



## FACILITATOR SCRIPT

Slide 1



Key message: Introduction to the presentation

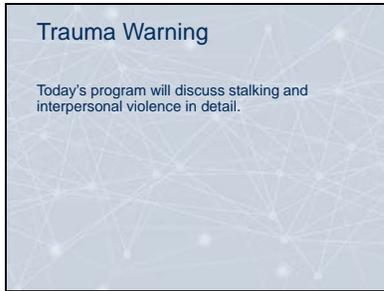
- Welcome
- My name is [name] and I'm [role].
- This training was created by the Stalking Prevention, Awareness and Resource Center (SPARC).
- SPARC is funded by the Office on Violence Against Women to provide training and technical assistance to professionals.

Slide 2



Key message: Let's get started.

Slide 3



Key message: Today's program will discuss stalking and violence in detail, with examples and true stories.

- Trauma Warning: Today's program will discuss stalking and violence in detail, with examples and true stories.
- Please take care of yourself however you need to throughout this event.

Slide 4



*Note to facilitator: This 3-minute video is embedded in the PPT slides and available online at [StalkingAwareness.org](http://StalkingAwareness.org) – Awareness – Videos.*

Slide 5



## Slide 6



Key message: Stalking crimes are highly contextual. What causes a stalking victim to feel fear may not be obviously understood as scary by an outsider.

*Divide participants into small groups and give each one of the three examples. Allow 5 minutes for discussion and then ask them to report out. If you have a small audience, you may just split the group into 3. If you have a larger audience, multiple groups will discuss the same prompt. Allow 5 minutes to discuss and 1 minute for each report out).*

Debrief:

- *Can someone from each group briefly summarize the story you read?*
- Stalking cases often include stories like these.
  - Many stalkers use specific, personal, and disturbing methods to scare their victims.
  - Sometimes, it's not clear to victims that a crime occurred.
- Stalkers know that their victims may sound crazy when they report the stalking – especially if they don't have proof of what happened.
  - Stalkers can use this to their advantage.

Slide 7



Key message: Context is critical to understanding stalking and why something may be scary to a victim.

- As you discussed with the scenarios, context is critical in stalking cases.
  - The coffee cup isn't scary until we know the whole story.
- In most legal statutes, stalking crimes have a "reasonable person standard."
  - The reasonable person standard asks us to consider how any rational person in similar circumstances to the victim might feel.
  - In other words, if a reasonable person would be scared – once they understood the context – that could be stalking.

Slide 8



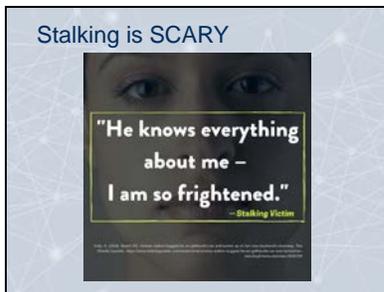
*Note to facilitator: This 2-minute video is embedded in the PPT slides and available online at [StalkingAwareness.org](http://StalkingAwareness.org) – Awareness – Videos.*

Slide 9



Key message: Stalking is scary, involves multiple incidents, and involves a stalker targeting one individual victim.

Slide 10



Key message: Fear is key to the definition of stalking. This quote from a stalking victim describes some of the fear the victim experienced.

- Stalking is not just frustrating or annoying. It is scary.
- It's important to hear from victims in their own words.
  - Fear is how we differentiate stalking from other crimes, like harassment.
  - Harassment generally describes behavior that is irritating, while stalking describes behaviors that cause fear.

## Slide 11



Key message: Stalking is a pattern of behavior that requires 2 or more behaviors. The behaviors can vary or be the same. Some behaviors are criminal on their own (like property damage) while others only become criminal when part of a stalking case (like excessive texting).

- Like domestic violence, stalking is NOT just one incident. It is a pattern.
  - *Ask the group: How many times does something have to happen for it to be a pattern?*  
(Answer: 2-3)
  - *Does the behavior have to be the same every time (for example, calling every day) or can the behaviors be different?*  
(Answer: Behaviors can be different – like calling one day and then sending a gift the next week)
- When you're looking at your state's stalking statute, realize that most legal definitions of stalking use the term "course of conduct." This is a synonym for "pattern of behavior."
- Many different behaviors can be part of a stalking pattern/course of conduct.
  - Some stalking behaviors are criminal (for example, property damage).
  - Others are not crimes on their own (for example, sending gifts), but can become criminal when part of a stalking course of conduct.

Slide 12



Key message: Stalking includes a wide variety of behaviors.

If the stalker’s actions would cause a reasonable person to feel fear, it could be part of a stalking case.

Slide 13



Key message: Stalking is directed at a specific person.

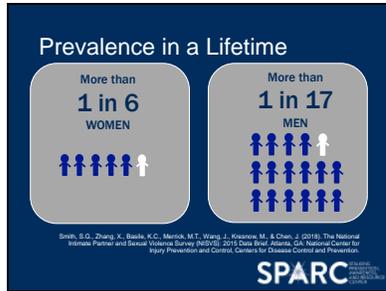
- Stalking is directed at a specific individual, not a group.
- However, stalkers may target other people close to the primary victim – like family members or a new boyfriend or girlfriend.
  - A stalker may use people close to the victim to get to the victim.

