



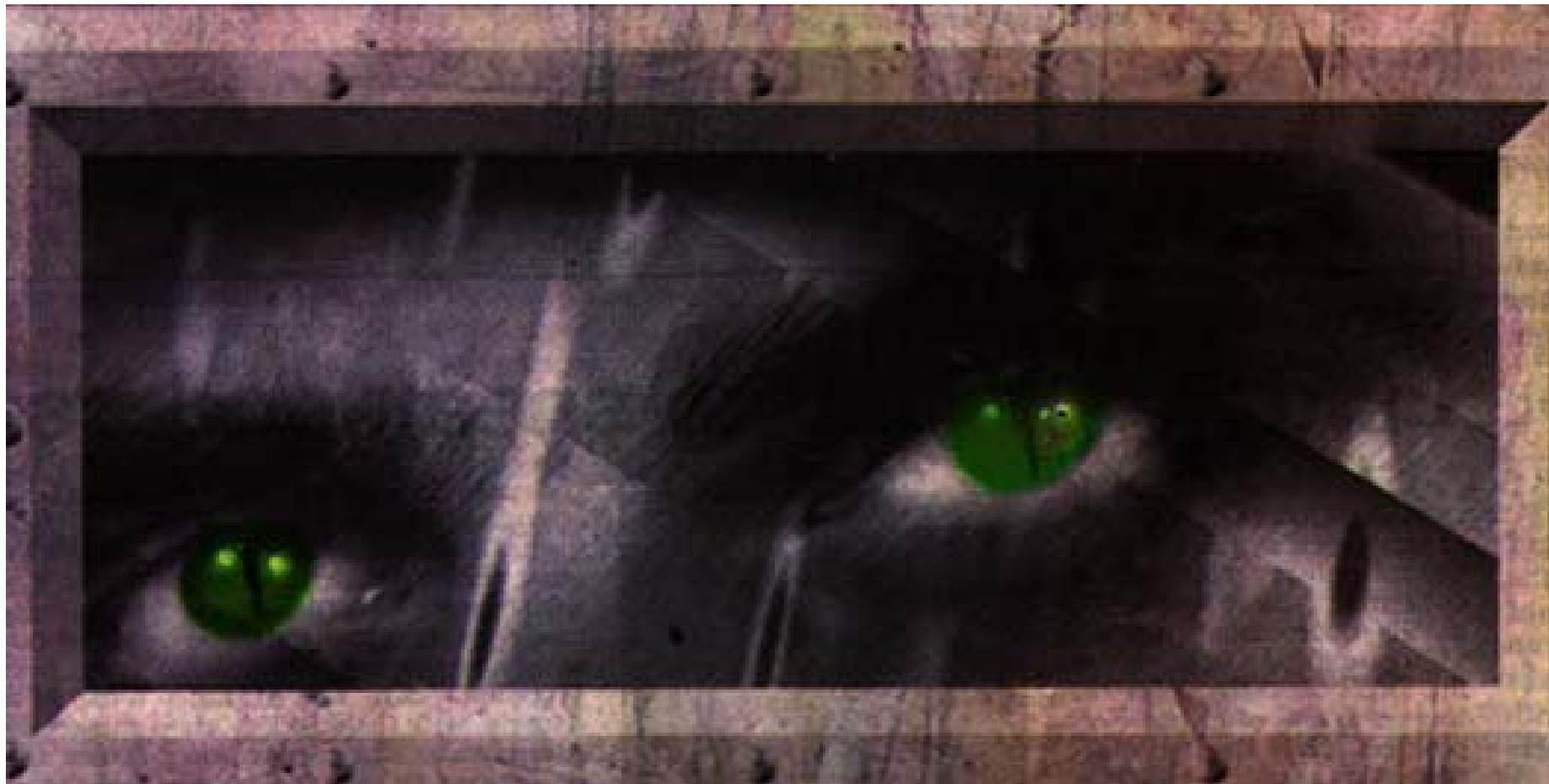
Deaf Women Survivors Being Stalked:

A Redefinition of Collective Minority Empowerment

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What is Stalking?






LIKE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING
IS A CRIME OF POWER AND CONTROL



Definition of Stalking

- Events directed at a specific person
 - Included behaviors involving
 - repeated visual or physical proximity,
 - nonconsensual communication,
 - or a combination of experiences that produced **fear** in the victim.
- 



Redefinition of Stalking

Emergence of the **Internet**- a new form of social interaction

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- Twitter
- MySpace

Cybercrimes

- Bullying, stalking, sexting & texting
- More teenagers use sexting than adults
- Non-consensual tracking of a person via computer software or GPS



Eliminating Violence Against Women

“Worldwide, at least one in three women are victims of violence. It is the most pervasive human rights violation on earth - present in every country, every culture, every religion, every class.”

(<http://www.learningpartnership.org/vaw-campaign>)

Women’s Global Health and Human Rights (2010). Murthy & Smith (eds).

“Women’s empowerment is intertwined with respect for human rights.”





