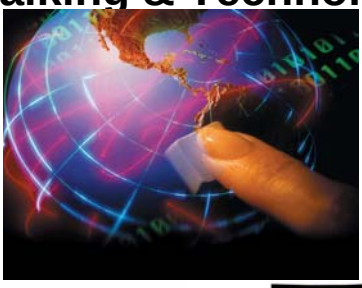
Stalking & Technology



Stalking resource center

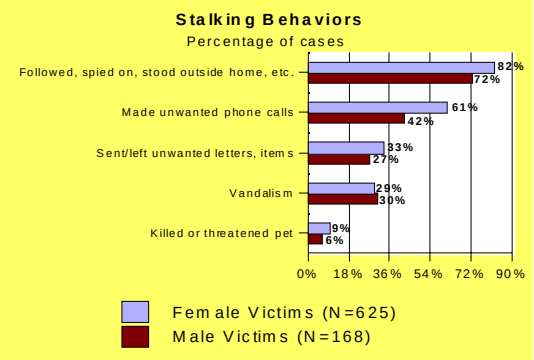
THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR Victims of Crime

Dynamics of Stalking

- Stalking cases are often hard to identify
- Stalking doesn't just happen to celebrities
- Stalking can be dangerous
- Stalking crimes often intersect with domestic violence & sexual assault crimes

What is Stalking?

Pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would put a reasonable person in ***fear***



(National Violence Against Women Survey, Tjaden & Thoennes, 1998)

Understanding Stalking

Can you threaten someone without using any threatening words?

Understanding Stalking

"Sometimes I unlock my car and find a rose on the seat—no note, just the rose. Somehow he got into my car and left it there; it's all he needs to do to terrorize me."

Understanding Stalking

- Can non-criminal behaviors constitute the crime of stalking?

Context is critical!

Technology is great!

Can you imagine life today without these things?

- Phones
- Faxes
- Computers
- Internet
- Video Relay Devices
- GPS (OnStar)
- Cameras
- Email/IM

Technology is not the enemy!

- Criminals exploit situations to create an advantage for themselves
- We need to keep up with the criminals

Phone Technologies

- **Cordless Phones:**
  - o Conversations may be intercepted and monitored
  - o May not be safe for victims or those working with victims

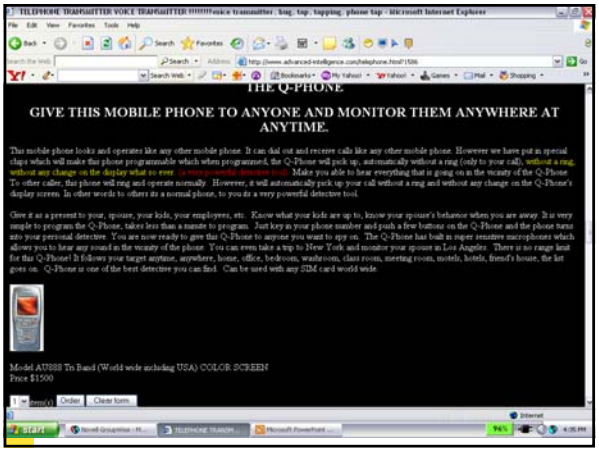
Phone Technologies: Scanners

Phone Technologies

- **Caller ID**
  - o Avoiding calls
  - o Advocacy agencies… beware! Even if your # is blocked… it may show up.
  - o Blocking your number: *67 + Number
  - o 800# exception

Phone Technologies

- **Cell Phones**
  - Understand features of your phone
    - Answer features
    - GPS tracking features
  - May not be safe for hotline use
  - Great for victim safety



Answering Machines & Voice Mail

- If stalker leaves a message, permission to be taped is usually assumed
- Create policies and protocols for preferred methods of evidence collection
- Practice with clients

Taping Calls & Wire Tap

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Posted on Fri, Feb. 28, 2003

Chesco lawyer charged with illegal wiretap

Authorities say he planted a bug in his former girlfriend's bedroom to harass her.

