

Stalking Awareness Fact Sheet

What is Stalking?: A course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

Stalking tactics include: approaching the victim or showing up in places they were unwanted, making unwanted phone calls, sending unwanted messages, watching or following from a distance, spying on the victim

Stalking Victimization

- An estimated 6-7 million people are stalked every year in the U.S
- Nearly 1 in 6 women and 1 in 17 men have experienced stalking at some point
- Half of victims say they were stalked before the age of 25

Stalking Offenders

- 2/3 stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach
- in 1 of 5 cases, weapons are used to harm or threaten victims

More Stalking Facts

- The majority of stalking victims are stalked by someone they know
- 1 in 4 stalking victims report being stalked electronically (social media, email, etc.)
- 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for 5 years or more

Impact of Stalking on Victims

- 29% of victims fear the stalking will never stop
- 1 in 7 stalking victims move as a result of their victimization
- Stalking victims suffer much higher rates of depression and anxiety than non-victims

Stalking Laws

- Stalking is a crime in all 50 states and U.S territories
- Less than 1/3 of states classify stalking as a felony upon first offense
- Aggravating factors include: possession of a deadly weapon, violation of a court order or parole, victimization of a minor

SPARC

These statistics were provided by SPARC, the Stalking Prevention Awareness and Resource Center
Contact: 202.558.0040