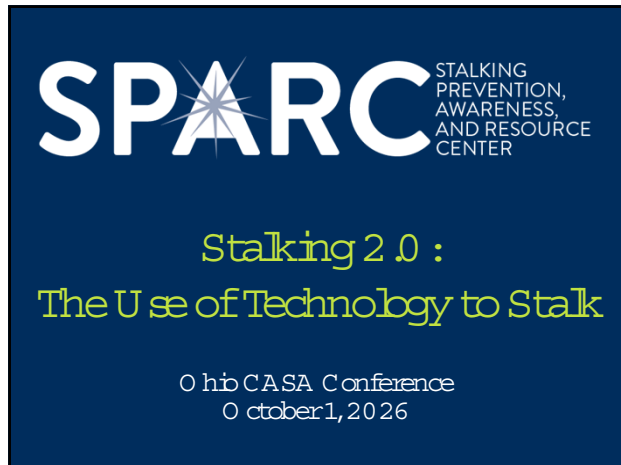
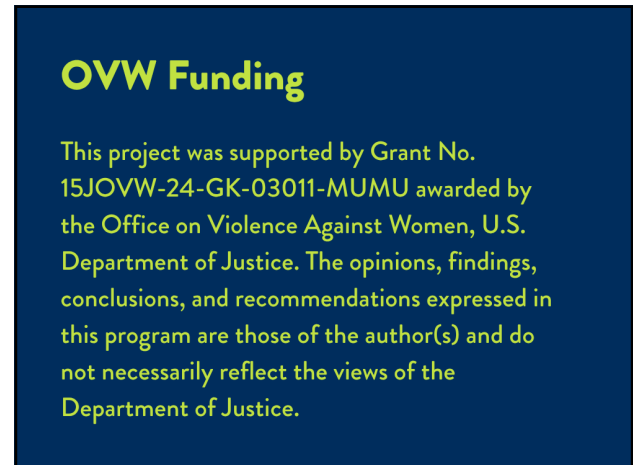




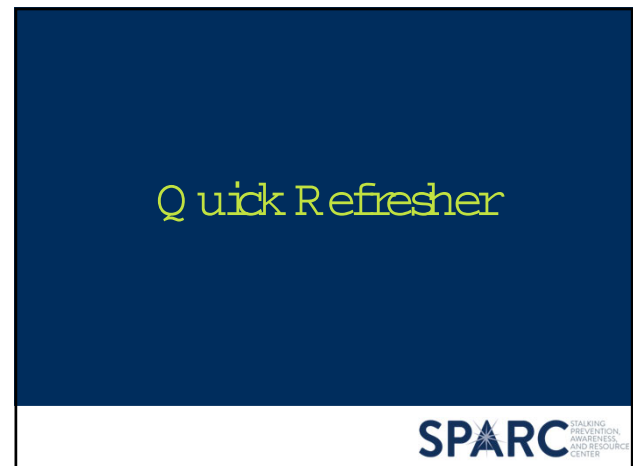
1



2



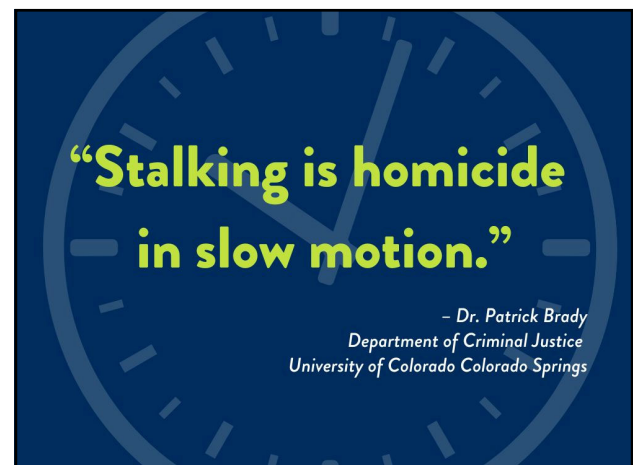
3



4



5



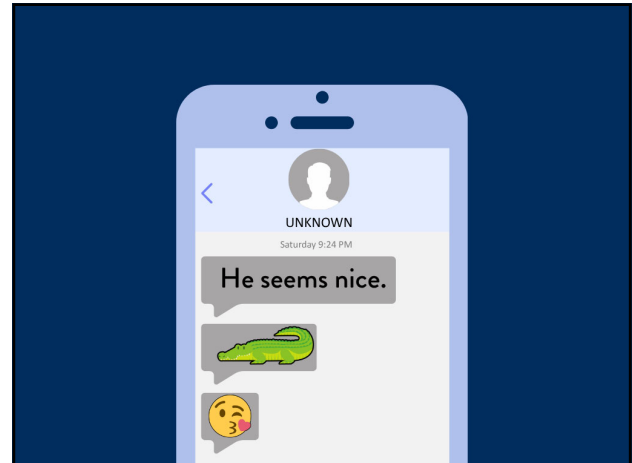
6

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.