By Keith Herbert
Inquirer Staff Writer

…Police said a person could call the phone line and punch in a code that activated a microphone in the hidden device…

Conversations picked up by microphone could be heard over the phone line…

Man gets probation on wiretap conviction

Tuesday, August 19, 2003
BY MATT MILLER

The Patriot-News

CARLISLE - A North Middleton Twp. businessman will serve three years of supervised probation for installing a homemade wiretap to eavesdrop on his ex-girlfriend's phone conversations.

…Police said they found a hole had been drilled through a basement wall of her home and a wire had been run through the hole and spliced into her phone box.

…Police found a tape-recorder and a caller identification device in the backpack. The recorder was connected to the wire spliced to the phone box. When police called the woman's phone number, the recorder came on and began taping the call.

Assistive Technology Devices

Assistive Technology Devices

- Learn available TTY, Relay, & Interpreter resources
- Talk to victim about potential impersonation & develop a system for identifying caller (code word)
- Safety plan around TTY devices & clearing the history

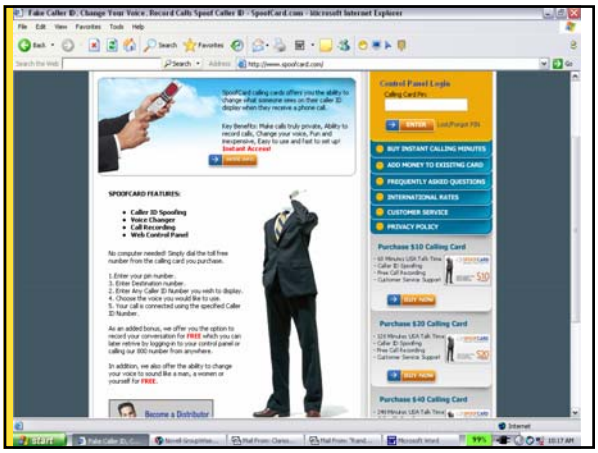
IP Relay www.ip-relay.com

IP Relay Case

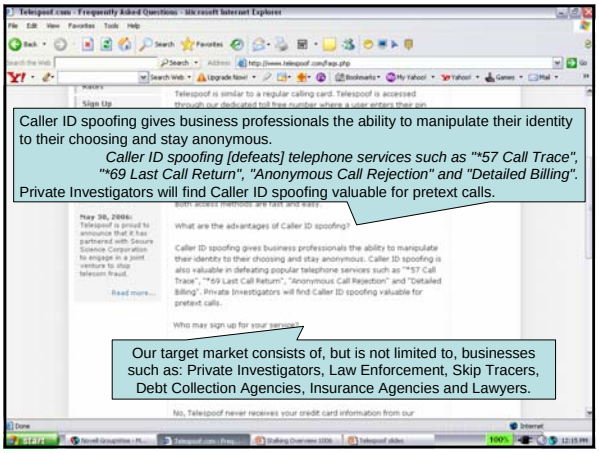
- This is Zack your relay operator 5243 we have a message. You're a heartless, sick, nerdy b@$#%. Die and go to hell. End of message. Thank you IP relay…
- This is Ashley relay operator 7041 with a message. Go suck some person…yes, hope you get AIDS. End of message. Thank you IP relay 7041 Goodbye. End of message. To delete this….

Anonymizers

- IP Relay
- Spoof Cards
- Telespoof
- VoIP


Control Panel Login
BUY INSTANT CALLING MINUTES
ADD MONEY TO EXISTING CARD
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
INTERNATIONAL RATES
CUSTOMER SERVICE
PRIVACY POLICY
SPOOFCARD FEATURES:
Caller ID Spoofing
Voice Changer
Call Recording
Web Control Panel
Purchase $10 Calling Card
Purchase $20 Calling Card
Purchase $40 Calling Card
Become a Distributor

telespoof
Home
FAQs
Rates
Sign Up
Contact Us
Login
Latest news:
Welcome to Telespoof.com
Telespoof.com offers the first domestic and international Caller ID spoofing service, allowing business professionals to remain anonymous when calling from anywhere in the world, to anywhere in the world. We like to think of it as "mobile invisibility", the highest quality Caller ID spoofing service available anywhere in the world.
Our service is for business professionals within the U.S. including, but not limited to; Private Investigators, Skip Tracers, Law Enforcement, Collection Agencies and Lawyers, giving them freedom to choose any number as the Caller ID. Telespoof allows you to be whoever you want to be.
With toll free numbers in the U.S. and a web based interface, Telespoof offers clients access from wherever they may be. This means it is not required to be at a computer to use the service, yet the option is available for convenience.


