

Monday, January 29, 2024



Identifying and Responding to Stalking

Natalie Ivey (JD)

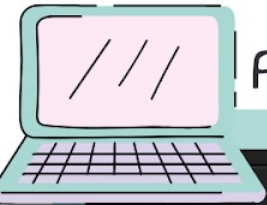
Training & Criminal Justice Specialist for the Stalking, Prevention, Awareness, and Resource Center (SPARC)



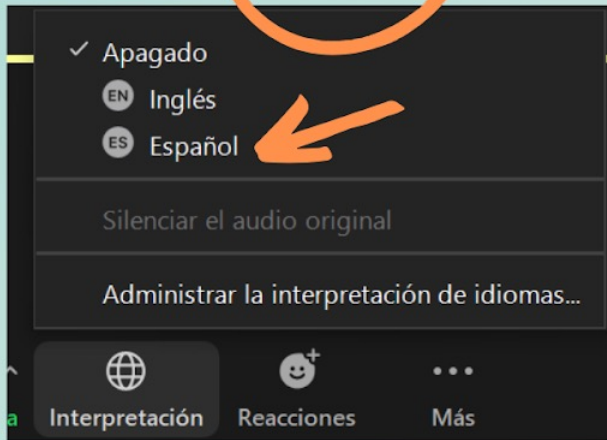
National Resource Center
on Domestic Violence

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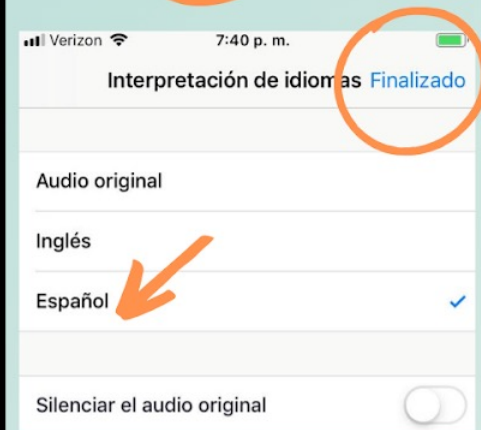
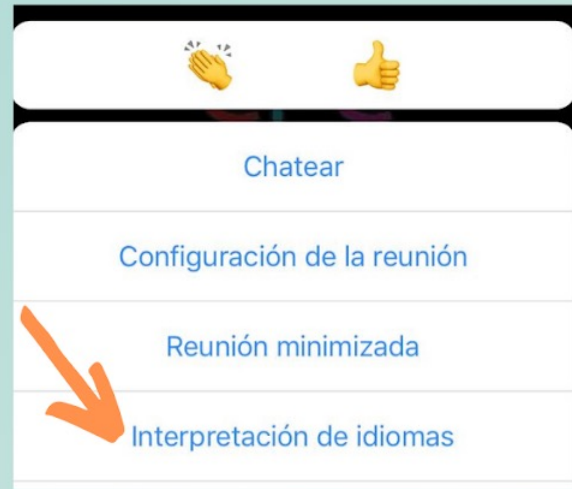
PARA ACCEDER A LA INTERPRETACIÓN



Por computador



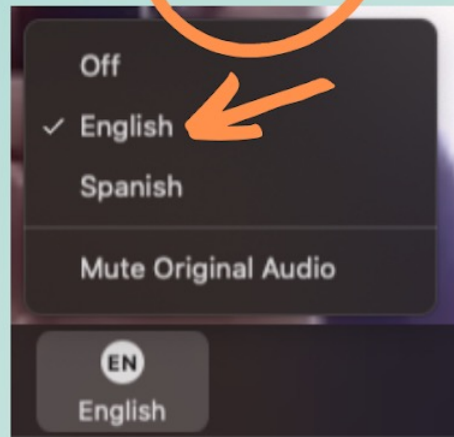
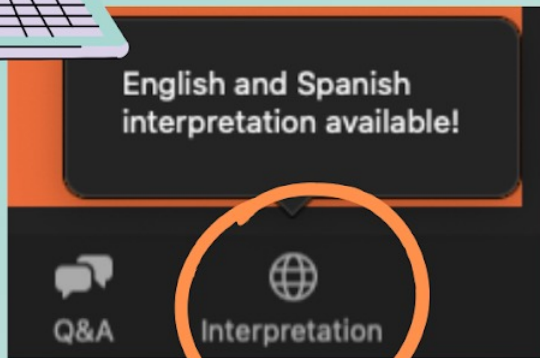
Por teléfono inteligente