7



8

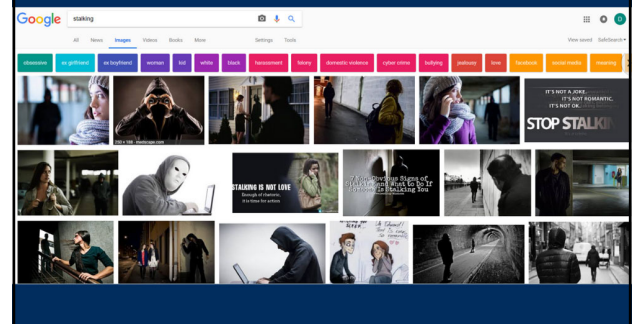
CONTEXT IS CRITICAL



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

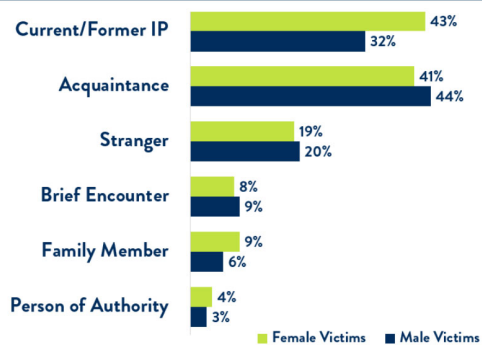
9

Image Results for "Stalking"



10

Victim and Offender Relationships



Smith, S.G., Basile, K.C., & Krawnau, 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.

11



12

The Use of Technology to Stalk

SPARC STALKING PREVENTION, ADVOCACY, AND RESOURCE CENTER

13

Technology does not cause stalking, **STALKERS CAUSE STALKING.**



14

Technology & In-Person Stalking



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

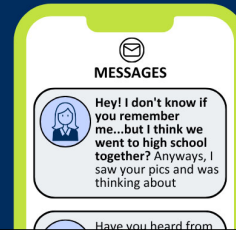
Messing, J., Bagwell-Gray, M., Brown, M.L., Kappas, A., & Durfee, A. (2020). Intersections of Stalking and Technology-Based Abuse: Emerging Definitions, Conceptualization, and Measurement. Journal of Family Violence 35(7): 693-704.

15

Unique Features of TFS

Old stalking, new methods -- and some unique features:

- Extend reach over time and space
 - Reach intimate spaces, resurface after years, more opportunities
- Less accountability
 - Anonymity, seen as "less serious," often thwarts existing protections
- Crowdsourcing attacks
- Entrench existing inequities
 - Safety features and resources are typically resource-gated



16

SLII Framework



Logan, TK, & Walker, R. (2017). Stalking: A Multidimensional Framework for Assessment and Safety Planning. Trauma, Violence and Abuse 18(2), 200-222.

17

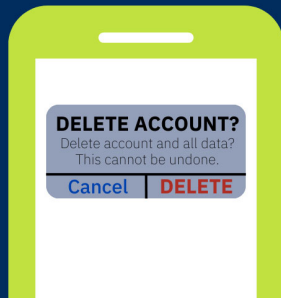
COMMON TECHNOLOGY TACTICS EXPERIENCED BY STALKING VICTIMS



Truman, J.L., & Morgan, R.E. (2022). Stalking Victimization, 2019. Washington, DC: US DOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report.

18

Should victims just log off?



19

Visibility and Escalation



- Risk of escalation
- If a stalker has access to a victim's tech, they may retaliate when they realize they've lost that access
- Timing can be key!

20

The Mythology of Tech

Technology totally defies our intuition.
It's a complete black box.



21

Simple Methods, Big Harm

Stalkers often **overstate** their abilities with technology as a form of manipulation

- Most TFS makes use of simple tools, like third-party apps or social media
- These simple methods can be very powerful, especially when they circumvent normal protections

BUT simple methods can also stop stalking



22

Mechanisms of TFS

they OWN something • Abuser owns device/account • Shared account/device • Buying or gifting the survivor the devices	they ACCESS something • Physical/coerced access to unlocked device • Remotely "hack" via security questions/passwords • Install spyware/ "dual-use" app
they CONTACT someone • Call/text/message victim or friends/family • Post harmful content publicly (e.g., threaten violence) • Proxy harassment • "Spoofing"	they SHARE something • Blackmail by threat of exposure • "Doxxing" victim • Non-consensual intimate images • Fake profiles/advertisements of sexual services

23

TFV: Stalkers can cause harm if...