Caller ID spoofing gives business professionals the ability to manipulate their identity to their choosing and stay anonymous.
Caller ID spoofing [defeats] telephone services such as "*57 Call Trace", "*69 Last Call Return", "Anonymous Call Rejection" and "Detailed Billing".
Private Investigators will find Caller ID spoofing valuable for pretext calls.
Our target market consists of, but is not limited to, businesses such as: Private Investigators, Law Enforcement, Skip Tracers, Debt Collection Agencies, Insurance Agencies and Lawyers.

VoIP – Voice Over Internet Protocol

- Analog Telephone Adaptor ATA device converts analog signal to digital data →Internet
- IP Phones with Ethernet connector via router →Internet (soon WiFi)
- Computer to Computer (need Microphone, Speakers, etc.)

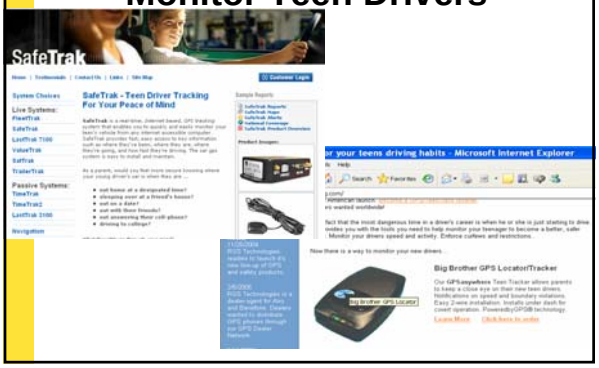
Safety Risks with VoIP

- Spoofing
- 'Unblocking' blocked numbers
- Tapping
- Call transferring: stalking by proxy
- Call log records all missed, outgoing, incoming & local numbers