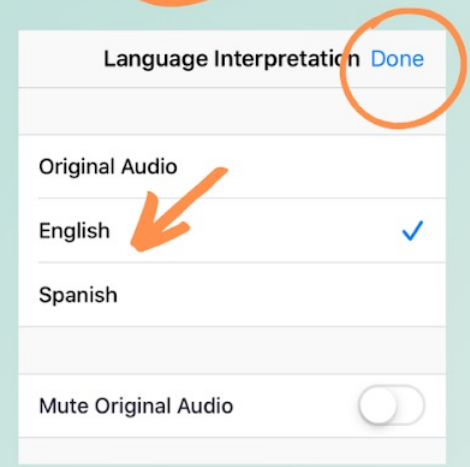
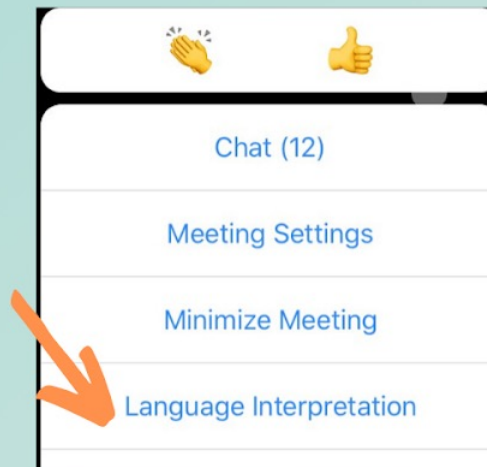
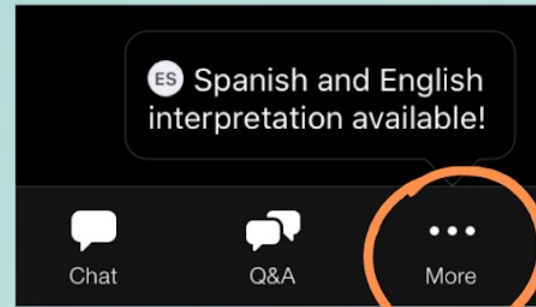
TO ACCESS INTERPRETATION



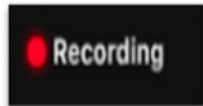
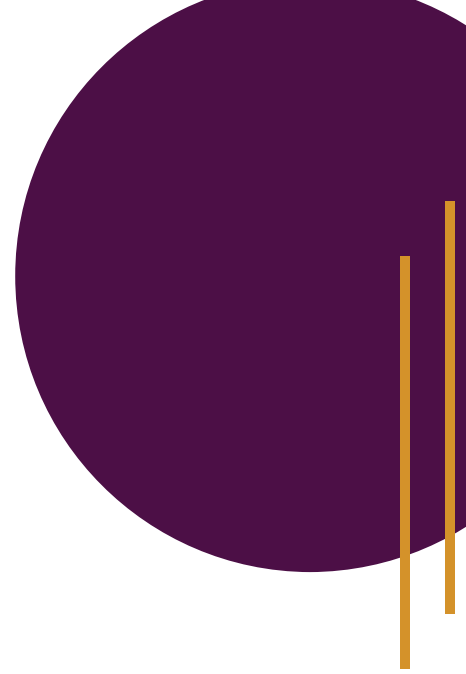
Via computer



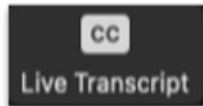
Via smartphone



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Ingrese preguntas para los presentadores en el Q & A.



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Los micrófonos de todos están silenciados y las cámaras están apagadas.

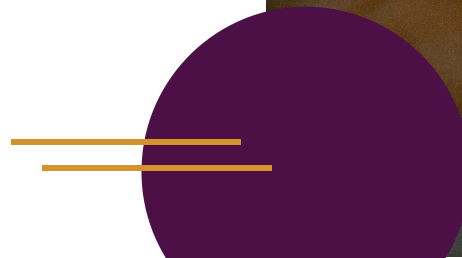


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**MISSION: TO STRENGTHEN
AND TRANSFORM EFFORTS TO
END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (www.nrcdv.org) provides a wide range of free, comprehensive, and individualized technical assistance, training, and specialized resource materials.





SPARC

STALKING
PREVENTION,
AWARENESS,
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CENTER

Identifying and Responding to Stalking

www.StalkingAwareness.org

*Practitioner guides

*Training modules

*Victim resources

*Webinars



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Sign Up for our Newsletter!

