



OVW Funding

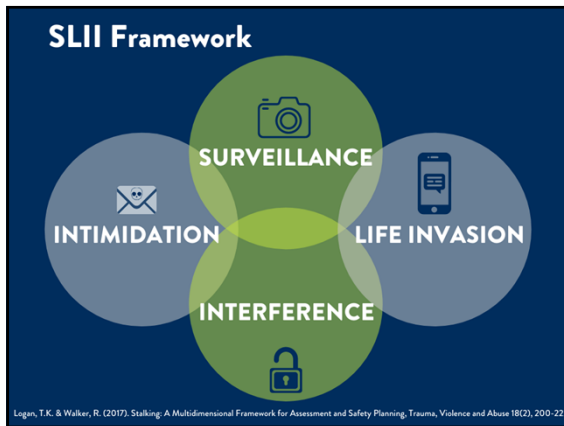
This project was supported by Grant No. 15JOVW-22-GK-03986-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



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.





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


INTIMIDATION

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

INTERFERENCE

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

Technology & In-Person Stalking



The majority of stalking victims experienced both in-person stalking and technology-facilitated stalking.

Messing, J., Bagwell-Gray, M., Brown, M.L., Kappes, A., & Durfee, A. (2020). Intersections of Stalking and Technology-Based Abuse: Emerging Definitions, Conceptualization, and Measurement. *Journal of Family Violence* 35(5): 693-704.

SURVEILLANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart home devices Tracking software Tracking devices Monitoring online activity Accessing online accounts Cameras or audio/video recording devices 	LIFE INVASION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unwanted contact online or through text messages, phone calls, or other platforms Impersonating victim Impersonating others to access the victim Hacking and/or controlling victim's accounts
INTERFERENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spreading rumors online Doxing Posing as victim and creating harm Swatting Posting private photos, videos, information online, real or fake Using technology to encourage others to harm the victim 	INTIMIDATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online threats Blackmail Sextortion Threats to release private info, photos, or videos (real or fake) Threats to interfere with property, employment, finances, accounts

Stalking Prevalence

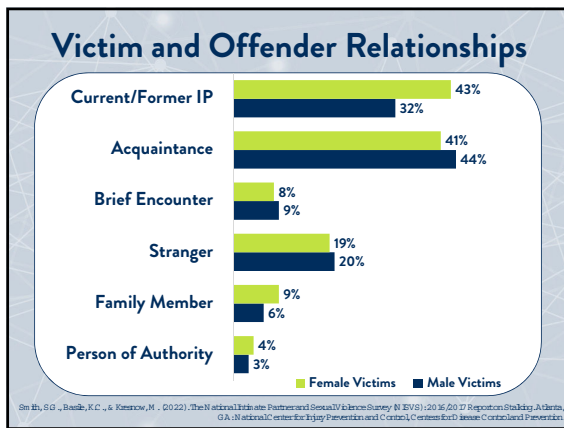
NEARLY
1 in 3 women

&

NEARLY
1 in 6 men

experience stalking in their lifetimes.

Smith, S.G., Basile, K.C., & Kresnow, M. (2022). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2016/2017 Report on Stalking. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Context is Critical

- * Something may be frightening to the victim but not to you
- * Stalking behaviors often have specific meanings
- * Stalking criminalizes otherwise non-criminal behavior
- * Victims may know something you don't

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TENN. CODE ANN. § 39-17-315 STALKING

- * "Stalking" means a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another individual that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested, and that actually causes the victim to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested;
- * "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two (2) or more separate, noncontinuous acts evidencing a continuity of purpose, including, but not limited to, acts in which the defendant directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to a person, or interferes with a person's property;
- * "Harassment" means conduct directed toward a victim that includes, but is not limited to, repeated or continuing unwanted contact that would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional distress, and that actually causes the victim to suffer emotional distress. Harassment does not include constitutionally protected activity or conduct that serves a legitimate purpose;
- * "Emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or distress that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling;
- * "Unwanted contact" means any contact with another person that is initiated or continued without that person's consent, or in disregard of that person's expressed desire that the contact be avoided or discontinued.