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) & Locating Devices

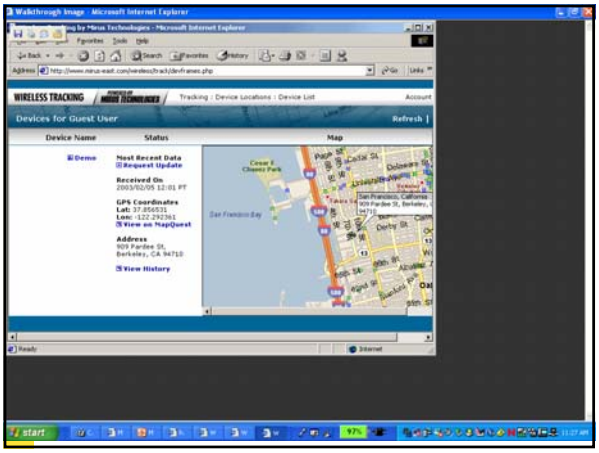
Advertised Uses of GPS

Monitor Teen Drivers

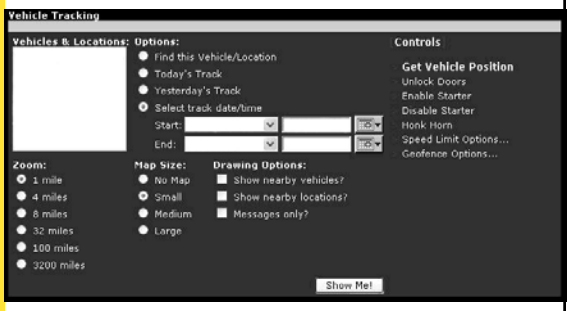


Gadgets > Security > TrackStick GPS Data Logger
Portably Track (via GPS) Your Adventures Via Google Earth or Mapquest!
This small GPS gadget can easily be placed in a car, boat, land speeder, or just about any moving object and will record its own time, date, location, speed, direction and altitude. The recorded information can then be downloaded to your computer through the USB port and optionally integrated with Google Earth or Mapquest. This feature allows you to "playback" the location points of the TrackStick and see a visual mapped history of its travels.
Containing 1MB of memory it can store up to 4000 records allowing for months of travel. When the TrackStick is not moving, memory is not used. The record interval is adjustable to anything between 1 and 15 minutes (this is used to save memory and will not extend the battery life). It's so small you can hide it for covert applications. There are no special software applications to buy and the raw data can be exported in RTF, XLS, HTML, or Google Earth KML formats.
Price:
$249.99
Availability: [info]
In Stock
Quantity:
1
Add
$250
Screenshot - Integrates with Google Earth

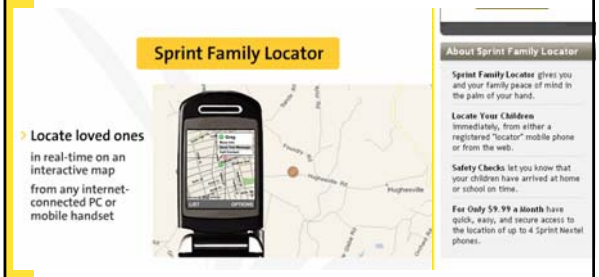
WEATHERPROOF, MAGNETIC-MOUNT REAL-TIME DIGITAL GPS VEHICLE TRACKER/LOGGER WITH MOVING 'VEHICLE ICON'
ONLY $1,099.00
The new GPS-10W is the first ever Weatherproof, Magnetic-Mount, Real-Time Digital GPS Vehicle Tracker that shows a moving 'vehicle icon' on your PC monitor -- as the tracked vehicle moves, so does the vehicle icon which makes this system ideal for real-time, up-to-the-second mobile vehicle surveillance.
The GPS-10W also allows you to track a vehicle from your own PC or from a laptop (wireless modem required) and there are no monthly 'service center tracking fees' as you communicate directly with the tracking unit (cellular data account required).
In addition to real-time tracking capability, the GPS-10W features GPS vehicle logging capability which allows you to download historical vehicle data (up to 3700 'tracks').
The GPS-10W utilizes a built-in 8-channel GPS receiver and a built-in Kyocera 2325 Tri-Mode digital cell phone, and set-up is easy -- simply take the unit to Verizon for programming and to add to an existing cellular account or to establish a new cellular data account. Once your cellular data account is established/activated, you can then begin using the unit to track any vehicle.

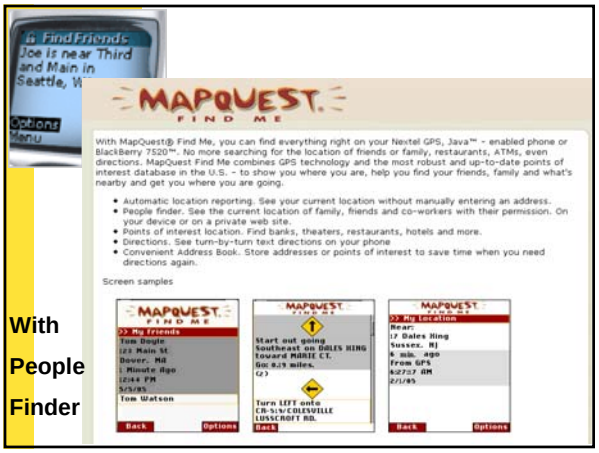

WIRELESS TRACKING
Devices for Guest User
Device Name
Status
Map
Demo
Most Recent Data
Request Update
Received On
2003/02/05 12:01 PT
GPS Coordinates
View on MapQuest
Address
View History

Vehicle Tracking Menu



Location Tracking via Cell Phones





With People Finder

Cameras

Spy Cams

NJ Case

Cameras: Hard to detect

- If camera is wireless (remote transmission), certain devices can pick up the signal
- If camera is wired (not wireless), there is no way to detect except finding it with your own eyes.

