People experience **STALKING** and contact **SEXUAL VIOLENCE** at similar rates over their lifetimes: about 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men.

**INTERSECTIONS**
- Fear of sexual assault is covered under most stalking statutes.
- Among stalking victims 18–24 years old, 16% said their stalker shared nude, semi-nude, and/or sexually explicit photos/videos of them.
- In the vast majority of both stalking and sexual violence cases, the victim and perpetrator know each other.

**STALKING and SEXUAL VIOLENCE** are prevalent, traumatic, misunderstood, and under-reported crimes covered by the Violence Against Women Act.

**INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE**
- Women stalked by abusive partners experienced sexual abuse at significantly higher rates compared with women not stalked by abusive partners, including:
  - Sexual degradation (61% stalked vs. 45% not)
  - Sexual coercion (78% stalked vs. 49 not)
  - Implicit threats & force (48% stalked vs. 21% not)
  - Sexual penetration while the victim was sleeping (15 stalked vs. 11% not)
  - Verbal pressure for sex (68% stalked vs. 34% not)
- 31% of women stalked by an intimate partner were also sexually assaulted by that partner.
- Women stalked by a violent partner after obtaining a protective order were 9.3 times more likely to experience sexual assault than women with protective orders who were not stalked.

**SEXUALLY VIOLENT STALKING BEHAVIORS**
Sexual violence may be part of a stalker’s pattern of behavior. Sexually violent behaviors may include:

- **SURVEILLANCE:**
  - Following, monitoring, and/or surveilling a victim while planning or after committing a sexual assault.
  - Watching a victim when they are naked or engaging in sexual activity without consent.
- **LIFE INVASION:**
  - Repeated unwanted contact/communication of a sexual nature or about a sexual assault.
  - Sending unwanted items or photos of a sexual nature or about a sexual assault.
  - Spreading sexual rumors or publicly humiliating with information about sexual activity or assault.
  - Impersonating the victim online to discuss or share information about sexual activity.
  - Forcing the victim to touch them sexually.
  - Repeated unwanted attempts to engage in sexual activity after the victim has said no.
  - Secretly taking sexual photos or videos.
- **INTIMIDATION:**
  - Threatening sexual assault.
  - Threatening to share sexual images or information, or to spread sexual rumors.
  - Blackmailing the victim in exchange for sexual activity, photos, or videos.
  - Nonconsensual creation of sexual images (photoshop, deepfake).
  - Threatening the victim to withdraw a complaint or keep them from reporting sexual violence.
- **INTERFERENCE through sabotage or attack:**
  - Sexual assault, trafficking, exploitation, or harassment.
  - Stealing and/or sharing sexual photos/videos without consent.
  - Indecent exposure (in-person or photos/video).
  - Posing as the victim to solicit sexual activity.

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