they OWN something • Abuser owns device/account • Shared account/device • Buying or gifting the survivor the devices	they ACCESS something • Physical/coerced access to unlocked device • Remotely "hack" via security questions/passwords • Install spyware/ "dual-use" app
they CONTACT someone • Call/text/message victim or friends/family • Post harmful content publicly (e.g., threaten violence) • Proxy harassment • "Spoofing"	they SHARE something • Blackmail by threat of exposure • "Doxxing" victim • Non-consensual intimate images • Fake profiles/advertisements of sexual services

24

TFV: Stalkers can cause harm if...

they OWN something - Abuser owns device/account - Shared account/device - Buying or gifting the survivor the devices	they ACCESS something - Physical/coerced access to unlocked device - Remotely "hack" via security questions/passwords - Install spyware/ "dual-use" app
they CONTACT someone - Call/text/message victim or friends/family - Post harmful content publicly (e.g., threaten violence) - Proxy harassment "Spoofing"	they SHARE something - Blackmail by threat of exposure "Doxing" victim - Non-consensual intimate images - Fake profiles/advertisements of sexual services

LAW ENFORCEMENT

25

Example: Anonymous & Spoof Calls

SPARC SAFETY, PROTECTION, AND RESOURCES FOR CALIFORNIA

26

*67 Calls: Trap Call (TrapCall.com)

How TrapCall works

- Your phone rings, but it's blocked**
Receive a call from an unknown, blocked, or restricted number
- Decline the call, we do our magic**
TrapCall's technology works behind the scenes to unmask the caller
- The call rings back - unmasked!**
See the real phone number that was trying to hide from you
- Block and take back control**
Choose to block unwanted callers or add them to your blacklist

27

Here's how to unmask calls with TrapCall

SPARC SAFETY, PROTECTION, AND RESOURCES FOR CALIFORNIA

28

TrapCall Limitations

- ONLY works for *67
- Offenders may have an unregistered phone or use Google Voice or similar apps for internet calling
- Is there context in the calls that points to the offender?
- Changing phone numbers isn't always a good solution

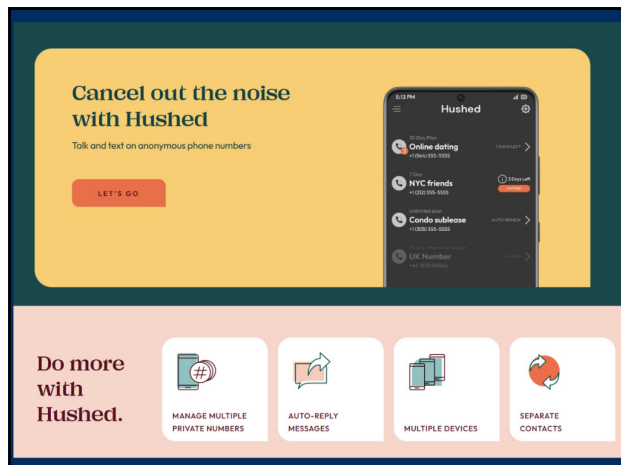
29

Spoof Phone Calls

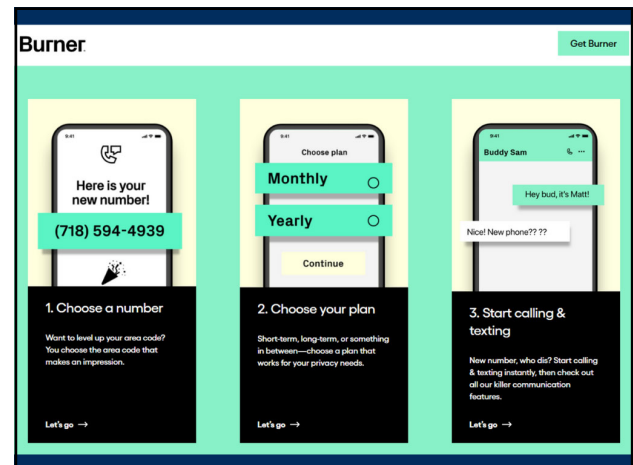
Example: SpoofCard

How can you remain anonymous when you call someone? The best way is by using SpoofCard. With SpoofCard you can change your CallerID to [redacted] (Cómo puedes mantener el anonimato cuando llamas a alguien?)

