

1. What are the factors that influence whether people who experience stalking report their experiences to police? Are there barriers to reporting that need to be addressed?

-Based on my ongoing personal experience of being stalked and sabotaged, the factor/s are, I'm unable to know the names, and pinpoint the main source of the stalking, I only know of the community members and businesses who are influenced by the main source of stalking.

-My main barrier is, the police have never taken my many reports of stalking and sabotaging seriously. Even when, (threats and assaults took place).

As well as, when a store employee threatened me -after getting into my wife's personal space, and placed his face about 15 cm away from her face- and stated, "I will send a 100 of my friends to harass and bully you around your house" or words to that effect, I reported the threat to the police at least twice, but my reports were not taken seriously. As a matter of fact, the police officer found the threat to be funny, and stated "no way, he didn't say that" or words to that effect.

2. Should a risk assessment framework be developed to help police and courts identify the course of conduct and manage risk of serious harm in the context of stalking? If so, how should it work?

-Absolutely yes, risk assessment framework should be developed. I'm not sure how should it work? but the law enforcement personnel should at least take the reports of stalking seriously, and by doing so, we can avoid further escalations - like in my personal experience-.

3. What else might help agencies to identify the risk of serious harm in a stalking situation? For example, should there be special training or guidelines, or expert advice?

-Yes, special training and/or guidelines as well as expert advice, would help definitely, but again, law enforcement agencies must first listen to the victims.

4. What approaches or techniques should be used by law enforcement agencies when investigating stalking complaints?

-The approach of the law enforcement agencies when investigating stalking, is to actually, listen to the victims and, investigate the complaints to say the least. -No reports were ever taken by the police whenever I reported the endless stalking and sabotage I've reported ever since I moved to Victoria in late 2016 (even when I was physically assaulted, and when a heavy object was dropped on us -missing both of us by few inches- when my wife and I, were sitting at the outdoor table at a café on Bourke st. in Melb. CBD-

5. In the family violence intervention order system, information sharing is allowed. Should there be a similar framework for information sharing between agencies providing services for stalking? If so, how should it work?

-Information sharing should be allowed. I'm not an expert on such a thing, but I'm sure we do have the bright minds in our law enforcement agencies to develop and implement the sharing process in no time. -I did file a report with the AFP regarding the stalking and the death threats I've experienced in Canberra, as well as, I filed an ACORN report regarding my emails and Facebook being hacked for many years, and I have taken a legal action here in Victoria's VCAT-

If the law enforcement agencies were sharing information and acted upon the info they collectively have, my personal experience of being stalked and sabotaged

would've ended years ago.

6. Should there be a specific police Code of Practice for reports of stalking? If so, what should it cover?

-Absolutely yes, victims of stalking reports to the authorities should be investigated to say the least.

7. Should there be an option under the *Personal Safety Intervention Orders Act 2010* (Vic) for police to be able to issue the equivalent of a Family Violence Safety Notice? Why/why not?

-Yes, because people's lives are being destroyed due to the stalking and sabotage. And again, based on my experience, I don't know where and who to turn to for help.

8. Should a person making an application for a personal safety intervention order be able to do so online? If yes, in what circumstances?

-The online application can be very helpful in circumstances where the victim is fearing for his/her safety, yet, in some cases, the victim may not have enough information about the stalker/s to apply for the Intervention order, online or in person -like in my own case-.

9. Should respondents be prevented from personally cross-examining the affected person in some personal safety intervention order matters? If so, in what circumstances?

-Yes, specially if the applicant has been seriously traumatized mentally and physically, due to the stalking, also, the respondents should be prevented from personally cross-examining the affected person, if the applicant is not being represented by an attorney.

10. Should courts be able to order respondents to personal safety intervention order applications to attend treatment programs? If so, what kinds of programs and in what circumstances?

-Yes, in most cases, the respondent should be ordered by the court to undergo a treatment program, in cases where the applicant have sustained any mental, physical and/or property damage. (I'm not sure what kind of programs available for such thing)

Yet, that may not be enough to stop the stalking if the individual/s committing the stalking is doing the stalking and sabotage on behalf of a third party, or on behalf of a foreign individuals or government -purely for financial gains-

11. Should there be additional offences in the *Personal Safety Intervention Orders Act 2010* (Vic) to address more serious breaches? If so, what should they cover?

-Yes, additional offences to the above law must be addressed, and it must cover;

1- The severity of the mental, physical, financial, and property damage to victim/s.

2- If the respondent found to be committing the stalking on behalf of a third party, the third party must be held responsible in the court of law.

12. Should the restrictions on publication in the *Personal Safety Intervention Orders Act 2010* (Vic) be expanded to cover adults?

-Yes, the above law should cover adults as well, specially if the adults found to be vulnerable in any way.

