

WHAT IS STALKING?

Repeated harassing or threatening behaviors towards a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

STALKING IN OREGON

- In a survey of Oregon women age 20-55, 13% (about 111,000 women) said they had been stalked in a 5-year period.
- 2 in 3 victims (about 74,000 women) were stalked by current or former intimate partners.
- Of those stalked by intimate partners, 63% were stalked during the relationship (or during and after), while 37% were stalked only after the relationship had ended.
- Sixty-nine percent (76,759 women) were stalked by unwanted contact through letters, calls, or items.
- Fifty-eight percent (62,106 women) were being followed or spied on.
- Fifty-one percent (56,581 women) had property vandalized.
- Eighteen percent (19,795 women) had pets harmed, killed or threatened with harm.

Data source: Oregon Women's Health & Safety Survey, 2001-2002. <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/ipv/index.cfm>

STALKING IN AMERICA

- Over 1 million women and about 400,000 men are stalked annually in the United States.
- 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetimes.
- Most victims know their stalkers.
- 87% of stalkers are men.
- 3 in 5 female victims and 1 in 3 male victims are stalked by an intimate partner.
- The average duration of stalking is 1.8 years. It is 2.2 years when the stalker is a current or former intimate partner.
- 1 in 4 female victims and 1 in 10 male victims obtained a protective order against the stalker. Most stalkers violated the protection orders.

Data source: Tjaden P & Thoennes N. (1998). "Stalking in America," NIJ.

IMPACT OF STALKING ON VICTIMS

- Over half of stalked women took some type of self-protective measure. 1 in 10 relocated.
- 26% of stalking victims lost time from work and 7% never returned to work.
- 30% of female victims and 20% of male victims sought psychological counseling.

Data source: Tjaden P & Thoennes N. (1998). "Stalking in America," NIJ.

For more information about stalking, please contact:

The Stalking Resource Center, a program of the National Center for Crime Victims: 1-800-FYI-CALL and locally, the Portland Women's Crisis Line: 1-888-235-5333.

To receive this document in an alternate format, please contact:

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Intimate Partner Violence Data Collection Project
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