30



31



32

Voiceover Internet Protocol (VoIP) Services

These services can give stalkers cheap and “anonymous” numbers... but they are not 100% anonymous

- Document
- Look up the platform
- Try to obtain subscriber information

Google Voice

Smart voice calling on all your devices

For personal use For business

TextMe

textnow

sideline

Globofone

Dingtone

ONVOY

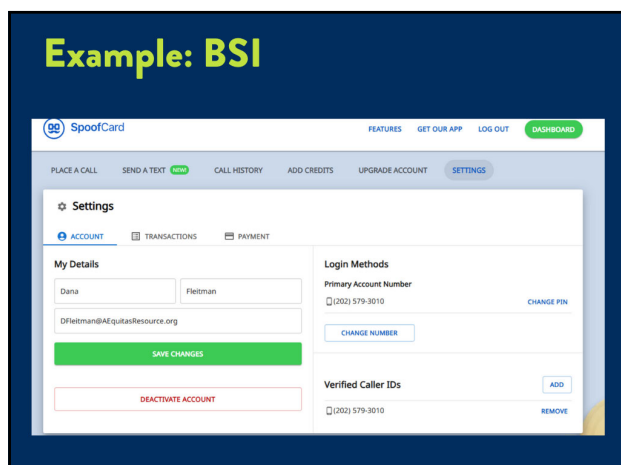
Line2

33

Basic Subscriber Information (BSI)

- BSI is information that someone enters to sign up for an online service, like their name, phone number, and email address.
- If we know the platform, PD and civil subpoenas may be able to help identify the harasser by obtaining BSI.
 - Depending on the jurisdiction
 - E.g. NumLookup to identify platform → subpoena to platform for BSI → match name/IP address to suspect

34



35

Documenting Anonymous Calls

Phone Number Carrier Lookup Report for (882) 587-9485

This phone number is valid and assigned to the telephone carrier BANDWIDTH.COM. Our phone reputation algorithms detected that this number is located in KENNEDALE, TX, US. Please consider this information to retrieve more accurate results and schedule greater reputation scoring.

Upload Phone Numbers or Activate API

Phone Number Carrier Details for (882) 587-9485	
Local Formatted Number	(882) 587-9485
Is this phone number valid?	Valid Number
What country is this phone number located in?	US
What city is this phone number located in?	KENNEDALE
What region or state is this phone number located in?	TX
Carrier Name	BANDWIDTH.COM
Line Type	VOIP
Active Line	Use our API lookup service to view the full subscriber status.

Is the call coming from cellular, landline, or VoIP?

- Try the number(s) in carrier lookup services online
- Can subpoena brokers like broadband.com to find which company they sold the number to, then subpoena that company (like Google)

36

Screening, Not Blocking

- When blocked, the stalker may just migrate to other platforms
- Consider deleting the saved contact card and turning on “screen unknown callers”



Better screening

CallScreen (built-in), TrueCaller



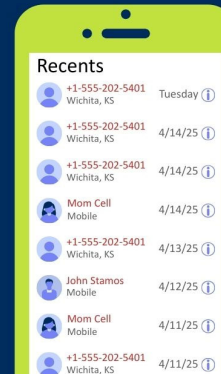
Weaker screening

Delete contact card



37

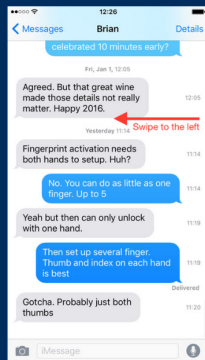
Why Screen vs. Block?



- Survivors often benefit from knowing if the stalker is attempting to contact them.
- This can help
 - Identify if the stalker is escalating
 - Prove attempted violations of a restraining order
 - Give insight into their plans

38

Tips for Documenting



1. Capture the whole screen, and don't crop, edit, or otherwise alter screenshots or images
2. Try to include a timestamp for messages
3. If a phone number is involved, delete the contact card to show the phone number, not a nickname
4. Look up the phone carrier and any other related information you can get for free
5. Keep a well-organized and annotated log of screenshots

39



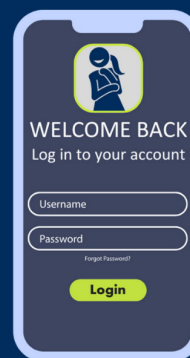
40

Identifying Access Points & Mapping Devices

SPARC

41

Two Components to Phone Security

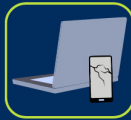


- Compromise of the device itself
 - Fixed by getting a new device or factory reset
- Compromise of accounts on the device
 - Persists across new devices or reset, needs manual review
 - “Chases” the survivor across devices

42

Help Map Out Devices

- A large part of tech services is helping victims remember devices!
 - When you ask about what technology they use, victims often just say “my phone”
- Give examples. Frequently forgotten:



Old Devices
Still in Home



Shared Desktop
Computers



Gifted Devices

43

Help Map Out Devices



Headphones



Watches



Children's Devices



Cameras



Smart Home
Devices



Laptops & Tablets



Old Devices
Still in Home



Shared Desktop
Computers

44

Utility Plans: WiFi and Service



Shared WiFi is
generally okay

- May connect cameras or microphones to the WiFi
 - Changing the WiFi password will knock them off