Slide 14



Key Message: Now that we KNOW IT, we will move on to the second section: NAME IT.

Slide 15



Key message: Stalking is prevalent.

- An estimated 25 million people have been stalked in the United States over the course of their lifetimes.
- 6-7.5 million are stalked in a one-year period.
- That's about 1 in 6 women and 1 in 17 men.

Slide 16



Key message: Most victims *do not* report to law enforcement. Stalking often goes unnamed and unreported.

Many stalking victims don't report what they're experiencing to law enforcement

- *Why do you think this is?*
  - Minimization – they don't think what's going on is a big deal.
  - Not recognizing it as stalking – they do not know what's happening is a crime.
  - Shame – they may be embarrassed and/or think what's occurring is a private matter.
  - Distrust of police – they do not believe that law enforcement will respond appropriately.

Slide 17

Victims

\*Women report stalking at significantly higher rates than men do.

\*The majority of victims report that their stalkers are male.

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J. & Stevens, M.R. (2011). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Key message: While people of all genders can experience stalking, women are more likely than men to experience stalking.

- Most known victims of stalking are women.
- The majority of victims identify their stalkers as male.

Slide 18



Key message: Myths about stalking can keep victims from recognizing it when it happens. Popular culture often shows stalkers as hooded strangers.

- Here is a screenshot of an image result for the term "stalking."
- *Ask the group: What do you notice about these pictures?*
  - The popular image of a "stalker" is often a hooded, faceless, male strangers.
  - TV shows popularize the "secret admirer" stalker.
- While this can happen, it is rare.

Slide 19

Relationships

The majority of the time, the victim knows the perpetrator.

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J. & Stevens, M.R. (2011). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Key message: The victim knows the perpetrator the vast majority of the time.

- In popular culture, when we hear "stalking" we may think about celebrity stalkers.
  - While this can happen, the victim knows the perpetrator the vast majority of the time.

Slide 20



Key message: Most offenders are known to their victim in some capacity – most often former/current intimate partners. Strangers only account for a minority of the cases.

- When many people think about stalking, they think about celebrities being stalked by obsessed fans.
- In reality, the majority of stalkers are intimate partners (current or former)
  - Stalking is a method of exerting power and control in an abusive relationship.
- It is also essential to realize that many stalkers are NOT intimate partners.
  - Particularly for male victims, the stalker is often an acquaintance.
- Stalking is often categorized under domestic violence.
  - But it's essential to realize that not all stalking is related to domestic violence.
  - All stalking victims need our help and our response.

Slide 21

On average, intimate partner stalkers pose the greatest threats to their victims.

SPARC

Key message: Intimate partner stalkers, on average, pose the greatest threats to their victims.

- *Ask the group: Why do you think this is? Why might an intimate partner make for a particularly dangerous stalker? (Sample answers: they know the victim the best – the victim's schedule, social network, even accounts and passwords. They know the victim well and how best to upset them).*

Slide 22

Group Activity

Peggy Klinke  
Story and  
Discussion

A small, square portrait of a woman with blonde hair, smiling. She is wearing a blue top. The portrait is set against a dark blue background that also contains the text 'Group Activity' and 'Peggy Klinke Story and Discussion'.

Key message: Introducing Peggy Klinke video and providing a trauma warning to participants.

- We're going to learn more about a specific stalking case.
- We'll [*watch the video or read the article*] and then discuss questions in small groups, then come back together to report out.

*Note to facilitator: Either watch the video as a large group OR split the room into small groups and distribute the article about Peggy Klinke. Show the discussion questions on slide 24.*

***If watching the video, say the following:***

- Included in this video is a very distressing 911 call and a graphic description of a murder.
- Participants are encouraged to take care of themselves as they see fit.

*Allow up to 10 minutes for groups to discuss – reading the article/watching the video and group discussion should take a combined 20 minutes or so.*

Debrief:

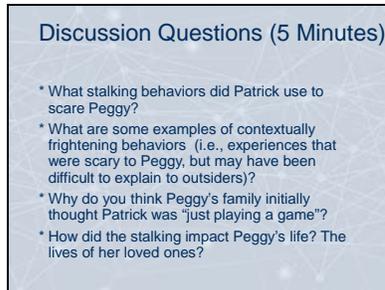
- Thank you for having that discussion.
- *Does anyone have any major reflections that they want to share?*
- Peggy's case highlights some common dynamics of stalking.
- In Peggy's case, her stalker was a former intimate partner.

Slide 23



*Note to Facilitator: The video is embedded here to view. There is also a short article available that participants may read instead of watching the video. The next slide includes the discussion questions.*

Slide 24



*Note to facilitator: Allow small groups time to discuss. Debrief the discussions and allow groups to "report out" and share insights.*

Key message: Patrick used a wide variety of stalking tactics to scare Peggy. The stalking case consumed her entire life and affected her friends and family.