Related Issue:
Upskirting and Downblousing

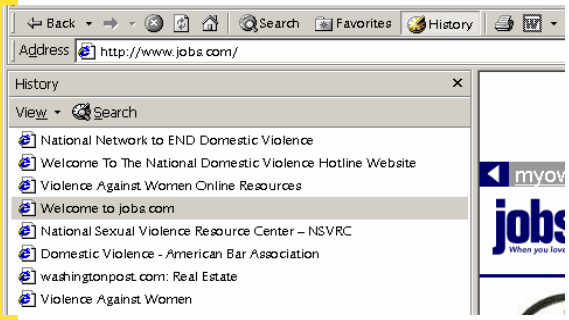
- Suspect uses video camera to videotape unsuspecting women
- Camera easily disguised
- Photos are then posted online:

COMPUTERS

Computers

- Information gained by subterfuge and illegal activity
- Information about ourselves we put out there

Internet History Files



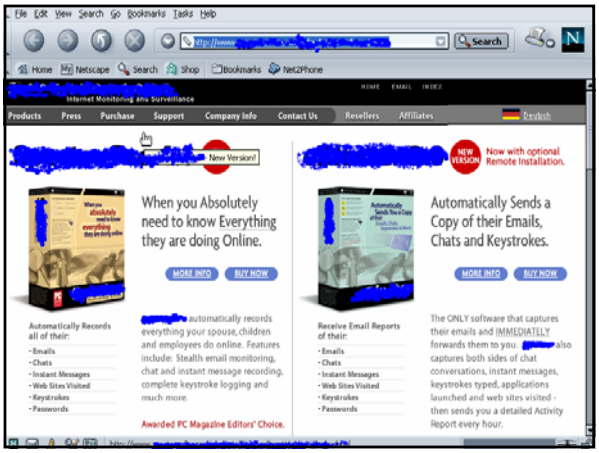
Cookies & Cache (Temporary Internet Files)

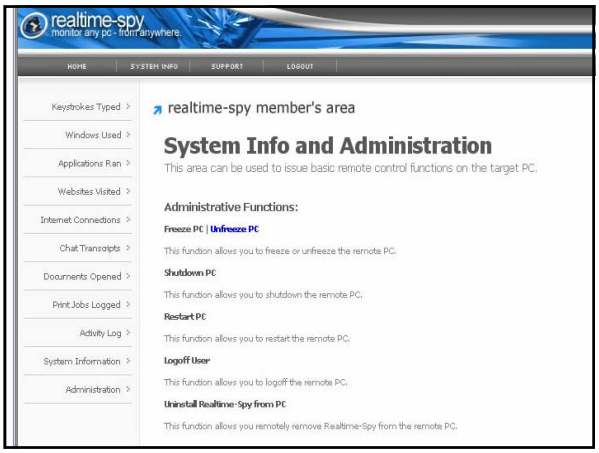
ttings\Cindy\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files

Name	Internet Address
blue-org.gif	http://www.abanet.org/img/
infosm2.gif	http://www.nsvrc.org/image
blast90x130.gif	http://www.jobs.com/image
NDVHMen11_r28_c2_F3.gif	http://www.ndvh.org/Menu/
NDVHMen11_r30_c1_F3.gif	http://www.ndvh.org/Menu/
CntrMas13_r06_c09.gif	http://www.ndvh.org/Graphi
side.gif	http://www.ndvh.org/Graphi
newsm.gif	http://www.nsvrc.org/image

Spyware & Computer Monitoring

- Available over the internet
- Can be encoded in an email message or game
- Very hard to detect!
- Some are legitimate: parental controls, employee monitoring





"Make the Remote Computer Talk"

ComputerGOD 1.00

ComputerGOD silently records all keystrokes, websites visited, email received, passwords, instant messages, details of applications and windows opened, and snapshots of the screen taken periodically. In addition, this application can control most functions of a remote computer. It can restart, shutdown, and logoff a computer, send chat messages, control the remote computer's desktop and mouse, transfer files, and make the remote computer talk any words. ComputerGOD is also remote installation capable and is designed to allow a user to monitor and control multiple computers.