A shared phone contract is not
safe if the victim is not the owner

- Contract owner can, without victim consent:
 - Turn on location tracking
 - View phone numbers called or texted (but not content)
 - See data usage
 - Shut down the phone number and/or move it to a phone owned by abuser

45

Shared Phone Plans

Whoever owns a phone plan can:

- View phone numbers called or texted (but not content)
- Fully take over and/or disconnect the victim's phone number
- If set up correctly, turn on location tracking



Date	Time	To	From	Direction	Message type
03/27/2025	06:48 PM	408-211-7811	701-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
7/2025	01:40 PM	408-211-7811	866-921-7811	Received	Text
03/26/2025	08:51 PM	408-204-3111	877-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
03/26/2025	06:08 PM	408-211-7811	562-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
03/26/2025	05:06 PM	408-211-7811	745-211-7811	Received	Text

46

verizon

Message Usage

Device: 408-211-7811 Messages used: 81

Message log

Date	Time	To	From	Direction	Message type
03/27/2025	06:48 PM	408-211-7811	701-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
03/27/2025	01:40 PM	408-211-7811	866-921-7811	Received	Text
03/26/2025	08:51 PM	408-204-3111	877-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
03/26/2025	06:08 PM	408-211-7811	562-211-7811	Received	Picture/Video
03/26/2025	05:06 PM	408-211-7811	745-211-7811	Received	Text
03/31/2025	12:59 PM	408-211-7811	832-211-7811	Received	Text
03/31/2025	12:59 PM	408-211-7811	832-211-7811	Received	Text

47

Owner Can Stop Service

Suspend or reconnect service

To disconnect a line permanently, [check your online disconnect eligibility.](#)

Which device would you like to start with?



FLEITMAN

Owner
840-211-7811
SIM 0014-0000-0000-0000-0000
PIXEL 6 128 GB CARBON

Select Device



FLEITMAN

Non Registered
408-211-7811
SIM 0014-0000-0000-0000-0000
IP15 128 BL-2K-2

Select Device

48

49

LifeLineSupport.org/Survivor-Benefit

FC FORM 5629 Lifeline Program Application Form		Date of completion: SEP 16 2013 Office of the Attorney General Department of Justice
1. About Lifeline	Rules You qualify for household assistance if you are a tenant or owner of a residence that is the subject of a foreclosure action and you are in receipt of a written notice of foreclosure. You must be a resident of the property and have a household income that is less than or equal to the applicable income limit. You must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the United States. You must be at least 18 years old. You must be a legal resident of the United States and have a valid Social Security number. You must be a legal resident of the United States and have a valid Social Security number. You must be a legal resident of the United States and have a valid Social Security number. You must be a legal resident of the United States and have a valid Social Security number.	
2. What is a household? Communications Information for qualifying low-income residents.	What is a household? A household is a group of people who live together in the same residence and share the same financial resources. A household may include a person's spouse, children, and other family members. A household may also include a person's partner, children, and other family members. A household may also include a person's partner, children, and other family members. A household may also include a person's partner, children, and other family members.	
3. Do not give your benefit to another person Do not give your benefit to another person Do not give your benefit to another person	Do not give your benefit to another person You must not give your benefit to another person. You must not give your benefit to another person. You must not give your benefit to another person. You must not give your benefit to another person. You must not give your benefit to another person.	
4. Be honest on this form Be honest on this form Be honest on this form	Be honest on this form You must be honest on this form. You must be honest on this form. You must be honest on this form. You must be honest on this form. You must be honest on this form.	
5. You may need to show other documents You may need to show other documents You may need to show other documents	You may need to show other documents You may need to show other documents. You may need to show other documents. You may need to show other documents. You may need to show other documents. You may need to show other documents.	
Apply If you are a tenant or owner of a residence that is the subject of a foreclosure action and you are in receipt of a written notice of foreclosure, you may apply for household assistance. You may apply for household assistance. You may apply for household assistance. You may apply for household assistance. You may apply for household assistance.	APPROVED FOR SIGNATURE Signature of Applicant Signature of Applicant Signature of Applicant Signature of Applicant Signature of Applicant	

50

xfinity

STEP 1 OF 7

Safe Connections Act line separation request

This form is for Safe Connections Act line separation requests for Xfinity Mobile, NOW Mobile, and Comcast Business Mobile accounts. **Note:** Line(s) separated from a Comcast Business Mobile account will be converted to residential mobile service.

The Safe Connections Act and the implementing rules established by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") enable certain individuals to request that a line or lines be separated from a shared mobile services account if they can document that a person on the account (hereafter, "abuser") has committed or allegedly committed a "covered act" against them or someone in their care (collectively referred to as "survivors"). For purposes of the form, all references to "you," "your," or "I" in requests for information or certifications relate to survivors unless otherwise specified.

