Stalking

Stalking refers to repeated harassing or threatening behavior by an individual, such as following a person, appearing at a person’s home or place of business, making harassing phone calls, leaving written messages or objects, or vandalizing a person’s property. A stalker can be an unknown person, an acquaintance or a former intimate partner. A stalker’s state of mind can range from obsessive love to obsessive hatred and should be considered potentially dangerous.

What do I do if I am being stalked?

Notify the Texas A&M University Police Department or the appropriate law-enforcement agency. All stalking incidents should be reported to the police immediately. Provide the police with detailed information regarding the incident or incidents. Give the police any written/electronic correspondence or recordings.

Other tips

• Keep a diary — obtain the names and addresses of witnesses; log everything related to the incidents in order to help with prosecution.
• Limit the amount of personal information you put on social-networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace.
• Record telephone conversations.
• Alert friends and family to the abuse, and provide them with pictures of the perpetrator.
• Take necessary steps to enhance your personal safety.
• Keep all correspondence from the stalker.
• Explore your legal options — criminal and/or civil.

On-Campus Resources

Student Health Services
979.458.8250
http://shs.tamu.edu/

Offices of the Dean of Student Life
979.845.3111
http://studentlife.tamu.edu

Student Counseling Service (SCS)
979.845.4427
http://scs.tamu.edu

Student Counseling Services HelpLine
979.845.2700

Student Conflict Resolution Services
979.847.7272
http://studentlife.tamu.edu/scrs

Texas A&M University Police Department
979.845.2345
http://upd.tamu.edu

GLBT Resource Center
979.862.8920
http://studentlife.tamu.edu/glbt/

Women’s Resource Center
979.845.8784
http://wrc.tamu.edu/

Off-Campus Resources

Sexual Assault Resource Center
24-Hour Hotline: 979.731.1000
www.sarcbv.org

Twin City Mission Domestic Violence Services
24-Hour Hotline: 979.775.5355
http://www.twincitymission.org/phoebeshome.shtml

College Station Police Department
979.764.3600
www.cstx.gov/police

Bryan Police Department
979.361.3888
http://www.bryantx.gov/departments/?name=policy

Offices of the Dean of Student Life
http://studentlife.tamu.edu

University Police Department
http://upd.tamu.edu

Follow us on:
Dating Abuse

Dating abuse is a pattern of controlling behaviors that one partner uses to get power over the other, and includes one or more of the following forms of abuse:

- Physical abuse: hitting, choking, pushing, threats of physical violence and more.
- Emotional and verbal abuse: constant threats, criticism and/or jealous behavior; yelling; stalking; and trying to isolate you from friends and family members.
- Sexual abuse: sexual assault, pressure to perform sex acts, and sexually harassing behavior.

Helpful tips

- Report incidents of dating violence to the police.
- Document all incidents of abuse.
- Photograph all marks, bruises or other types of injuries.
- Alert friends and family of the abuse.
- Seek crisis or counseling services.

Warning signs of an abusive relationship

- Verbally and emotionally abusive
- Isolates you from friends and family
- Controlling and intimidating
- Jealous of your time with others
- Threatens to harm you or others
- History of abusive behavior

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is a widespread problem on college campuses. Sexual violence is a painful and psychologically devastating experience for victims.

What you should know

- A person cannot give consent to sexual activity if impaired by any amount of alcohol or drugs.
- Most perpetrators are known by the victim.
- One in three females and one in six males will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.
- Less than 3 percent of college-age females sexually assaulted reported the incident to the police.
- It can happen to anyone, regardless of age, race or gender.
- Sexual assault is not about sex; it’s about power and control.

What should I do if I am sexually assaulted?

- Seek medical attention.
- Report the incident to the police. An anonymous “Jane/John Doe” report may be filed while deciding whether to pursue criminal charges.
- Preserve evidence if possible; i.e., do not change clothes, shower, douche, comb hair, brush teeth, eat, drink, smoke or go to the bathroom.

Helpful tips to stay safe and/or prevent sexual assault

- Practice responsible drinking so you don’t have to rely on others to take care of you.
- Never leave your drink unattended or accept drinks from others.
- Never leave an establishment or party with anyone you don’t know.
- Be careful about meeting people online. If you choose to meet someone, meet them in a public place.
- Take precautions at night. Walk with a friend, and utilize campus escort programs.
- Trust your instincts! If you feel uncomfortable about a situation or place, simply leave.

Dating abuse via technology is a serious problem. Cellphone calls and texting at an unimaginable frequency — at all times of the day and night — keep those in an abusive relationship under constant control and surveillance.

- From 10 p.m. to midnight: Nearly one in three who are in a relationship (30 percent) say they’ve communicated with their partner via cellphone or texting 10 to 30 times hourly.
- From midnight to 5 a.m.: Nearly one in four who are in a relationship (24 percent) communicated with their partner via cellphone or texting hourly between midnight and 5 a.m.

Source: Liz Claiborne Inc., Tech Relationship Abuse Survey, 2007 Research, conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited (TRU)