STALKING ON CAMPUS: STATISTICS

In a recent study of women attending college in the U.S., 13.1% had been stalked in the past year.

Most stalkers are not strangers!

Approximately 4 out of 5 of these women knew their stalkers. Of the stalkers that were known:

- 42.5% were boyfriends or ex-boyfriends.
- 24.5% were classmates.
- 10.3% were acquaintances.
- 5.6% were friends.
- 5.6% were coworkers.

Stalking isn't just annoying, it's dangerous!

Many of the stalking victims reported additional harm:

- Almost 3 in 10 reported emotional or psychological injury.
- 15.3% reported that the stalker threatened or attempted to harm them.
- 10.3% reported that the stalker forced or attempted sexual contact

Fisher, Cullen & Turner, 2000, Sexual Victimization of College Women.

NATIONAL STATISTICS ON STALKING

A recent national study estimated that 3.4 million people are stalked in the U.S. each year. Of those stalked, almost 75% knew their stalkers.

Both women and men can be victims of stalking, but women are at greater risk.

According to this study:

- 2.0% of women in the U.S. are stalked each year.
- 0.7% of men in the U.S. are stalked each year.

Stalking often leads to physical violence!

Many victims in this study reported that the stalker also perpetrated other crimes against them:

- 21.0% were physically attacked by the stalker.
- 15.0% had a family member, friend, coworker, or pet attacked by the stalker.
- 24.4% had property damaged by the stalker.

Baum, Catalano, Rand & Rose, 2009, Stalking Victimization in the United States.

If you or someone you know is being stalked or if you would like to learn more about stalking, please contact:

UOG Violence Against Women Prevention Program

Humanities & Social Sciences Building 1st Floor, Room 103 Open Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Phone: 735-2890

Email: vawpp@triton.uog.edu Website: www.uog.edu/vawpp

To request a campus security escort, please contact:

UOG Safety and Security Office

Dorm I, 1st Floor, Room 1 Security Guard on Duty: 888-2456 Security Office: 735-2370/0332

For after-hours assistance, please contact:

Guam Victim Advocates Reaching Out

24-hour hotline: 477-5552

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

For more information, visit:

National Stalking Resource Center

http://www.nevc.org/src.htm

Stalking Victims Sanctuary and Solutions

www.stalkingvictims.com

WHOA: Working to Halt Online Abuse

http://www.haltabuse.org/

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What is stalking?

Stalking is a pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact, or any other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

(Office on Violence Against Women)

STALKING IS A CRIME.

Guam law states that a person is guilty of simple stalking if he or she willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly, follows or harasses another person or who makes a credible threat with intent to place that person or a member of his or her immediate family in fear of death or bodily injury.

How do you know you are being stalked?

You are being stalked if someone repeatedly does any of the following, causing you to feel threatened or afraid:

- Makes unwanted contact through calls, texts, email, or social networking sites.
- Shows up uninvited at your home, work, or classes.
- Follows you or watches you in-person or online.
- Sends unwanted gifts, cards, presents, or other items.
- Makes verbal or physical threats against you, your loved ones, or your property.
- Threatens to harm him/herself if you do not allow contact.
- Posts information or spreads rumors about you on the Internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth.

A wide range of behaviors can be considered stalking, if they are:

- 1) repetitive,
- 2) unwanted, and
- 3) threatening or causing you fear.

If you think you are being stalked...

Make sure you are safe!

If you feel you are in danger, call the police and go to a place of safety immediately, such as a police station or a well-lit public place. Ask a campus security officer or a friend to walk with you to your desired destination if you feel unsafe.

Stop Contact.

If it feels safe to do so, make one attempt to say "I want no further contact with you" and then end all communication. Have NO FURTHER CONTACT after this one attempt.

Tell people.

Do not go through this alone. Inform your friends, family and employers so they can help you assess potential danger and provide support. Tell them not to share any personal information about you with anyone.

Seek help.

There are professionals at UOG and in the community who can help you to identify, respond to, and cope with stalking behaviors. They can also assist with safety planning, protection orders, and prosecution of the case. Contact the UOG Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) for more information about victim services and community referrals.

Be proactive.

Change your daily routine, and always carry a cell phone so you can call for help if you need it.

Think before you post or tweet.

Social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter are excellent ways for a stalker to find you. Avoid posting identifying information such as your address, cell phone number, work or class schedule, or social plans. Adjust your privacy settings to control who has access to your information.

Report all incidents.

If you think you are being stalked, report all incidents to campus security and the Guam Police Department.

Log all stalking behaviors.

Keep a log listing all stalking incidents with information including dates, times, locations, incident details, and witnesses.

How might stalking affect you?

Stalking can be a traumatic experience. Some victims report strong emotional reactions, such as:

- Fear and anxiety
- Frustration, irritability, and anger
- Difficulty concentrating
- Decreased ability to perform at work or school
- Isolation and disconnection from people
- Self-blame and decreased self-esteem
- Powerlessness and helplessness
- Depression and hopelessness

It is important that victims seek help and support to manage the stalking and its impact on their lives.

What VAWPP can do for you.

If you are a victim of stalking, UOG's Violence Against Women Prevention Program can provide information, resources, and confidential victim services, such as:

- Advocacy and counseling
- Assistance reporting to campus security and the Guam Police Department
- Risk assessment and safety planning
- Advisement on legal options
- Assistance obtaining protection orders
- Referrals to victim advocacy organizations in the community

To contact VAWPP, call 735-2890 or email vawpp@uguam.uog.edu

Campus Security Escort Service

The University of Guam's Campus Security Escort Service provides free walking accompaniment from one on-campus location to another, including vehicles parked on campus, for all University of Guam students, employees, and visitors who may feel unsafe walking alone on campus at night. This service is available from dusk to dawn, seven days a week, 365 days per year.

To request a Campus Security Escort, call 888-2486 or 735-2365.