Covered acts

A "covered act" includes (but is not limited to):

- Domestic violence;
- Dating violence;
- Sexual assault;
- Stalking;
- Child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment;

51

Securing Accounts

SPARC STALKING PREVENTION AWARENESS AND RESOLUTION

52

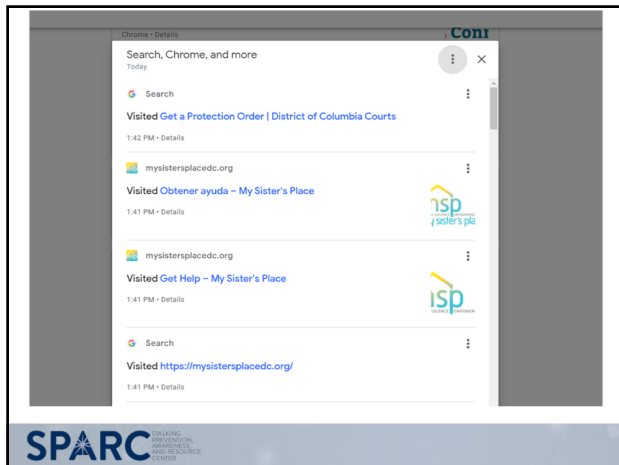
Example: Google & Apple as Entry Points

SPARC

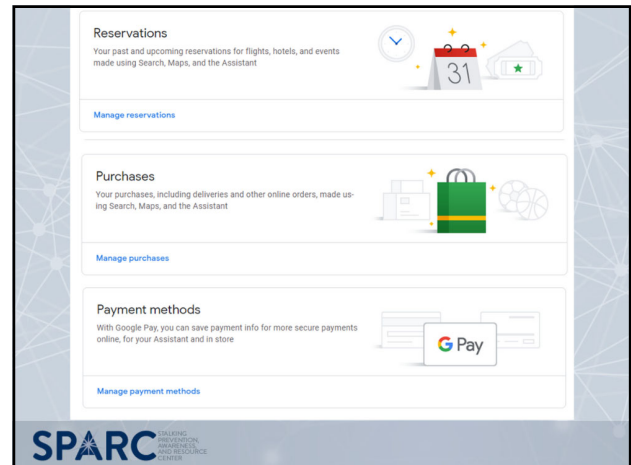
53

Google: Web & App Activity

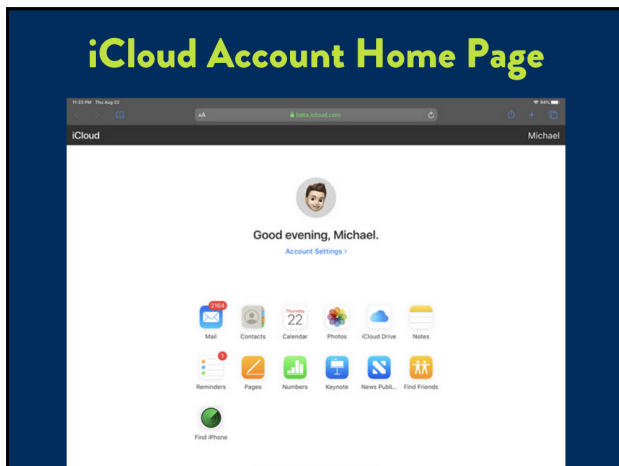
54



55



