January is Stalking Awareness Month

**Stalking (MGL c. 265 s. 43):**

Willfully and maliciously engaging in a pattern of conduct (3 or more incidents), directed at a specific person, which would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, involving threats that cause imminent fear of death or serious bodily injury.

- Requires a threat (only one) that places a person in imminent fear of death or serious bodily injury
- A threat made to third parties applies IF it is intended to be conveyed to the victim
- No relationship requirement needed between the suspect and victim as required in domestic violence

**What does stalking and cyberstalking look like?**

Repeated unwanted phone calls (including hang ups)
Repeated unwanted texts, emails, social networking posts
Posting inappropriate comments or making false accusations about you or those you care about on social networking sites
Sending offensive messages in your name to others
Following you or showing up wherever you are
Threatening to harm you or those you care about

**What can you do?**

Reach out, speak up! We’ll listen and help!

You play an essential and powerful role in promoting a safe community at Northeastern. Pay attention to what you see and hear. Share your concerns with us if you hear or see something that seems inappropriate. Encourage others to report to us as well. We will provide immediate resources for assistance and support.

If you are being or have been affected by stalking or violence, reach out to VISION for help.

**Does it really happen?**

More than 13% of women report having been stalked in college.
1 in 6 women and 1 in 19 men have experienced stalking during their lifetime (Black et al., 2010).
1 in 4 victims report being stalked through the use of some form of technology (Baum et al., 2009).

VISION is the Violence Support, Intervention and Outreach Network at Northeastern. VISION brings together a network of campus and community allies focused on providing prevention, response and education for sexual assault and all types of violence, for Northeastern students.

**Contact us at VISION**

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