Defining Stalking



BEHAVIORAL



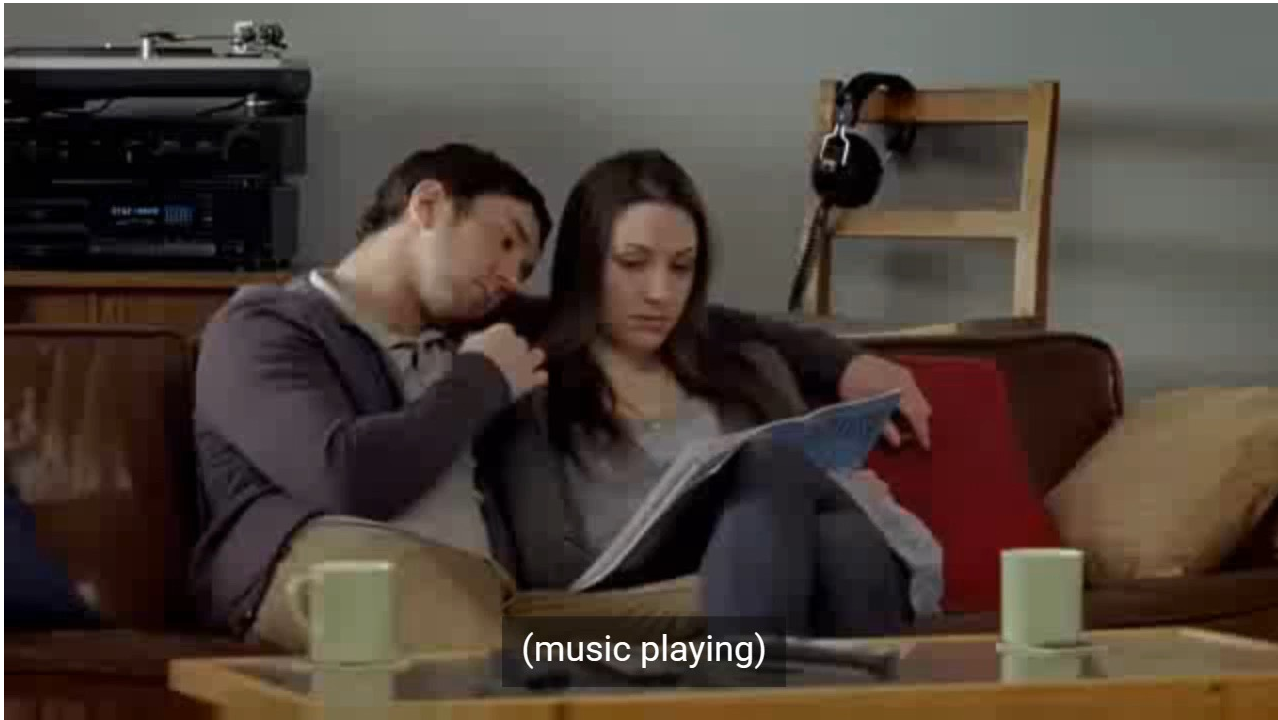
LEGAL/STATUTORY

- State & Federal Statutes
- Clery Act, Title IX
- School Policy

STALKING DEFINITION: BEHAVIORAL

Stalking is a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.







CONTEXT IS CRITICAL
in stalking cases.

Context



- * Something may be frightening to the victim but not to you
- * Stalking behaviors often have specific meanings
- * Stalking criminalizes otherwise non-criminal behavior

VICTIM

ADVISED ON TODAY'S DATE AT APPROXIMATELY 0800 HOURS
WHEN SHE GOT INTO HER CAR TO HEAD TO WORK, HER CAR DOORS WERE
LOCKED AND ON THE DRIVER'S SEAT WAS A CORONA BEER BOTTLE CAP.

She called the police because of a beer cap?

VICTIM ADVISED ON TODAY'S DATE AT APPROXIMATELY 0800 HOURS WHEN SHE GOT INTO HER CAR TO HEAD TO WORK, HER CAR DOORS WERE LOCKED AND ON THE DRIVER'S SEAT WAS A CORONA BEER BOTTLE CAP.

VICTIM STATED YESTERDAY SHE CELEBRATED HER TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BEING SOBER AND SHE HAD RECEIVED MESSAGES FROM PEOPLE IN HER AA GROUP CONGRATULATING HER ON HER TWO-YEAR SOBRIETY. SHE BELIEVES THAT **SUSPECT** PLACED THE BEER CAP IN HER CAR TO MESS WITH HER EMOTIONALLY AS SEEING ANYTHING RELATED TO ALCOHOL IS A TRIGGER TO HER. SHE BELIEVES THAT **SUSPECT** IS MONITORING HER MESSAGES AS THAT IS THE ONLY WAY **SUSPECT** WOULD KNOW ABOUT THE ANNIVERSARY.



CRIMINAL

FEDERAL LEVEL

ALL 50 STATES, D.C.,
& U.S. TERRITORIES

TRIBAL CODES

UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE

Stalking Prevalence and Behavior

Stalking Prevalence

NEARLY
1 in 3 women



&

NEARLY
1 in 6 men



experience **stalking** in their lifetimes.

Stalking Dynamics

Women are more likely than men to experience stalking.