56



57



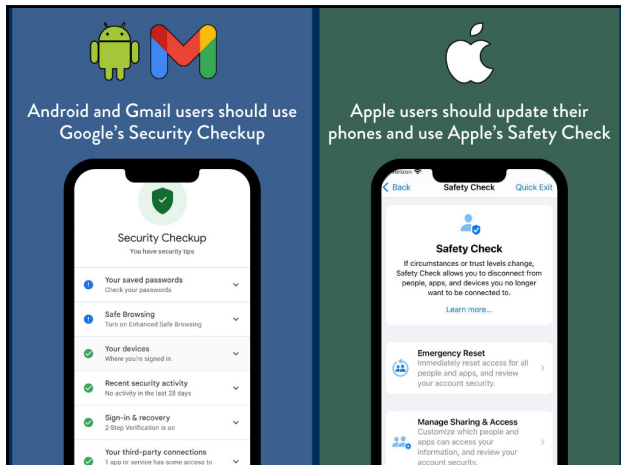
58



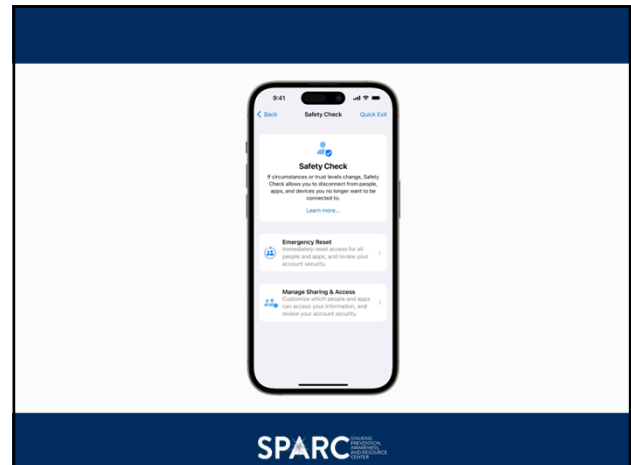
59



60



61



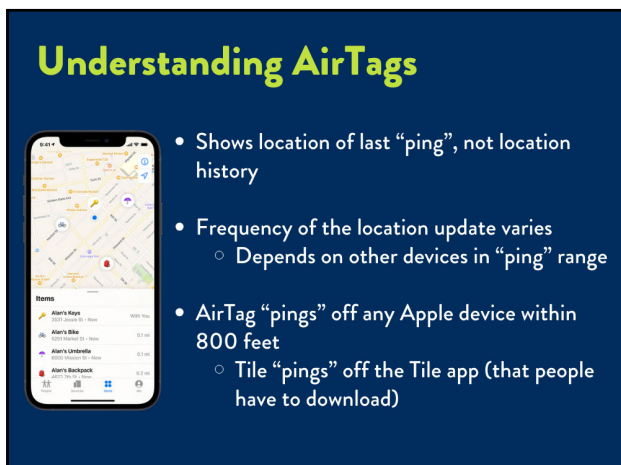
62



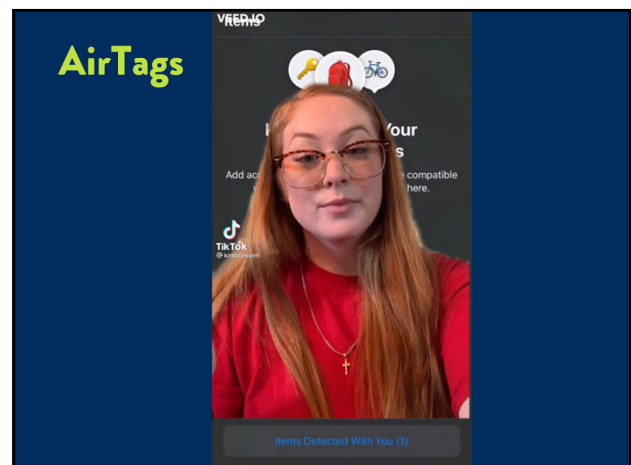
63



64



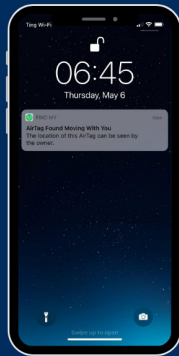
65



66

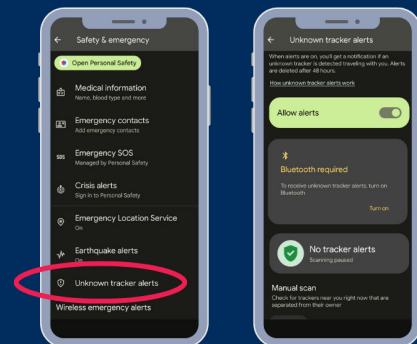
Notification Limitations

- 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



67

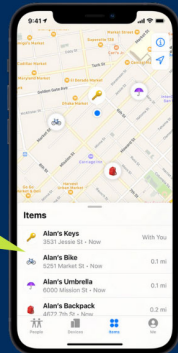
AirTag/Bluetooth Tracker Alert Settings: Android