13. Should there be free legal representation in some personal safety intervention order matters? If yes, what eligibility criteria should apply?
- Yes. New arrivals to the country, People with disability, disadvantaged individuals, and Aboriginals should be eligible to apply.
14. Should the appeals process for intervention orders be changed to improve the experience of victim survivors? If so, how?
- Yes, not sure how.
15. Are there any other aspects of the *Family Violence Protection Act 2008* (Vic) that should be replicated in the *Personal Safety Intervention Orders Act 2010* (Vic)?
- I am sure yes, but I'm not very familiar with the above law.
16. Can the criminal law response to stalking be improved?
- Very much yes.
17. You might like to consider whether:
- there are any challenges in identifying when a person has engaged in a course of conduct or in obtaining evidence to demonstrate a course of conduct
- Not sure.
- the list of conduct in section 21A(2) of the *Crimes Act 1958* (Vic) covers all types of stalking behaviour
- I don't believe so.
- cyberstalking is adequately covered
- No.
- the law presents any barriers to investigating, charging and prosecuting offenders for stalking conduct.
- Yes.
18. Should there be more protections for victim survivors in stalking prosecutions? If so, what kind?
- Yes, make sure the victim survivor/s knows, and fully understand their legal rights to live free and to live without having the worry of being stalked and sabotaged. Also, make sure the community in which the victim survivor/s resides in, are fully aware of the truth, and the circumstances of the victim survivor/s, and not follows the stalker/s footsteps, and attack the victim survivor/s, just because someone told them it's Okey to do so.
19. Should the court be able to request specialist risk assessment reports for stalking? If yes, in what circumstances?
- Yes, the court should do so, in the circumstances where;
- 1-If the respondent/s known to be a repeated offender/s.
- 2-when the damage to the victim survivor is deep enough where a court order is just a piece of paper and isn't enough to reverse the damage caused by the stalker/s.
20. Should electronic monitoring be introduced to monitor people who have been assessed as posing a high risk of ongoing stalking behaviour? If yes, in what circumstances?

-Absolutely yes. The electronic monitoring should be ordered for all repeated offenders.

21. How can we improve victim services so that people who experience stalking have their needs met?

-Not sure. I have never used the above service.

22. How can the financial support scheme for victims of crime be improved so that it better meets the needs of victim survivors of stalking?

-Not sure. I've never used the above service.

23. How can we better integrate victim services with relevant public and private services and systems so that people are supported while they are being stalked?

-I'm not sure. I'm terrified to seek any form of help from any organization, due to the on going stalking and sabotage.

My stalkers even know what is spoken privately in my own apartment, which leads me to believe, my apartment is bugged, or somehow, the stalker is listening in on my conversation in my own apartment.

-My vehicle is defiantly tracked remotely, and I'm not sure how.

-I'm not sure if my vehicle has a tracking device, or I'm being track via an app in my mobile phone.

-I'm even worried about seeking more medical help for my condition, fearing the sabotage of my stalkers.

-My mail was tampered with for years, I'm even aware of a Uni survey -that was mailed to my address- the survey was completed and sent back to the Uni. Without my knowledge, and I'm assuming many more mail disappeared from my secure mailbox without my knowledge.

24. How responsive are rehabilitation and reintegration interventions to the diverse needs of people who commit stalking?

-Not sure. I haven't used any services.

25. Could some specialist courts and programs help address some of the issues that may co-occur alongside stalking behaviour? If so, how?

-Yes, I believe so, by finding a way to discourage the community from following the stalker/s footsteps.

26. How well are prison and post-prison rehabilitation or reintegration measures working for people who have committed stalking? How can they be improved?

-Not sure.

27. Are there relevant learnings from the reforms to the family violence system that could be applied to the way the system responds to people who commit stalking?

-Not sure.

28. What are the barriers that some victim survivors experience when seeking help for cyberstalking?

Some of the barriers I'm facing,

-Not knowing who to report the crime to.

-Language barrier and being a none tech-savvy.

29. If a person suspects that they are being kept under surveillance using cyberstalking, what kind of help do they need to ensure that they are safe?

-That is an excellent question, and I wish I have the answer for it, so I can help myself.

30. In what ways can apps and smart devices be used to facilitate stalking? What controls could be put in place to prevent apps and smart devices being used to facilitate stalking?

-That is an excellent question as well, and I wish I have the answer to it, to help myself.

Additional Info. For my personal stalking and sabotage case;

- 1- For about a full decade, my three emails were hacked, I was able to recover my gmail only.
- 2- My Facebook page was hacked, and misused -I believe, it was hacked shortly after I was pushed to create a Facebook page by [REDACTED] in 2009- and I was able to recover it about 2 years ago or so.
- 3- My every step was, and still is, tracked by the stalker/s, -even when I travel by my personal vehicle- and after being tracked, the stalker/s ultimately proceeds to verbally or physically attack/ sabotage/ humiliate/ dehumanize/ discriminate/ defame/ harass and even stage incidents for me, as well as, the stalker/s influence third parties like businesses staff and, small businesses owners, to subject me to the above as well. A documented example, when I was stalked, then physically assaulted by 4 security guards at the Moomba festival-2018. Therefore, I have invested on a personal bodycam to capture the attackers on film.
- 4- To date, when I leave my apartment, I'm on fight or flight mode due to the ongoing stalking and sabotage.
- 5- For years, the stalker/s was/were able to repeat in public phrases that were only spoken inside my apartment, which leads me to believe, the stalker/s is/are somehow listening-in on my conversation inside my own apartment.
- 6- Few years ago, I have won a free holiday from ULTIQA, I didn't use the free holiday to date, fearing the sabotage and the unknown from the stalker.
- 7- I was warned by few different individuals that someone is actually regularly impersonating me, even before I arrived to Victoria.
- 8- Due to the 24/7 stalking and sabotage, I'm terrified to schedule for my COVID-19 vaccine, fearing the sabotage of the stalker, specially after I was spat at during the pandemic. -I called 000 and the police didn't take a report-
- 9- Pre COVID-19, the stalker had someone screaming around the clock "Fuck off" whenever I went out on my own balcony.
- 10- Due to the chronic stalking I'm experiencing, I feel unsafe to move out of the present secured access building apartment I'm living in. I truly fear a home invasion if I actually moved out, and moved into a house.
- 11- Due to my health condition, I do need regular short walks, yet I hardly leave my apartment due to the ongoing stalking and attacks I'm subjected to as soon as I leave my apartment.

Thank you very much,
The above was completed by,
Ahmad Masri