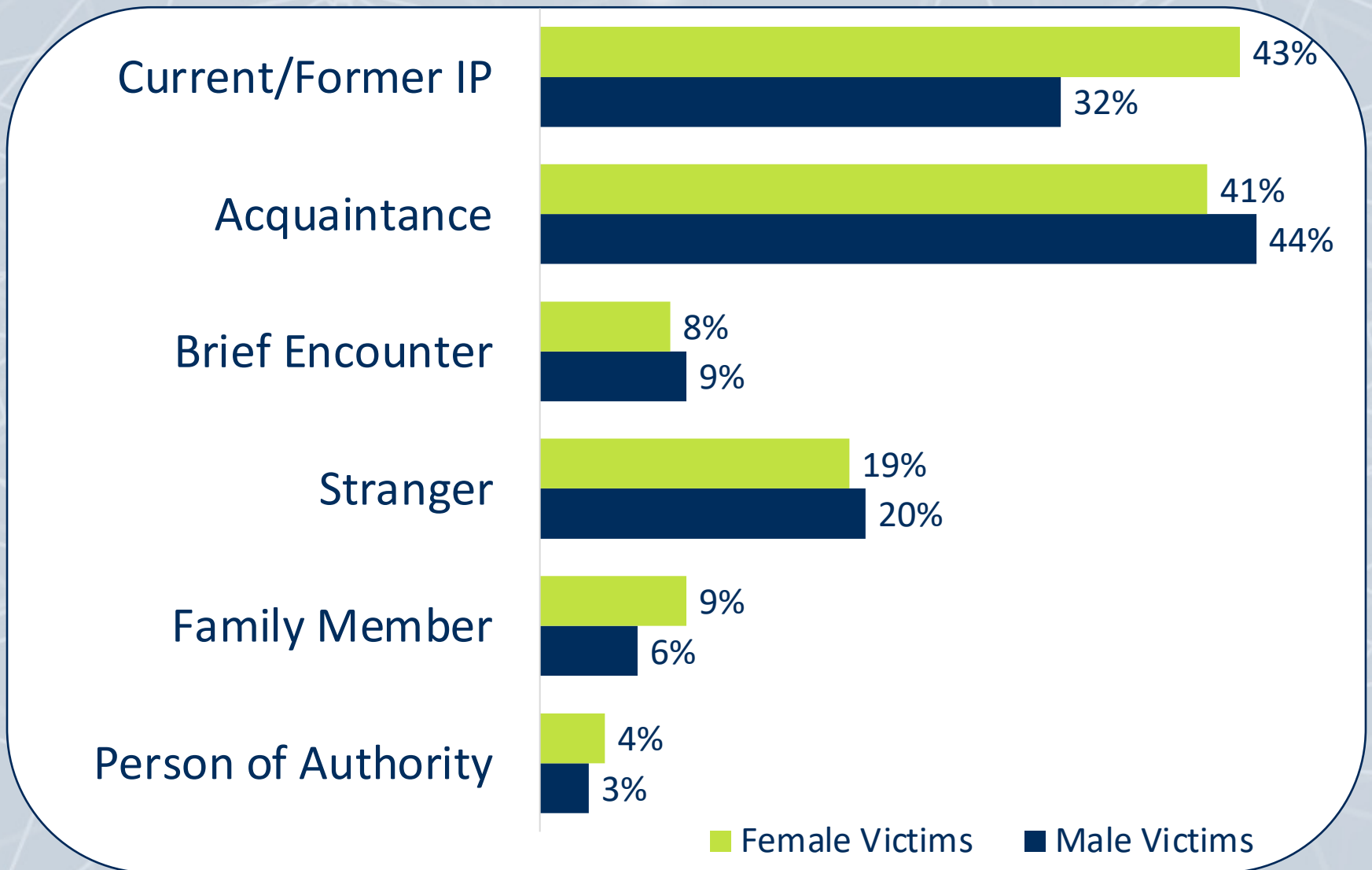
The majority of victims know the offender.



The majority of victims report that the offender is male.

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

Victim and Offender Relationships



Understanding Stalking: Stalking Behaviors

Why Do They Stalk?

Seeking affection

Power & control

Rejection

Obsession

Planning to commit a crime

Because they can

Common Stalking Behaviors

SLII Framework





SURVEILLANCE

- **Follow**
- **Watch**
- **Wait**
- **Show up**
- **Tracking software**
- **Obtain information about victim**
- **Proxy stalking**

LIFE INVASION



- **Unwanted contact at home, work, etc.**
- **Showing up**
- **Phone calls**
- **Property invasion**
- **Public humiliation**
- **Harass friends/family**



INTERFERENCE

- **Financial and work sabotage**
- **Ruining reputation**
- **Custody interference**
- **Keep from leaving**
- **Road rage**
- **Attack family/friends/pets**
- **Physical/sexual attack**

INTIMIDATION



- **Threats**
- **Property damage**
- **Symbolic violence**
- **Forced confrontations**
- **Threaten or actually harm self**
- **Threats to victim about harming others**

Stalking and Intimate Partner Violence

Stalking within Domestic Violence

Brady & Nobles (2017)

Tjaden & Thoennes (1998)

Woodruff (2010)