Mahnaz Afkhami

Founder and President, Women's Learning Partnership
for Rights, Development, and Peace (WLP)



How common is stalking?

- Most stalking victims:
Females (78%)
 - Most perpetrators:
Males (87%)
 - Average duration of
stalking: 1.3 years
 - 20% college students
stalked by a former dating
partner (2004)
 - >50% intimate stalking
 - 1/3 repeat offenders
 - 1/7 psychotic at the
time of stalking
- Confronting violence by
Gellert (3rd ed., 2010,
p.186-187)*



The National Violence Against Women Study

(Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000)

- 8,000 women and 8,005 men, ages 18 and older, from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- 8.1% of women and 2.2% of men reported being stalked at some time in their life (p. 55)
- Racial status in assessment for victimization history: American Indian or Alaska Native women were more likely to report rape or stalking.

Reference: Koenig, Doll, O'Leary & Pequegnat (eds.)
(2004). *From Child Sexual Abuse to Adult Sexual Risk: Trauma, Revictimization, and Intervention*



Celebrities being stalked






Stalking Victims





Stalking Laws

- How stalking cases motivated the *first* stalking state law in California in 1990, followed by other states:
 - Engineer Laura Black (1988)
 - Actress Rebecca Schaeffer (1989)
 - Actress Dominique Dunne (1982)
- 



U.S. Federal Law 1996

- Prohibits crossing state lines to stalk
- Prohibits stalking on federal property
- Makes a restraining order in one state valid in another.



EROTOMANIC STALKERS

**USUALLY ARE WOMEN
BELIEVE VICTIM KNOWS AND LOVES HER
HAVE DELUSIONS**

**EXAMPLES:
DAVID LETTERMAN
DR. DOREEN ORION**



SIMPLE OBSESSION STALKERS

**MOST COMMON TYPE
EMOTIONALLY IMMATURE
HAVE POOR SOCIAL SKILLS
INSECURE
JEALOUS
PARANOID**

EXAMPLES:

***JOHN SWEENEY/DOMINIQUE DUNNE
OJ SIMPSON/NICOLE SIMPSON***



LOVE OBSESSION STALKERS

FANTASIZE ABOUT THE VICTIM AS A LOVER

HAVE A MENTAL DISORDER
(OFTEN SCHIZOPHRENIA OR PARANOIA)

EXAMPLES:

ROBERT BARDO/REBECCA SHAEFFER
JOHN HINCKLEY/JODIE FOSTER



Issues with multiple relationships and boundary issues in the Deaf Community

- Confront the existence of ongoing dual, multiple, or overlapping relationships.
- Demonstrate strong affiliation, interdependence, and mutuality (Zur, 2007).
- The use of signed languages.

Requires interaction with small communities.

“Boundary issues become a fact of life”

(Leigh & Gutman, p. 6)

Psychotherapy with Deaf clients from diverse groups (Leigh (ed.), 2nd ed.) (2010).



Collective Empowerment in the Deaf Community

My personal experience (1980-1996)

- Anchorage, Alaska > Rochester, New York
- Campus Security, University of Rochester, NY
- Rochester City Police, Rochester, NY
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Local Deaf Community: NTID@ RIT, Deaf Club, Interpreting Service Agency
- ASADV (Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims)



A brief glimpse of Federal Anti-Stalking Law

- First federal anti-stalking law case in Western New York
- The **Deaf community** coordinated to capture a Deaf stalker who had pursued his Deaf victim across state lines.



Emphasize the role of women

Tools to address these challenges: girls' education, family planning, microfinance, and "empowerment" in every sense (p.246)

*Half the Sky:
Turning oppression
into opportunity
for women
worldwide by
Kristof & WuDunn
(2009)*

- Focus on "grassroots campaign bringing together feminist organizations and evangelical churches and everyone in between, calling on the president and Congress to pass the initiatives.



Reflection

Illustrate the effectiveness of collective minority empowerment



Can develop a powerful cooperative network that can guide mainstream service providers & allies to collaborate with stalking survivors.



Redefinition of Collective Minority Empowerment

- Safety Planning (Franks)
- Violence Against Deaf People: Implications for Service Providers (Rems-Sario)
- Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration to increase access to legal services (Smith Bowman, Deming & Kidd)
- Interpreting Team (Keller & Peterson)
- Deaf Community Accountability (Esposito & Whyte)
- Hearing Allies (Hodson)
- Building Deaf Allied Services (Shaw & Ryan Anthony)
- Technology Safety (Shapard)
- Communicating with Deaf Victims (Darling)
- and many more



“WE CANNOT MOVE FORWARD BY LOOKING TO THE PAST FOR EASY SOLUTIONS.”

“INSTEAD, OUR CHALLENGE IS TO ARRIVE AT A CONSENSUS OF VALUES AND A COMMON VISION OF WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY, INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY, TO BUILD STRONG FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES” (P. 14).

IT TAKES A VILLAGE BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON (1996)