Naming Crimes Part of a Stalker's Course of Conduct

- * TCA §39-13-101 ASSAULT
- * TCA §39-13-111 DOMESTIC ASSAULT
- * TCA §39-13-113 VIOLATION OF AN ORDER OF PROTECTION OR RESTRAINING ORDER- VIOLATION OF NO CONTACT ORDER
- * TCA §39-13-306 CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE
- * TCA §39-13-308 TRAFFICKING FOR FORCED LABOR OR SERVICES
- * TCA §39-13-309 TRAFFICKING FOR COMMERCIAL SEX ACT
- * TCA §39-13-401 ROBBERY
- * TCA §39-13-511 INDECENT EXPOSURE
- * TCA §39-13-601 WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
- * TCA §39-13-604 INTERCEPTION OF CELLULAR OR CORDLESS TELEPHONE TRANSMISSIONS
- * TCA §39-13-605 UNLAWFUL PHOTOGRAPHY
- * TCA §39-13-606 ELECTRONIC TRACKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES
- * TCA §39-13-607 OBSERVATION WITHOUT CONSENT
- * TCA §39-13-1002 BURGLARY
- * TCA §39-14-103 THEFT OF PROPERTY
- * TCA §39-14-112 EXTORTION
- * TCA §39-14-114 FORGERY
- * TCA §39-14-129 MAIL THEFT
- * TCA §39-14-301 ARSON
- * TCA §39-14-303 SETTING FIRE TO PERSONAL PROPERTY OR LAND
- * TCA §39-14-405 CRIMINAL TRESPASS
- * TCA §39-14-408 VANDALISM
- * TCA §39-14-412 MAILBOX TAMPERING

Technology does not cause stalking.
Stalkers cause stalking.

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Phone Calls and Texts

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abusive to her and her children. I counted over 70 phone calls from [REDACTED] between 2130 hours on 07/13/2016 and approximately 0100 hours on 7/14/2016, and over 90 text messages during the same time frame.

Text Screenshots

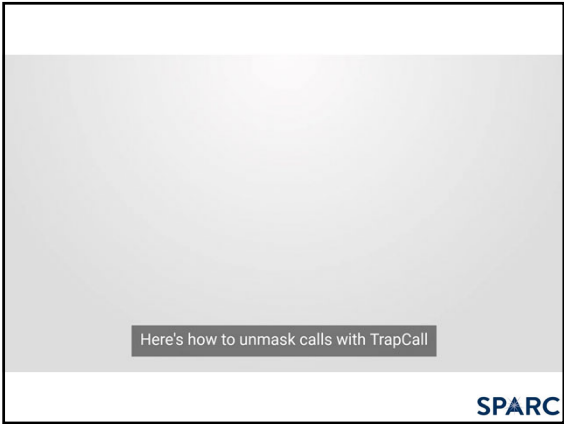
Evidence

- * Overlap screenshots
- * Capture time and date
- * Take a picture of the contact info
- * Consider apps like Tailor or StitchIt

Unidentified Caller

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***67 Calls: TrapCall (trapcall.com)**

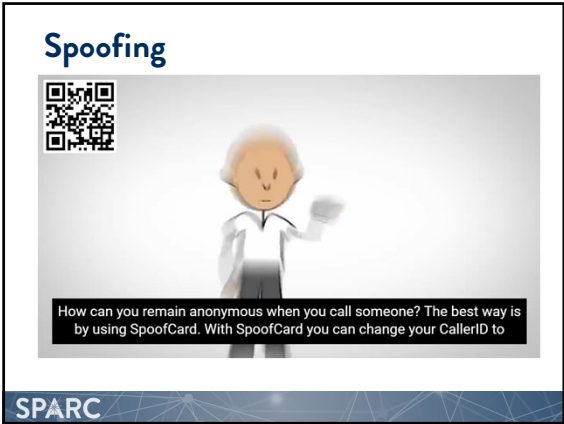


TrapCall Limitations

- * ONLY works for *67
- * Offenders may have unregistered phone or use google voice or other apps
- * Is there context in the calls that points to the offender
- * Changing phone numbers isn't always a good solution



On the above video, I responded to a complaint about a protection order violation. [redacted] explained that [redacted] has texted and called him from different phone numbers and he believes she has an application that allows her to do that. He handed me his cell phone and I read through some of the text messages [redacted]



Spoofing: What You May Hear




- “Numbers I don’t recognize call and harass me.”
- “I keep getting hang-up calls from random numbers.”
- “It shows up as my mom/friend/someone I know, but it is the offender calling.”
- “I know it’s the offender, but it doesn’t sound like them.”
- “I blocked the offender, but they just keep calling me from different numbers.”
- “People are saying I called them, but I didn’t.”

