

JAG Campus Stalking Project\*

# ELEMENTS OF STALKING

## A. Information Gathering

Sources of Information: Co-workers, Classmates, Friends, Relatives, Dept. of Motor Vehicles, City Utilities, State Professional Licensing boards, Voter Registration, Veterinarians, Post Office, Telephone Companies, Internet Search Engines, Human Resources Depts. at Workplaces, Banks & Credit Card Companies.

Information used in a variety of ways.

## B. Unwanted Contacts – Gifts, Notes, Calls, Following & Observation

Most Common Elements of Stalking

May appear to be charming – gifts, flowers, love letters or poems.

May turn ugly – dead flowers, hateful letters or dead animals.

## C. Escalation – Vandalism, Threats & Violence

Most reliable predictor: Previous behavior – history of violence, including domestic violence.

Victims' reactions may seem over-reactive to officials or law enforcement officers. Victims may appear to have mental problems.

Threats may be

- implicit (torn picture of victim),
- explicit (letter describing death or injury of victim), or
- symbolic (abduction of family pet).

*(Stalking – a Handbook for Victims by Emily Spence-Diehl)*

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