

Script:

Start of video (music clip 1) and show slide one for 6 secs

Sharon (audio): Hello, we're the PEACC Program. PEACC stands for Prevention, Education, and Advocacy on Campus & in the Community.

Our mission is to develop a proactive approach to addressing violence against women at the University of Louisville with a specific emphasis on the issues of sexual assault/rape, intimate partner violence, and stalking.

Our goals are to

- Develop a network of organizations, both on and off campus, to address, prevent and respond to violence against women.
- Provide advocacy and assistance to university students, staff and faculty
- Facilitate training and educational programs
- Raise campus awareness of the issue of violence against women

Jason (audio): You may have seen the following PEACC Program Collaborative Events on campus:

Take Back the Night
The Vagina Monologues
International Women's Day
Circle of Healing
Men of PEACC events
Self Defense trainings

As well as many educational presentations to residence halls, sorority/fraternities and classrooms on the topics of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking.

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Angela (video): Today, we are going to be talking about ...Stalking and Cyberstalking.

While legal definitions vary, the best terms to define stalking are **unwanted pursuit**. There are many different behaviors that can be called stalking, but all share two common features: they involve actions not wanted by the victim and they threaten or cause fear to the victim.

Angela (audio): Behaviors that constitute stalking include:

- Following or surveillance
- Appearing at a place of work, school or residence
- Unwanted telephone calls, text messages, e-mails, faxes, pages or letters
- Threats to a person, family, or friends
- Unwanted or threatening gifts
- Defamation of character
- Damage to property
- Web page about the victim & messages posted to web bulletin boards
- Theft or injury to a pet or pets
- Physical assault
- Sexual assault
- In extreme circumstances, death

Jason (audio): Stalking exists on a continuum which begins with pre-stalking.

Pre-stalking includes behaviors such as initial boundary violations and unwanted communications. This is the beginning phase which often occurs after a relationship has ended.

This behavior often leads into stalking which consists of clear and persistent boundary violations, and multiple methods of intruding, tracking, or surveillance. The perpetrator continues this behavior even after being told to "stay away".

This behavior may escalate into high risk stalking where intrusions are blatantly malicious and threats of violence occur.

Script:

Jason (video) Stalking is a crime that is becoming an epidemic. In recent studies, it was found that **13%** of college women are victims of stalking on a yearly basis. On average these stalking incidents lasted **2 months**. In addition, statistics show that **8%** of American women and **2%** of American men will be stalked in their lifetime which totals over **1.4 million people!**

Jason (audio) It has also been shown that there is a significant link between stalking and domestic or dating violence.

Angela (audio) Stalkers can be very manipulative and creative when obtaining information about their victim. Stalkers gain information through co-workers, classmates, friends, relatives, internet search engines, banks, etc.

Offenders tend to have above average intelligence, are unemployed, exhibit controlling behaviors, and often have prior criminal, psychiatric, and/or drug histories.

Characteristics or red flags of an offender include a person who is jealous, unable to cope with rejection, narcissistic, deceptive, and a person who needs to be in control.

Anyone has the potential to become a perpetrator.

Jason (audio) There are three main types of perpetrators – Obsessional stalkers, love obsessional stalkers, and erotomaniac stalkers.

Obsessional stalkers have had a prior relationship with their victim, such as an ex-boyfriend or an ex-girlfriend, or former spouse. This is the most common type of stalkers.

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[Jason \(audio\)](#) Love obsessional stalkers are those that become fixated with a person they have never had a relationship with.

These are the stalkers that we often hear about in the media.

For example, Mark David Chapman who shot down John Lennon shortly after receiving an autograph or Jonathan Norman, who was found guilty of stalking Steven Spielberg in 1998.

The rarest category of stalkers is called Erotomaniac stalkers.

These offenders delusionally believe that are loved by the victim. They believe that they are destined to be with someone, and that if they only pursue them hard enough and long enough, this person will come to love them too. These stalkers know they are not having a relationship with their victims, but firmly believe that they will some day.

[Angela \(audio\)](#) Why do they stalk?

There is no simple answer. The difficulty is that there are many different types of stalkers, and indeed victims, and they will have different motives, with different profiles of stalking behavior. Broadly though, feelings of rejection (real or imagined), obsession, and attainment of a sense of control and power may contribute to a stalker's behavior.

While the typical perpetrator of stalking is male and unemployed, the victim of stalking is most likely female, single, employed or going to school, and is most often stalked by someone that they know or had a prior relationship.

Victim's of stalking can be found in all age, racial, heterosexual, homosexual, socioeconomic, educational, occupational, and religious groups.

Anyone can be a victim!

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Jason (audio) Stalking may impact victims in many ways including:

physical exhaustion

inability to concentrate

self blame

paranoia

The impact of stalking includes emotional, physical and financial consequences. Because of the danger and feelings of insecurity and vulnerability, victims of stalking are frequently forced to relocate, change jobs, obtain orders of protection and other security devices, and seek counseling. There are also increased costs for society which are attributed to absenteeism, lost productivity, health care and law enforcement.

Angela (video) If you are a victim of stalking, please seek help immediately:

Remember:

To take threats seriously

Trust your instincts

Contact a crisis intervention program like PEACC

Stop all communication with the stalker

Develop a safety plan

Collect evidence

And, make people aware of what is going on

Script:

[Jason \(audio\)](#) Another issue that has emerged in the past decade is the issue of cyberstalking.

The Internet and other telecommunications technologies are promoting advances in virtually every aspect of society and every corner of the globe.

Unfortunately, many of the attributes of this technology - low cost, ease of use, and anonymous nature, among others - make it an attractive medium for "cyberstalking".

Cyberstalking is stalking that goes online. It can occur through email, in chat rooms, or with Instant Messaging.

Remember to beware of the CyberStalker who is familiar with your "real world" surroundings, such as your schedule, where you work, or where you live. This person may be an offline stalker as well.

[Angela \(audio\)](#) If you are being cyber-stalked,

Directly tell the person to leave you alone, block or logoff the internet for 24 hours, do not reply to the stalker's messages, save email messages, and contact the police.

For more safety tips, click on the link to your right.

Ways to prevent becoming a victim of cyberstalking include having no identifying information on a webpage, not using an email address with your real name, hiding yourself from unknown users in Instant Messaging, and protecting your computer with a firewall.

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Shannon (video) If someone you know is a victim of stalking or cyberstalking, take it seriously. You can help by listening, showing support, and taking steps to ensure your own safety.

Remember, stalking is a CRIME!

If you are in immediate danger, call 911 or on campus call DPS at 852-6111

If you or someone you know is being stalked, the PEACC Program is available *on campus* to offer assistance.

You *can make a difference* by getting involved:

- Volunteer with PEACC or Men of PEACC
- Speak out against violence.
- Challenge the images of violence in advertising.
- And never blame victims for the violence perpetrated against them.