Evidence with Spoofing

- * Phone records from: victim, “friend”, and suspect
- * Victim’s records show “friend” called/texted
- * Friend’s records show no call/text
- * Suspect’s records show a call/text
 - * Call the number and record
- * Financial records of suspect
- * App download or app store history

Truth in Caller ID Act


- * No person or entity in the United States shall, with the intent to defraud, cause harm, or wrongfully obtain anything of value, knowingly cause, directly or indirectly, any caller identification service to transmit or display misleading or inaccurate caller identification information
- * FCC can levy up to \$10,000 per violation

In 2016 the FCC filed a Notice of Apparent Liability against two individuals and proposed levying a fine of \$25,000 each.

Filing a Complaint With FCC

- * **File a complaint online at**
<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov>
- * **By phone**
 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322); TTY: 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322); ASL: 1-844-432-2275
- * **By mail** (include your name, address, contact information and as much detail about your complaint as possible)
 Federal Communications Commission Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division
 445 12th Street, S.W.
 Washington, DC 20554

Location Tracking



How Do Stalkers Track Location?

Property Tags 	Family Tracking Devices 
Access to and/or Shared Victim Accounts 	Social Media Maps/Check-ins 
Installed Stalkerware 	Proxy Stalking 

Location Tracking: GPS Devices

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Global Positioning System (GPS) Devices



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Offenders' Use of GPS

- * Phone for calls/texts with child
- * Device given to the child (watches, backpacks, shoes)
- * Gift for child (nannycam in stuffed animals)
- * Devices in vehicles (carseats, under the vehicle, seatback pocket)

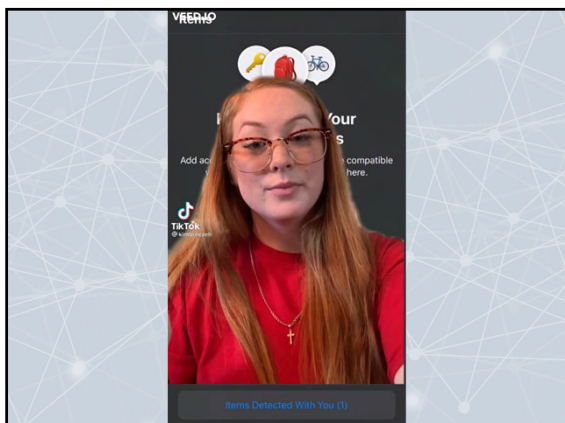
GPS Documentation & Evidence

Computer	Phone	Financial Data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracking software Tracking websites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apps Websites Call-in numbers Texts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment purchase Real time tracking service charge

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Location Tracking: AirTags/Tile Devices