Evidence of stalking

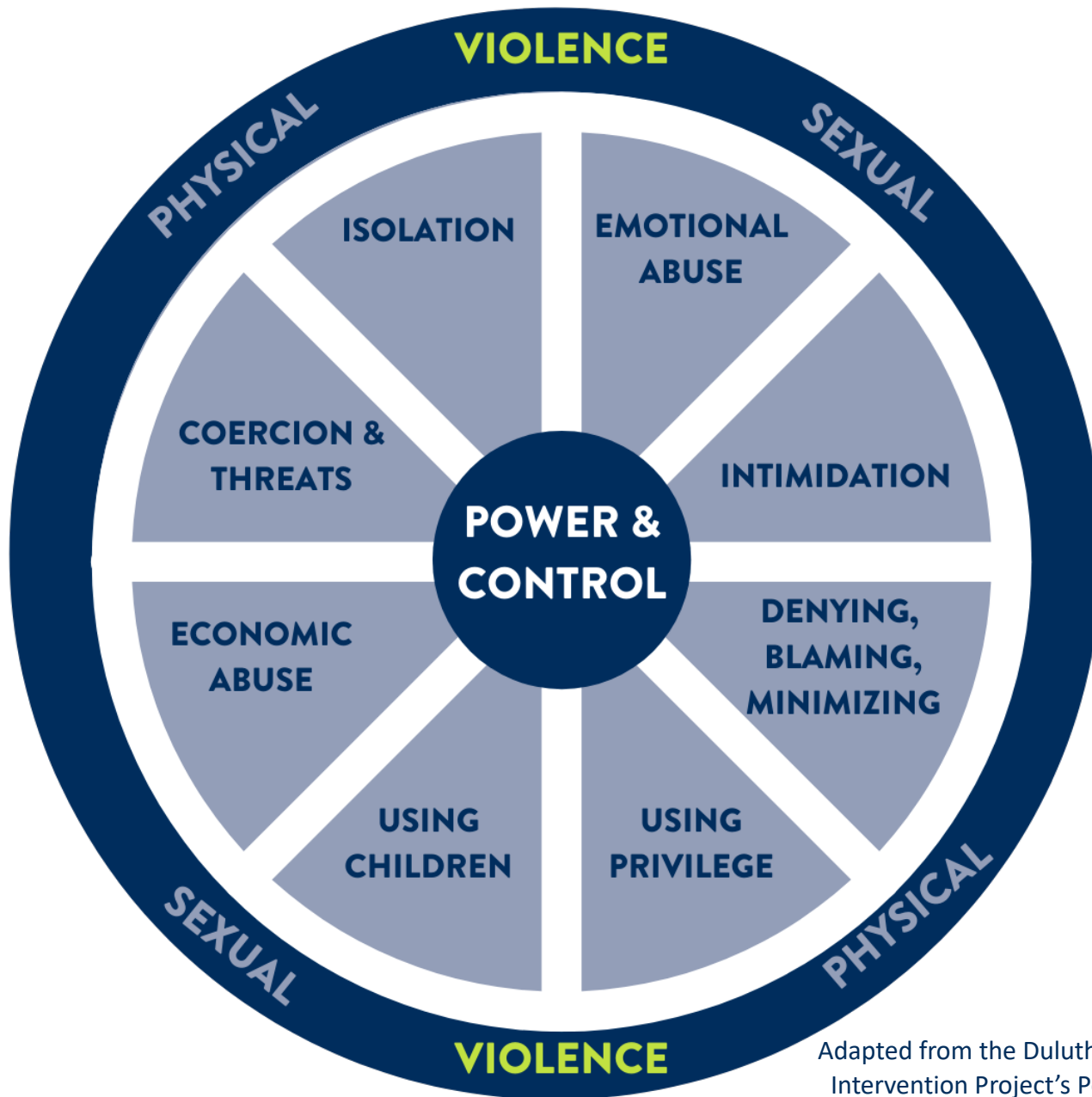
Arrests for stalking

Evidence of stalking

Arrests for stalking

Stalking incident reports

Stalking calls resulting in an arrests for stalking



Adapted from the Duluth Model Domestic Abuse Intervention Project's Power and Control Wheel

Intimate partner stalkers are more likely to:

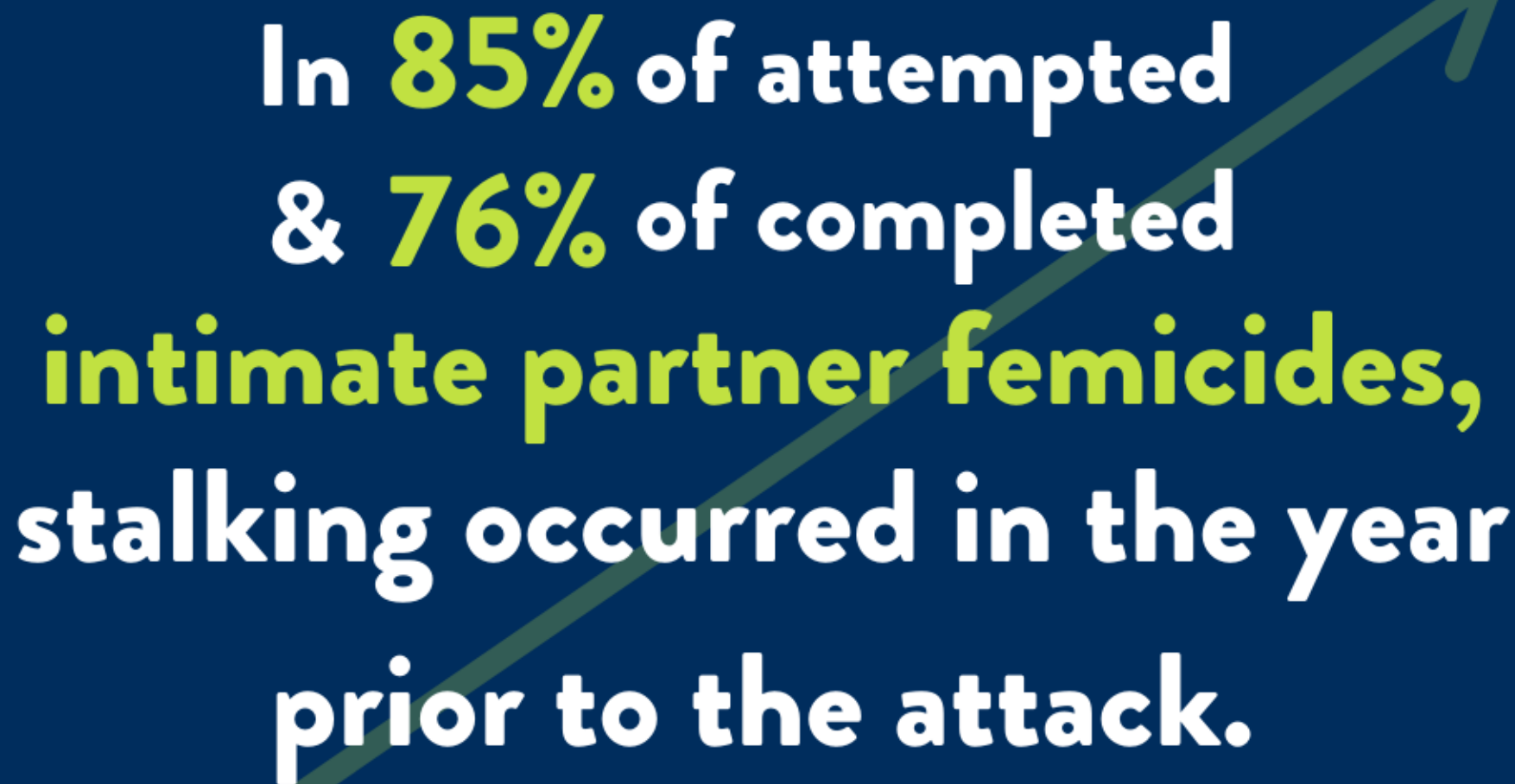
physically approach the victim

be interfering, insulting, and threatening

use weapons

escalate behaviors quickly

re-offend



In **85%** of attempted
& **76%** of completed
intimate partner femicides,
stalking occurred in the year
prior to the attack.

Stalking is a Lethality Risk

Top 10 risk factors for intimate partner homicide

Risk for male perpetrated & female IPH victimization

1) Direct access to guns	11-fold increase in risk of IPH
2) Threatened victim with a weapon	7-fold increase in risk
3) Non-fatal strangulation	7-fold increase in risk
4) Perpetrated rape/forced sex	5-fold increase in risk
5) Controlling behaviors	6-fold increase in risk
6) Threatened to harm the victim	4-fold increase in risk
7) Abused victim while pregnant	4-fold increase in risk
8) Perpetrated stalking	3-fold increase in risk of IPH
9) Jealousy	2-fold increase in risk
10) Substance abuse	2-fold increase in risk

Spencer, C.M. & Stith, S.M. (2018). Risk Factors for Male Perpetration and Female Victimization of Intimate Partner Homicide: A Meta-Analysis. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse* 21(3): 527-540.

Screening for Stalking

Has the Offender...

been tracking, following, or monitoring Victim in any way?



repeatedly invaded Victim's life/privacy by initiating unwanted contact with Victim?

significantly and directly interfered with Victim's life?

>physically/sexually assaulted Victim during course of conduct?

>forcibly kept Victim from leaving, held against will, caused serious accident, assaulted others, or seriously attacked Victim?



more than one time, intimidated or scared Victim through threats, property damage, threatening or actual harming of pets, or other means?

SHARP: Stalking Harassment and Risk Profile

www.coercivecontrol.org
www.stalkingrisk.com

“

Victim perceptions of risk are a strong predictor of reassault, equal to or even better than risk management tools

TK Logan & Robert Walker, *Stalking: A Multidimensional Framework for Assessment and Safety Planning*, 18(2) *Trauma, Violence & Abuse* 200-22 (2017)



Stalking and Harassment Assessment and Risk Profile (SHARP)

CoerciveControl.org



Narrative Report &
Risk Profile



Safety Planning
Suggestions

14 Risk Factors in Stalking Cases



BIG PICTURE

- Course of Conduct
- Escalation, Triggers
- Nature and context of threats
- Threat follow-through, capability



STALKER HISTORY

- History of abuse to victim
- History of abuse to others
- Guns, weapons & training
- Criminal history, mental health, substance abuse

STALKER MINDSET



- Resistance & Persistence
- Stalker Motive
- Proxy Stalking

VICTIM VULNERABILITY



- Fear, life impact
- Use of Technology
- Victim Vulnerability

Impact on Victims

Impact of Stalking

“

It is easy for practitioners to view stalking as a relatively mild trauma because there is often a lack of obvious physical harm or threat. Consequently, stalking victims often do not receive the same sense of urgency from law enforcement and counselors as victims of domestic violence or assault.