These powerful features make ComputerGOD the most powerful remote surveillance and control program on the market.

Keystroke Logging Hardware

- Attaches to back of computer
- Requires no software and is hard to detect

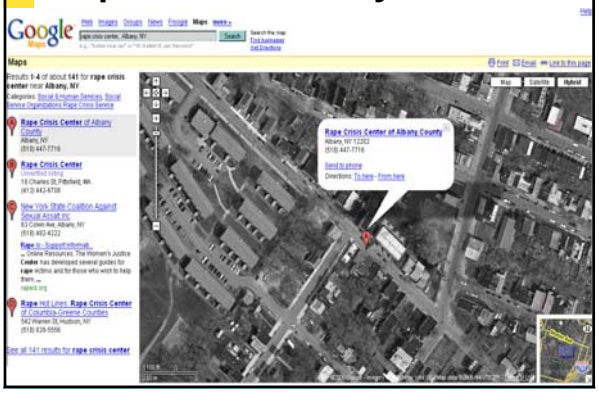
Keystroke Logging Keyboard

Information We Put Out There

Do you GOOGLE?

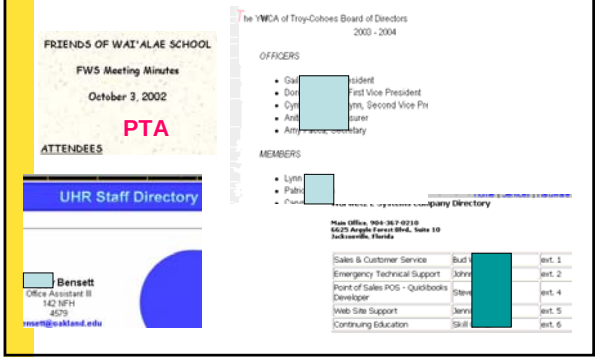
Births
Adoptions
Courts
Marriages
Sex offenders
Military
Schools
Property
Vehicles
Licenses
Campaign $