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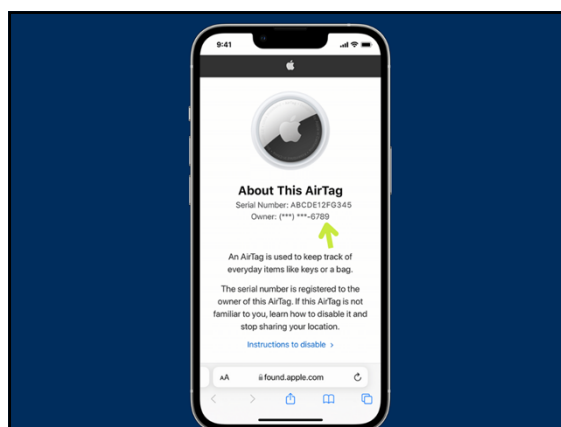
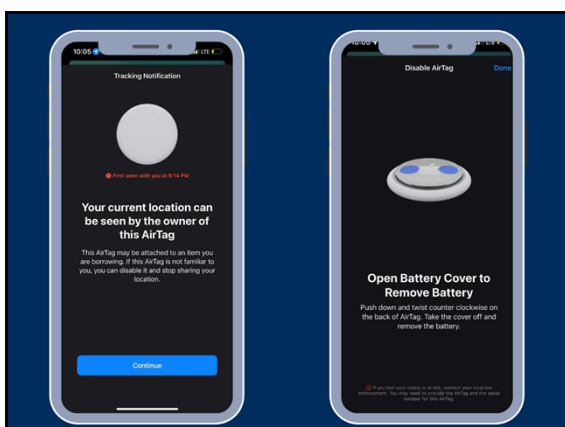
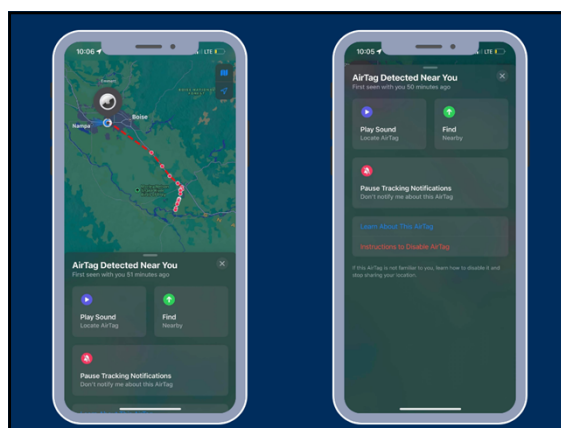
Understanding AirTags



- Shows current location, not location history
- Frequency of the location update varies
 - Depends on other devices in range
- While Tile requires people to have downloaded the Tile app for the location tracking to "ping," AirTag "pings" off any Apple device within 800 feet

Notification Limitations

- Alerts are inconsistent and designed to catch when device is traveling with the victim
- Most users are notified when they return home, not while traveling
- If the offender is present and/or in close proximity to victim regularly, notification is unlikely

Disabling AirTag



- Opening the AirTag to view the serial number disables the Tag -- thereby alerting the offender that it's been found
 - Law enforcement should come to victim and consider faraday bag
- Turning off Bluetooth will NOT stop the device from emitting a signal to the offender
- Take screenshot for evidence

Evidence with AirTags

- * Serial number is unique to each AirTag
- * Serial number is on physical device, and should show up in "Find My" on an iPhone
- * Contact lawenforcement@apple.com to check device registration
- * Check financial records of suspect
- * Contextual evidence

Location Tracking: Social Apps & Sites


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Location Tracking: Photo Geotags

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Geotagging



Exif Viewers Show Geo-Info

Exif: Exchangeable image file format: Descriptive data (meta-data) in an image file that include the date the photo was taken, resolution, shutter speed, focal length and geolocation


Exif Wizard
By homedatasheet.com,
Open iTunes to buy and download



[View in iTunes](#)

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EXIF Data



Jeffrey's Exif Viewer

From Web
From File

Image URL: [View Image As...](#)

Basic Image Information

Target file: IMG_7610.JPG

Camera: Apple iPhone 6
Lens: iPhone 6 back camera 4.15mm f/2.2
Shot at 4.2 mm
Digital Zoom: 2.362943563

Exposure: Auto exposure, Program AE, 1/30 sec, f/2.2, ISO 200

Flash: Off, Did not fire

Date: March 2, 2016 7:50:27PM (timestamp not specified)
(1 hour, 25 minutes, 5 seconds ago, timestamp image timestamp at 1/3 Pacific)

Location: Latitude/longitude: 38° 58' 1.9" North, 92° 22' 28.2" West
(46.96708, -92.37347)

Location generated from coordinates:
2280 Interstate 70 Dr SW, Columbia, MD 65781, USA

Map via embedded coordinates at Google, Yahoo, Wikipedia, OpenStreetMap, Bing (also see the Google Maps page below)

Altitude: 223 meters (731 feet)
Camera Pointing: South

File: 5.2M • 2,448 JPEG (8.8 megapixels)
1,191,426 bytes (1.1 megabytes)

Color Encoding: **WARNING:** Color space tagged as sRGB, without an embedded color profile. Windows and Mac browsers and apps treat the colors randomly.
Images for the web are most widely viewable when in the sRGB color space and with an embedded color profile. See [sRGB](#) for more information on Digital Image Color Spaces for more information.