Spitzberg, B. The tactical topography of stalking victimization and management. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 3, 4, p.278

What are Victims Afraid of?

46% not knowing what will happen next

30% bodily harm

29% behavior will never stop

13% harm or kidnap a child

10% loss of freedom

9% death

4% losing one's mind



How do Victims Cope?

Move
INWARD



Move
AWAY



Move
TOWARDS



Move
AGAINST



Move
OUTWARD



Advise Disengagement

Recommend no contact with the stalker

- Explain intermittent reinforcement

***BUT* realize victims engage in behaviors to keep themselves safe.**

- Maintain contact, negotiation, minimizing threat
- Contact may be a safety strategy

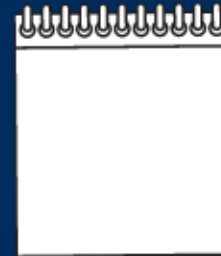


Working with Stalking Victims



SAFETY

ADVOCACY



DOCUMENTATION

SUPPORT



What is Safety Planning?

An individualized plan that identifies specific strategies and interventions that may increase safety.

- Provides practical ways to decrease risk
- Puts victims in contact with a variety of services, agencies, and individuals who can help
- Focuses on physical AND emotional well-being



Basic Considerations

Trust victim instincts

Safety planning should evolve

Consider stalker's next tactic

Anticipate stalker reaction

Balance safety and freedom



The CCR

CCR Strategies



Focus on risk

> Stalking & Harassment Assessment & Risk Profile (SHARP)

Frequent multi-disciplinary case review



Comprehensive and integrated approaches

Supervision strategies (restrictions, monitoring)



> Guide for Community Corrections & Probation Officers



Victim safety planning

> Safety planning guidance

CCR Response

TRAINING



- > SPARC training request form
- > SPARC archives

POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- > SPARC Guides:
Victim Services,
Prosecution,
Corrections, Law
Enforcement
(Coming soon!)
- > Individualized
technical assistance



PRACTICES

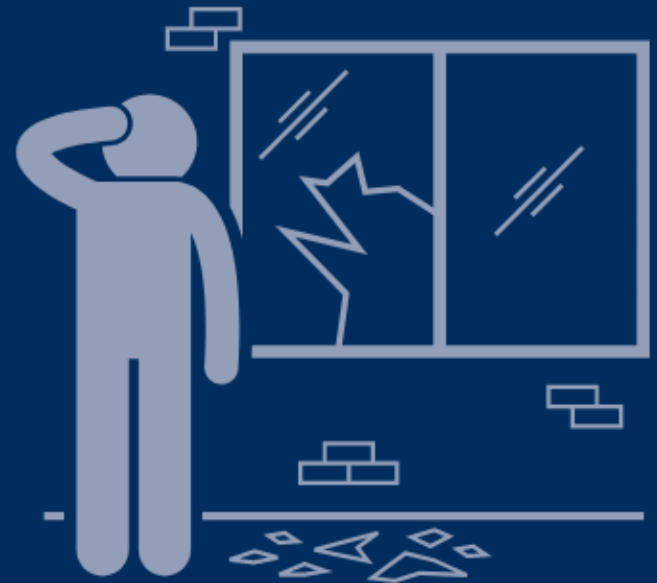


- > Victim Services
check list

Law Enforcement Strategies

Policies & Procedures

- **Does your agency have a stalking policy?**
- **How are non-IP stalking cases identified?**
 - What training exists for dispatch, patrol?
 - Incident reports, call logs
- **Property crimes vs. crimes against persons**
- **Report reviews to screen for stalking**