68

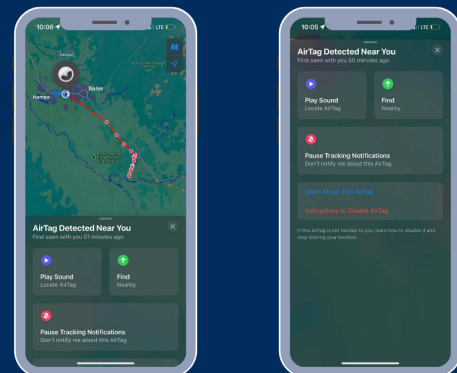
Legitimate User or Offender's View

Location address
and when
location last
updated

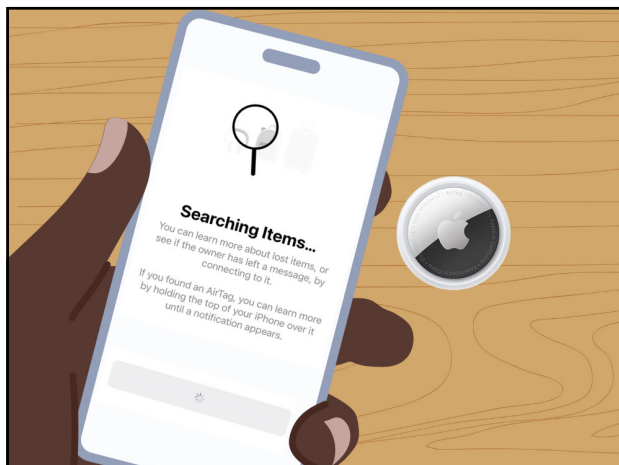


69

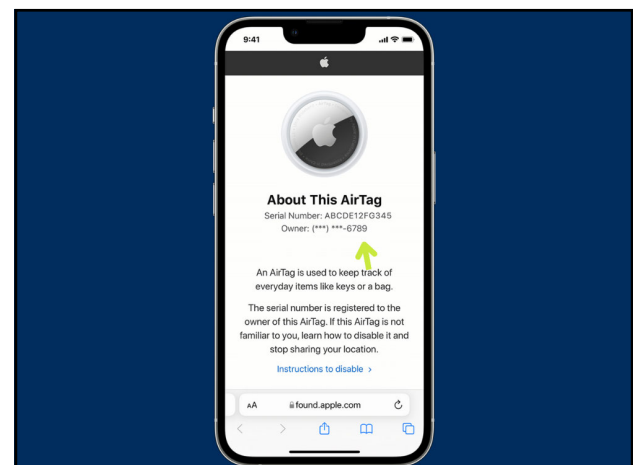
Victim's View



70



71



72



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

73

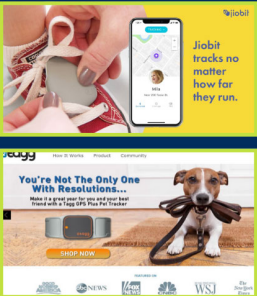
Evidence with AirTags

- Serial number is unique to each AirTag
- Serial number is on physical device but will not show up on phone
- Contact LawEnforcement@apple.com to check device registration
- Check financial records of suspect
- Contextual evidence

74

Examples of GPS Devices

- Smart phones
 - Find My
 - Apps
 - Location sharing
- Child trackers
- Pet trackers
- Geofencing alerts
 - When the GPS device leaves or gets close to a designated place



75

Example: Pet Tracking Device



76

Example: Pet Tracking Device



77



SPARC

78

What is Stalkerware?



- Commercially available software used for spying
- Made for individual use
- Typically hides itself from the list of installed programs and does not display any activity notifications



79

Cell Phone Spyware

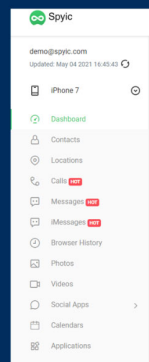
Example: FlexiSpy

clideo.com

80

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



81

Removing Stalkerware

All actions may cause potential safety concerns!

- Restart device
 - Removes permissions, i.e. stops stalkerware from running but doesn't remove it
- Factory reset
 - Removes stalkerware from the device
 - Note: this also destroys the evidence
- Change passwords on all apps/accounts
- Antivirus can sometimes remove stalkerware



82

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

83

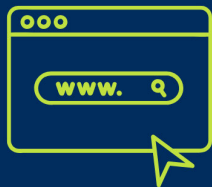
Public Data

SPARC

84

Find yourself...

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

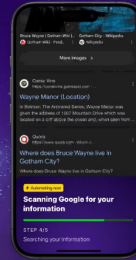


85

Data Brokers & Online Profiles

Kanary Copilot

The *fast and free* way to fight doxxing and digital stalking.



- Search for the victim's name on Google:
 - Phone number, address, workplace
 - What's out there?
- Services can take these down

Optery

DeleteMe

Kanary Copilot

86

Technology & Stalking: Big Picture

- **Believe victims.**
 - Offenders can misuse technology a variety of creative ways to access, contact, and monitor their victims.
- **This technology is out there – and it's easy to use.**
 - Offenders don't have to be particularly "tech savvy" to terrorize victims through technology.
- **Build knowledge on privacy/sharing settings.**
 - Each app and device has its own and settings/defaults are often not intuitive.
- **Ask specific questions about offender contact and knowledge.**
 - This can better help you collect evidence and safety plan.
- **Consider both evidence preservation and victim safety.**
 - See if the victim has access to a safer device.
- **Charge relevant technology-related crimes.**
 - As appropriate and applicable.

87

Resources & W rap-Up

SPARC STALKING PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND RESOURCE CENTER

88

For Victims



Confidential referrals for crime victims



855-4-VICTIM

89

JANUARY IS

NATIONAL

STALKING
AWARENESS MONTH

KNOW IT. NAME IT. STOP IT.

How are you planning to spread the word?

LEARN*TEACH*SHARE*REFLECT

StalkingAwareness.org

90



91



92



93



94