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Safety Strategies

- * Turn location "off" on cell phone camera
- * Review social media site to determine if EXIF data can be viewed
- * Remove EXIF data using an online EXIF data removal tool

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Google/Apple Data

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Google My Activity

Web & App Activity

Your Web & App Activity includes the things you do on Google services, like Maps, Search, and Play. It can also include things you do on sites, apps, and devices that use Google services or your voice and audio recordings. The activity you keep is used to give you more personalized experiences, like faster searches and more helpful app and content recommendations.

You can see your activity, delete it manually, or choose to delete it automatically using the controls on this page. [Learn more](#)

Saving activity [>](#)
Your Web & App Activity is on. Saving audio is off.

Auto-delete (Off) [>](#)
Choose an auto-delete option.

Google protects your privacy and security. [Manage My Activity verification](#)

Search your activity

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Chrome - Details

Search, Chrome, and more

Today

Search

Visited [Get a Protection Order | District of Columbia Courts](#)
1:42 PM - Details

mysistersplacedc.org

Visited [Obtener ayuda - My Sister's Place](#)
1:41 PM - Details

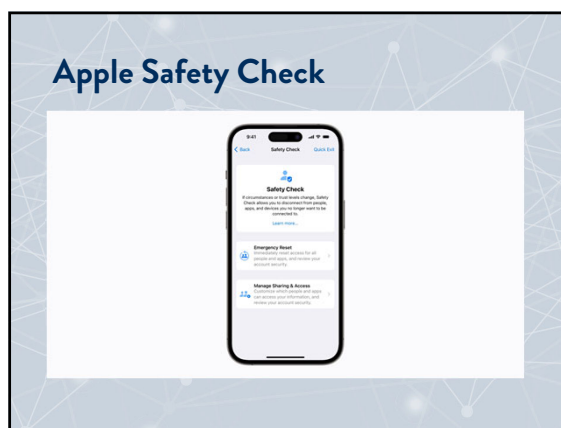
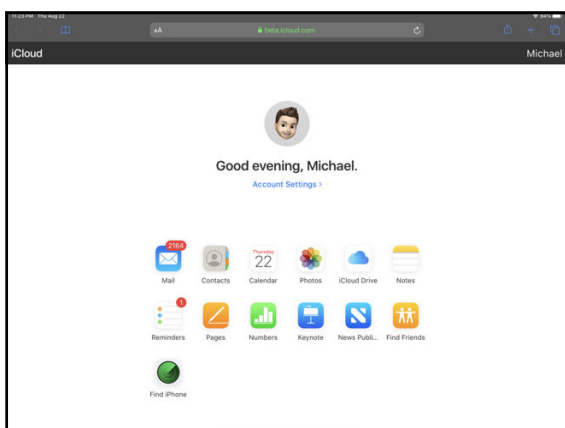
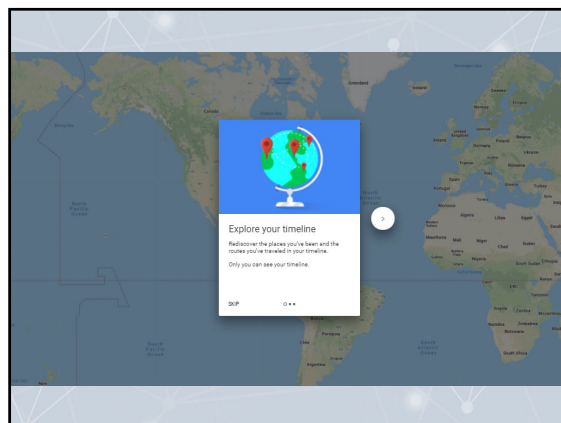
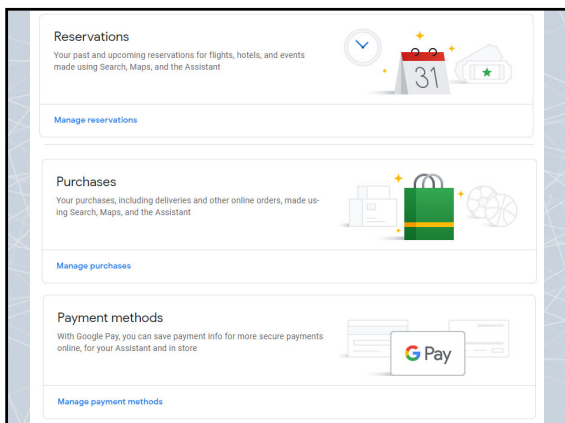
mysistersplacedc.org