Prosecution Strategies

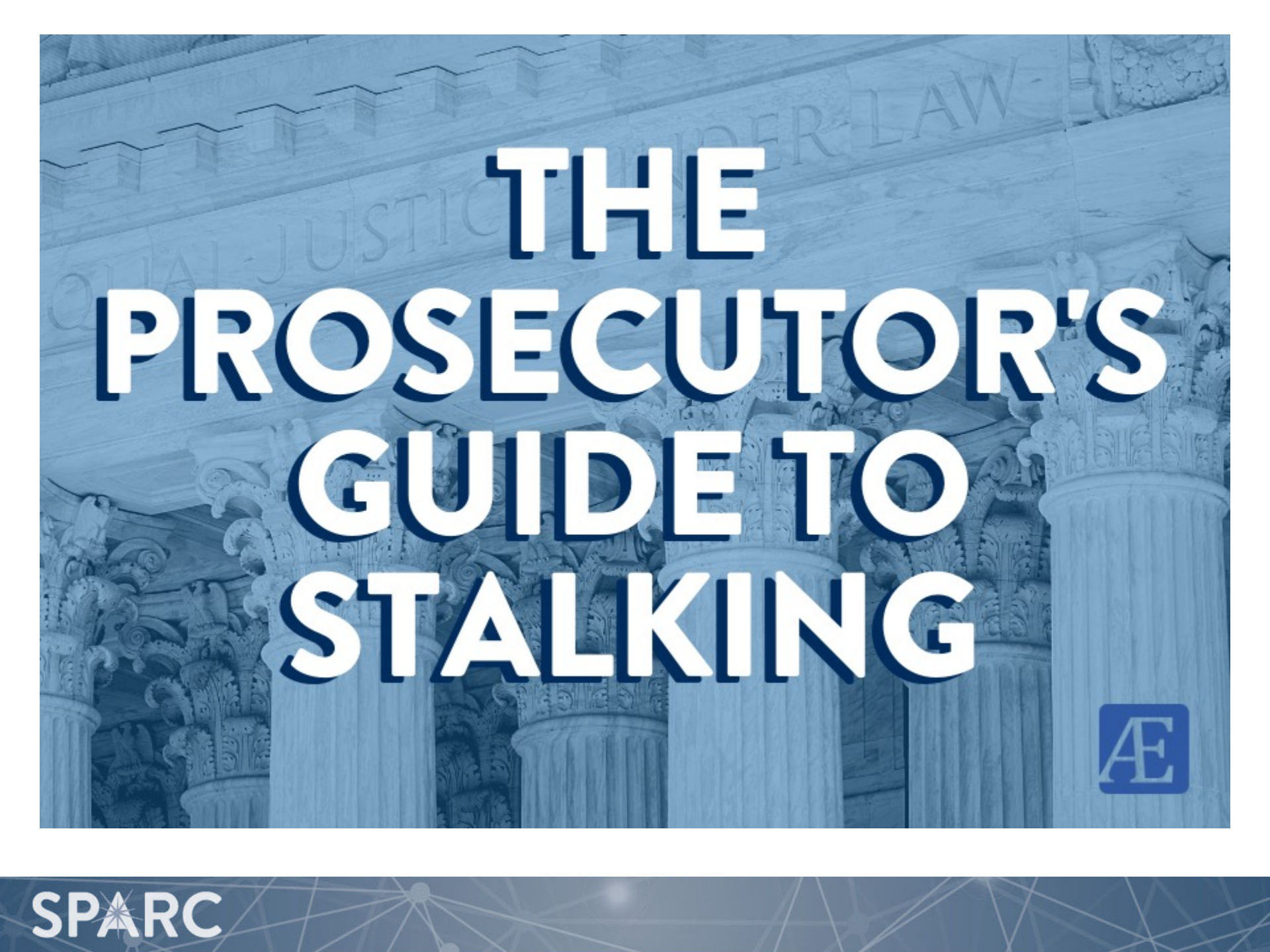
Prosecution Strategies

- Charge stalking within intimate partner violence/domestic violence
- What can be charged NOW
 - ...to help with a future stalking charge?
 - ...to address the behavior?
- Acts intended to elicit a reaction from the victim (even if not directed at victim) can be part of the course of conduct
 - Intent: the victim would see/hear, evidence of context of threat may = intent

Prosecution Strategies (continued)

- Use risk assessments
- Use firearm prohibitions
- Oppose defense demands for private or confidential victim information
- Use expert testimony
- Forfeiture by wrongdoing for unavailable victims/witnesses





THE PROSECUTOR'S GUIDE TO STALKING



Advocacy

Advocacy Strategies

- * Specific training on stalking
- * Support groups
- * Safety planning/risk assessment
- * Assistance with CPO
- * Documentation
- * Shelter options?
- * Organizational checklist



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Addressing Stalking: A Checklist for Domestic and Sexual Violence Organizations

Because there are very few stalking-specific service providers, stalking sexual violence programs to assist them with safety planning and response to stalking, consider the following:

- Does your organization...

STALKING RESPONSE CHECKLIST

- Your website links to [Victim Connect](#) (the referral hotline for victims of crime, including stalking).
- Your website provides definitional information/fact sheets on stalking (see [these resources](#)).
- Your website provides a link to a [stalking log](#) that victims can use to document evidence of stalking.
- Your website features stories that focus on or include stalking.
- Your website notes that January is National Stalking Awareness Month.

Social Media



Responding to Stalking: A Guide for Advocates



www.StalkingAwareness.org

*Practitioner guides

*Training modules

*Victim resources

*Webinars



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Natalie Ivey JD

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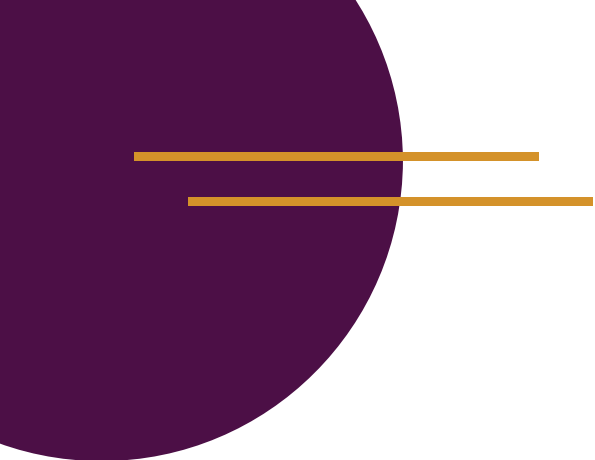
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Thank you!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO WORK WITH YOU.