Maps: Satellite & Hybrid Data



Court & Government Sites

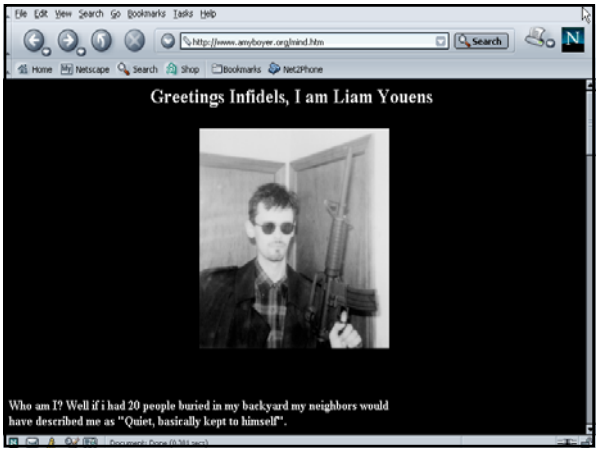
Individual & Organization Sites

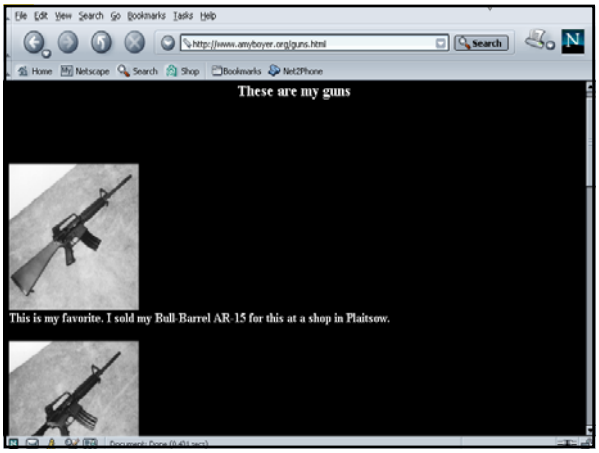


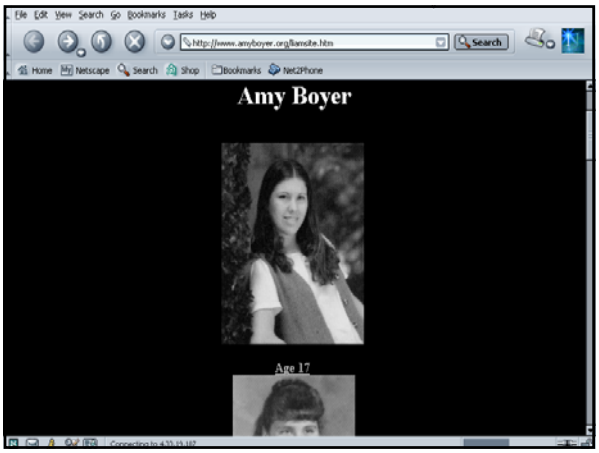
Information Brokers

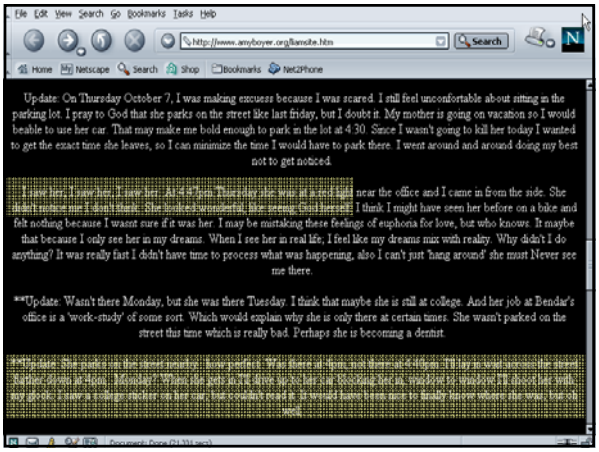
"It's actually obscene what you can find out about people on the Internet."

- Liam Youens







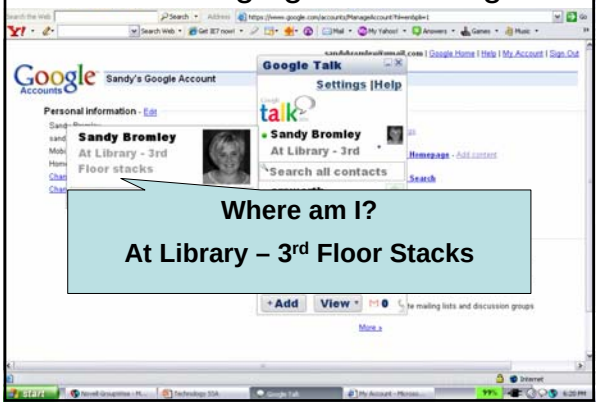


Email

How do stalkers use email?

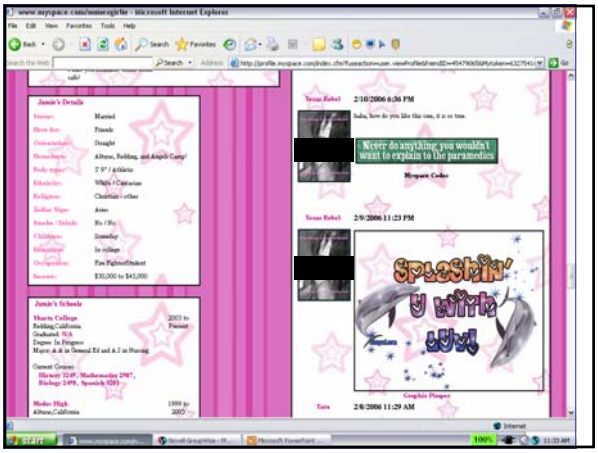
- Send email to victim
- Send messages to coworkers and others
- Intercept and monitor email
- Impersonate victim and send offensive messages to others