Visited [Get Help - My Sister's Place](#)
1:41 PM - Details


Search

Visited [https://mysistersplacedc.org/](#)
1:41 PM - Details

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Cell Phone Spyware



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About Stalkerware

- Physical access to the device is almost always required for installation
- Can be on both Apple and Android devices, but more common on Android
- Best to assume all activities on device are being monitored



COALITION AGAINST STALKERWARE

Stalkerware: What You May Hear

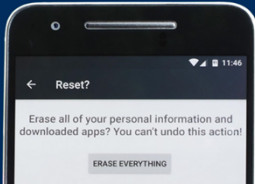


- "They hacked my phone."
- "They hacked my account/s: e-mail, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat..."
- "They're reading my texts."
- "They are listening to my calls."
- "They seem to know everything I've done on my phone."
- "They know my passwords and logins, even though I just changed them."
- "They have and/or are referencing pictures of me I took on my phone."
- "They keep showing up where I am."

Removing Stalkerware


All actions may cause potential safety concerns!

- Factory reset
 - Note: this also destroys the evidence
- Change passwords on all apps/accounts when re-installed
- Antivirus can sometimes remove stalkerware




COALITION AGAINST STALKERWARE

Non-Stalkerware Possibilities




SHARING SETTINGS

- Phone login and password security
- Cloud/Account Backup
- Family sharing, "find my device"



ACCOUNT ACCESS

- Individual accounts: e-mail, social media, dating websites
- Smart device accounts
- Previously shared accounts



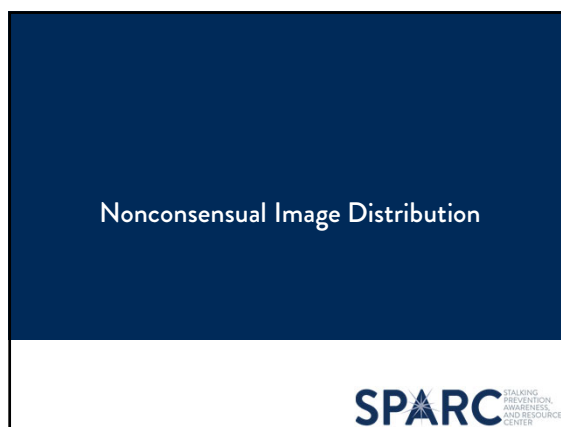
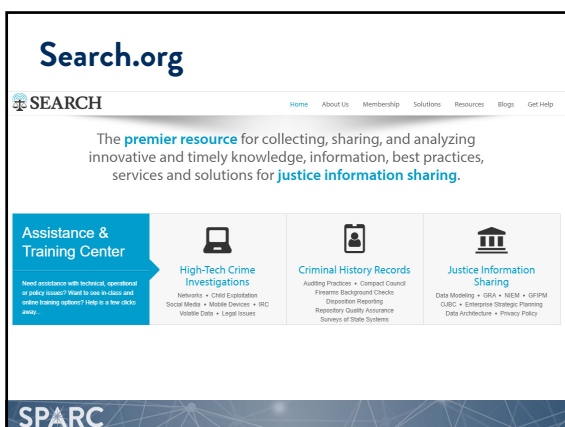
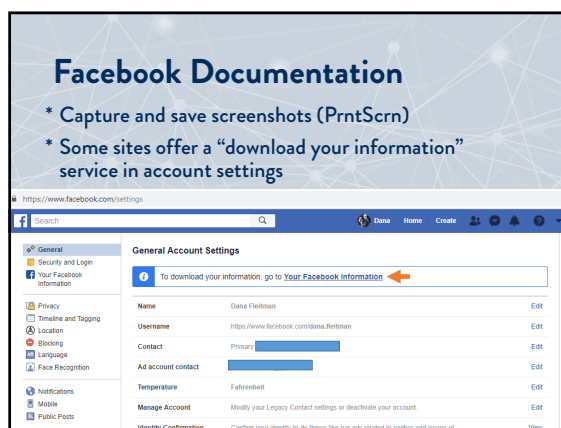
OTHER TOOLS

