

Spring 2015

Stop Following Me: Stalking on College Campus

Ira D. Chapman

Western Kentucky University, ira.chapman725@topper.wku.edu

Joshua Mata

Western Kentucky University, Joshua.mata923@topper.wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cns_apps



Part of the [Student Counseling and Personnel Services Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Chapman, Ira D. and Mata, Joshua, "Stop Following Me: Stalking on College Campus" (2015). *Counseling Concepts and Applications for Student Affairs Professionals (CNS 577)*. Paper 43.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cns_apps/43

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Counseling Concepts and Applications for Student Affairs Professionals (CNS 577) by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

STOP FOLLOWING ME: STALKING ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS

KENTUCKY Revised Statutes

Stalking in the first degree:

- A person intentionally stalks another person and makes an explicit or implicit threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of:

- (a) Sexual contact as defined in KRS 510.010;
- (b) Serious physical injury; or
- (c) Death; and

- A person has a protective order against them to protect victim(s); or

- A criminal complaint is currently pending with a court, law enforcement agency, or prosecutor by the same victim(s) and the defendant has been served with a summons or warrant or has been given actual notice; or

-- The defendant has been convicted of or pled guilty within the previous five (5) years to a felony or to a Class A misdemeanor against the same victim(s); or

- The act or acts were committed while the defendant had a deadly weapon on or about his person.

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/statutes/statute.aspx?id=19744>

*****Stalking in the first degree is a Class D Felony and is punishable by one to five years in prison*****

<http://www.criminaldefenselawyer.com/resources/criminal-defense/felony-offense/kentucky-felony-class.htm>

Stalking in the second degree consists of

- A person intentionally stalks another person and makes an explicit or implicit threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of:

- (a) Sexual contact as defined in KRS 510.010;
- (b) Serious physical injury; or
- (c) Death; and

It is a Class A Misdemeanor which is punishable by 90 days to 12 months in jail and a fine of up to \$500.

Statistics about victims of stalking:

- 7.5 million people are stalked in one year in the United States.
- 15% of women and 6% of men have experienced stalking victimization at some point during their lifetime in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed
- The majority of stalking victims are stalked by someone they know: 61% of female victims and 44% of male victims of stalking are stalked by a current or former intimate partner, 25% of female victims and 32% of male victims are stalked by an acquaintance.
- 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for 5 years or more.

[Katrina Baum et al., "Stalking Victimization in the United States," (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009).]

Statistics about stalking cases that have resulted in Femicide:

- 76% of intimate partner femicide victims have been stalked by their intimate partner
- 67% had been physically abused by their intimate partner
- 79% of abused femicide victims reported being stalked during the same period that they were abused
- 54% of femicide victims reported stalking to police before they were killed by their stalkers

[Judith McFarlane et al., "Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide." Homicide Studies 3, no. 4 (1999).]

AT Western Kentucky University:

(1) If you don't feel safe walking on campus at night, you can utilize the escort service.

(2) If you are being stalked or harassed, use one of the blue emergency phones. They are prioritized as a 9-1-1 call, they alert the WKUPD dispatch to your location, and emergency cameras surrounding them will face in your direction.

(3) If you are being stalked or harassed, report it to a RA, Hall Director, or WKUPD.

(4) If requirements are not met for your situations to be classified as a legal issue, action can still be taken through WKU's department of Judicial Affairs.

(5) There have only been 2 documented cases of actual stalking on WKU's campus in the past 5 or 6 years.

(6) If you are being stalked or harassed it is not your fault, and you may not be alone.

(7) If you are being stalked harassed and it is affecting your mental state in a negate way, you can always go to the Counseling and Testing Center to receive professional help.

References

<http://www.criminaldefenselawyer.com/resources/criminal-defense/felony-offense/kentucky-felony-class.htm>

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/statutes/statute.aspx?id=19744>

Judith McFarlane et al. (1999). Stalking and intimate partner femicide. *Homicide Studies* 3(4).

Katrina Baum et al. (2009). Stalking victimization in the United States," (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics).

Laves, K. (2015, March 31). Karl Laves Interview [Personal interview].

McNamara, C. L., & Marsil, D. F. (2012). The Prevalence of Stalking Among College Students: The Disparity Between Researcher- and Self-identified Victimization. *Journal of American College Health*, 60(2), 168-174. doi:10.1080/07448481.2011.584335

Ossello, D. (2015, March 31). Cpt. Ossello Interview [Personal interview].

Stalking in the first degree (2000). KRS 508.140.