actions that control, track or frighten you.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE SAFE?

It can be helpful to think of strategies to help keep yourself and loved ones safe. You may want to:

- Connect with campus resources who can help you explore options and make a detailed safety plan, like your RA, Title IX office, crisis center, gender resource center, advocacy services, and/or campus security/police.
- Trust your instincts. If you think that you're in danger, you probably are.
- Call 9-1-1 if you're in imminent danger or have been threatened.

# The stalking is not your fault and you cannot control the stalker's behaviors.

- Document everything that happens keep a record or log. See <u>stalkingawareness.org/</u> <u>what-to-do-if-you-are-being-stalked/</u> for a sample log.
- Tell people you trust about the situation.
   Consider asking family, friends, classmates, and/or roommate(s) to help with your safety plans.
- Consider getting a court order to keep the stalker away from you. Campus support services can help you contact a local domestic violence/sexual assault agency or family court for more information.
- Learn more **safety strategies** at stalkingawareness.org.