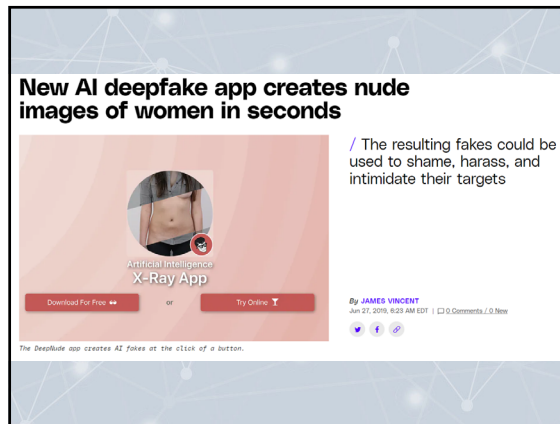
- Devices: GPS tracker, key logger, cameras, recording devices
- Friends, family, colleagues

Coalition Against Stalkerware

www.stopstalkerware.org





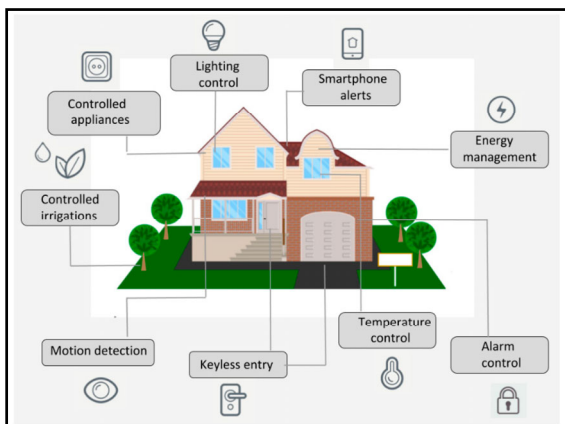


Resources for Non-Consensual Distribution of Intimate Images

Cyberrightsproject.com
 Cybercivilrights.org
 For victims: 1-844-878-CCRI
 Cagoldberglaw.com
 Dmca defender.com
 Copybyte.com

Smart Devices

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Personal Tracking Apps

Sweet sleep
 Sweet life
 2019 The Fall asleep
 2020 Sleep Cycle of 2022
 2021 Sleep Cycle of 2022

Insight into sleep cycle
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle

Understand what affects sleep
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle

Record snoring & dream talk
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle
 Sleep Cycle

About this app →

Do you know how your sleep is every night? SLEEP TRACKER is your personal sleep cycles monitor, snore recorder, and sleep sounds provider. With it, you can find whatever you wish to know about your sleep patterns, check out your snoring and dream talks, and customize the smart alarm to relieve sleep issues and aid your sleep. Why hesitate? It's time to click download to improve your sleep quality and embrace a healthier life.

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Cell Phone Spy Accessories

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Cell Phone Chargers/Cords

- Contain SIM cards that can take a copy of the target phone SIM card
- Contain GPS
- Listening capabilities



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Public Data

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Find Yourself...

- * FastPeopleSearch.com
- * TruePeopleSearch.com
- * PeopleSearchNow.com

Internet Privacy Handbook



* <https://safeshepherd.com/handbook/privacy-basics>



Tech Safety

Welcome to the Tech Safety App. This app contains information that can help someone identify technology-facilitated harassment, stalking, or abuse and includes tips on what can be done.

Download on the **App Store**

Get it on **Google play**