Instant Messaging – Gathering Intel



Social Networking Sites

- Creating an online community for friends & family members or meeting new friends (examples: My Space, Match.com)
- Computers can bring people together in various ways
  - Message boards/pursuits of specific interests
  - Online trading and commerce
  - Community activism



Databases

- Chain store discount cards
- Car mechanics
- Courts
- State agencies
- National Associations

Protect your information

Safety Tips for Advocates

- Regularly ask:
  - "Do you use a computer?" and
  - "Does the offender have onsite or remote access to it?"
- Encourage using a "safer" computer at the library or elsewhere
- Discuss risk for seriously techy stalkers

Safety Tips for Survivors

- Create a new email account on a safer computer
- Change passwords frequently, don't use obvious ones
- Don't open attachments from an unknown source
- Install a personal firewall & anti-virus protection

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
Victims of Crime

Stalking Resource Center

Practitioners: 202-467-8700

Victims: 1-800-FYI-CALL

www.ncvc.org/src

Stalking Via Cell Phone:

“How I stalked my girlfriend”

By Ben Goldacre
The Guardian, London
Wednesday February 1, 2006
http://www.guardian.co.uk/g2/story/0,,1699080,00.html

For the past week I’ve been tracking my girlfriend through her mobile phone. I can see exactly where she is, at any time of day or night, within 150 yards, as long as her phone is on. It has been very interesting to find out about her day. Now I’m going to tell you how I did it.

First, though, I ought to point out, that my girlfriend is a journalist, that I had her permission (“in principle ...”) and that this was all in the name of science, bagging a Pulitzer and paying the school fees. You have nothing to worry about, or at least not from me.

But back to business. First I had to get hold of her phone. It wasn’t difficult. We live together and she has no reason not to trust me, so she often leaves it lying around. And, after all, I only needed it for five minutes.

I unplugged her phone and took it upstairs to register it on a website I had been told about. It looks as if the service is mainly for tracking stock and staff movements: the Guardian, rather sensibly, doesn’t want me to tell you any more than that. I ticked the website’s terms and conditions without reading them, put in my debit card details, and bought 25 GSM Credits for £5 plus vat.

Almost immediately, my girlfriend’s phone vibrated with a new text message. “Ben Goldacre has requested to add you to their Buddy List! To accept, simply reply to this message with ‘LOCATE’”. I sent the requested reply. The phone vibrated again. A second text arrived: “WARNING: [this service] allows other people to know where you are. For your own safety make sure that you know who is locating you.” I deleted both these text messages.

On the website, I see the familiar number in my list of “GSM devices” and I click “locate”. A map appears of the area in which we live, with a person-shaped blob in the middle, roughly 100 yards from our home. The phone doesn’t go off at all. There is no trace of what I’m doing on her phone. I can’t quite believe my eyes: I knew that the police could do this, and telecommunications companies, but not any old random person with five minutes access to someone else’s phone. I can’t find anything in her mobile that could possibly let her know that I’m checking her location. As devious systems go, it’s foolproof. I set up the website to track her at regular intervals, take a snapshot of her whereabouts automatically, every half hour, and plot her path on the map, so that I can view it at my leisure. It felt, I have to say, exceedingly wrong.

By the time my better half got home, I was so childishly over-excited that I managed to keep all of this secret for precisely 30 seconds. And to my disappointment, she wasn’t even slightly freaked out. I don’t know if that says good or bad things about our relationship and I wouldn’t want you to come away thinking it’s all a bit “Mr & Mrs Smith” around here. Having said that, we came up with at least five new uses for this technology between us in a few minutes, all far more sinister than anything I had managed to concoct on my own.

And that, for me, was the clincher. Your mobile phone company could make money from selling information about your location to the companies that offer this service. If you have any reason to suspect that your phone might have been out of your sight, even for five minutes, and there is anyone who might want to track you: call your phone company and ask it to find out if there is a trace on your phone. Anybody could be watching you. It could be me.