

Cyberstalking

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Introducing the problem

Stalking has become an area of scientific analysis throughout the years of research regarding intimate relationships. There is plenty of research regarding behaviors that constitute stalking, the variety of stalking, and the impacts it has on victims. Cyber stalking has recently appeared in the discussions as technology continues to grow and develop making it easier to communicate with other people. However, there is little empirical data that exists to define cyberstalking or to understand its usage of technology to stalk and harass others.

I would like to develop a research survey that evaluates the use of technology to analyze how people have experienced cyberstalking in an intimate partner relationship. Firstly, this project will attempt to evaluate the use of technology and devices in order to stalk, monitor, or intimidate another person on a daily basis. Secondly, the survey will try to understand how many individuals feel they have been cyber stalked or that have stalked someone themselves, how it has occurred, and how often it has occurred. Lastly, it will also try to understand what individuals define as cyberstalking or as normal communication between persons.

The idea arises from article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights stating everyone has the right to privacy and Article 12 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, understanding cyberstalking and its use, can help to define it as a crime, how it impacts victims, how laws are written, and how resources should be distributed. Cyberstalking is a growing issue that provides users with new opportunities which violate the human rights of other users, whether intentionally or unintentionally.