Debrief:

- Thank you for having that discussion.
- *Does anyone have any major reflections that they want to share?*
- Peggy's case highlights some common dynamics of stalking.
- Patrick used a wide variety of tactics to scare Peggy.
  - His behaviors include some of the most common stalker tactics mentioned earlier (for example, following, property damage, targeting people close to the victim and gathering information about her).
  - Some – like jumping out the bushes and proposing – were contextual in nature and could be easily dismissed by others as "no big deal."

- Stalking should not have to rise to the level of violence or murder before we take it seriously.
  - We need to be able to identify stalking behaviors early on and step in to stop it.

Slide 25



Key message: You have the power to support victims and hold perpetrators accountable.

- We all have a role to play in building awareness about stalking, addressing stalking, and supporting victims and survivors.

Slide 26



Key message: The casual use of the word “stalking” can make this crime seem less serious than it really is.

- The word “stalking” is often used casually and incorrectly.
  - You may have heard – or said – something like “I was stalking you on Facebook” or “I was stalking you online” when what was happening was not actually stalking.
  - Looking at a friend’s photos on social media is not scary. It is not stalking.
- Hearing “stalking” used incorrectly so often can negatively impact our sense of urgency around this crime.
  - It can lead both victims and responders to minimize the experience and think that stalking is not so bad.

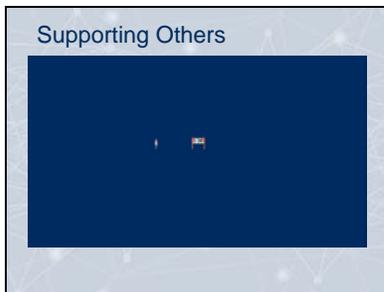
Slide 27



Key message: Do not minimize stalking.

- In the media, stalking is often presented as romantic, funny, or sexy.
  - In reality, it is criminal, traumatic, and dangerous.
- Do not minimize or “downplay” stalking.

Slide 28



*Note to facilitator: This 2-minute video is embedded in the PPT slides and available online at [StalkingAwareness.org](http://StalkingAwareness.org) – Awareness – Videos.*

Key message: Most victims of stalking talk to their friends or family about the situation before pursuing any sort of professional or legal help. If a stalking victim talks to you, your response makes a huge difference in if they feel validated and/or seek help.

*Note to facilitator: A handout is available to distribute with more information on supporting others experiencing stalking. Consider distributing that to attendees and/or referring them to it on the SPARC website, available under Information – for friends.*

- Most victims of stalking talk to their friends or family about the situation before pursuing any sort of professional or legal help.
  - In other words, if this is happening to someone you love, they may come to you about it.
  - Your response makes a huge difference in if they feel validated and/or seek help.

Slide 29

Documentation						
STALKING INCIDENT LOG						
Date	Time	Description of Incident	Location of Incident	Witness Name(s) (Street, Address and Phone #)	Police Contact (Officer #)	Officer Name (Range #)

Key message: Documentation is critical to show how stalking incidents are adding up. This log is available for free on the SPARC website.

- If you or a loved one are experiencing stalking, documentation is critical.
  - This can help you and any professionals that you work with (law enforcement, victim advocates, etc.) better understand what’s going on.
  - Since stalking can take place across jurisdictions, keeping track of *where* the event took place can help connect the dots for law enforcement.
- This log is available for free in English and Spanish on the SPARC website.

Slide 30



Key message: You can educate your community on stalking. SPARC has resources to help you.

- By attending today’s training, you took an important step in learning about stalking.
  - Stalking is a dynamic and complex crime. There’s a lot of information.
  - Continue to educate yourself on stalking.
- Stalking impacts every population in every community.
- Bring stalking awareness to groups where you have influence: it could be through your work, a PTA, a religious group, or any number of other places.
  - Educating your community on stalking can make victims more aware of when they are being stalked and more likely to take the threat seriously and seek help.

- I'll hand out and/or e-mail some resources for you to leave with today.
- You can order print brochures and posters free of charge for organizations you're a part of.
- Today's workshop is scripted and available for free online.

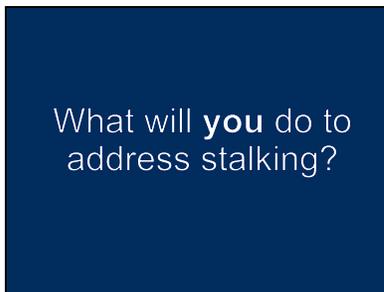
Slide 31



Key message: January in National Stalking Awareness Month. Resources to get involved are available on the SPARC website.

- SPARC creates ready-to-use resources each January for Stalking Awareness Month. Visit the SPARC website to get involved.

Slide 32



Key message: Take the time to brainstorm what you can do to address stalking.

- Turn to the person next to you and discuss one thing you can do to help address stalking. *(Allow 2 minutes for discussion. If time allows, ask for some participants to share their commitments).*

Slide 33



Key message: SPARC has more resources on stalking.

- SPARC provides in-person and online training and resources on stalking.
- Visit the SPARC website to learn more.
- Follow SPARC on social media @FollowUsLegally

Slide 34



- Thank you for your attention today!
- Please learn more at [www.StalkingAwareness.org](http://www.StalkingAwareness.org)