

Wednesday, October 18, 2023  
12PM/11CT

# Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation Phone Conference/Webinar Agenda



## Discussion

1. Welcome and Announcements – Everyone is invited!
2. Check the listings on the website to ensure your program information is up to date and correct for the quarterly report. If you need to add or change anything, email Lyndi Bradley at [lbradley2@fsu.edu](mailto:lbradley2@fsu.edu)
3. November Phone Conference: November 15, 2023
4. Program data is OVERDUE! Program narratives are OVERDUE!! See last year's reports below.
5. Questions from Directors
6. New FSU Study of Parents in the Dependency System
7. Domestic Violence Awareness Month:  
[https://youtu.be/u\\_SEODAZJgA](https://youtu.be/u_SEODAZJgA)
8. Safe Sleep Awareness Month
9. Continued from last month: Introduction to Stalking
10. Draft of New Program: Parenting Club

**Your program data and narratives are OVERDUE!!**



**REMINDER**

Click [here](#) to review last year's annual report.

Click [HERE](#) for last year's Program Narratives.

## Program Highlights and Information: 2022-2023

The Institute's Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation is once again preparing a state and federal report that will highlight the many accomplishments and unique endeavors of Florida's versatile Supervised Visitation programs. What Florida's Supervised Visitation programs have accomplished in 2022-2023 is no less than phenomenal and as always, Florida programs have been leaders and innovators setting best practices for so many other programs worldwide. **So this year it's more important than ever that your terrific work be recognized!**

Our 2022-2023 report goes to several state and federal agencies as well as judges in your area. One component will contain a **descriptive paragraph or two** on each individual program, highlighting the program's successes and interesting characteristics. In order to include your program, we would like to ask each of you to provide us with some details on your program - **tell us what makes your program compelling, interesting, or human. For example, tell us how you successfully reunited families, or how you keep your clients engaged in innovative ways. Perhaps there are some wonderful positive elements you discovered using new formats or you've managed to serve even more clients than before!**

- ❖ Other examples: (You won't have all of these, maybe one or two!)
- ❖ How do you make online visits easier for your clients?
- ❖ Do you make to-go toy baskets for families?
- ❖ Do you let clients take toys home with them?
- ❖ Did you connect more family members than you would be able to otherwise?
- ❖ What positive surprises did you encounter – i.e. parents being able to watch their child ride a bike for the first time?
- ❖ Where do you get volunteers from - the Junior League, a local temple/church, a college?
- ❖ Do you have staff who go to the domestic violence docket days to guide the victims to safe visitation (doing intake at the courthouse?)
- ❖ Do you work with the local Latino community and have Spanish speaking staff?
- ❖ Do you have an annual Christmas or holiday party for the families?
- ❖ Do you use volunteers to paint or decorate the rooms?
- ❖ Do you have room themes? Is every room a different theme?
- ❖ Do you have a sign language volunteer who works with the hearing impaired?
- ❖ Do you have special toys for children who are visually impaired?
- ❖ Do you help domestic violence victims make safety plans?
- ❖ How did you help clients with domestic violence feel safe?
- ❖ Do you do cross training with the local court or DV center or child protective agency?
- ❖ Do you exist for a compelling reason, such as because a child was murdered or a woman was attacked during an unsupervised visit?
- ❖ Do you do local presentations to community groups about child safety?

- ❖ Do you have an agreement with local law enforcement, and do they do a walk through of the facility to make sure that everything on the site is safe?
- ❖ Did you recently get recognized by the local paper as a "hometown hero?"
- ❖ Did the director get some type of award?
- ❖ Do you have any annual holiday events?

Please blow your own horn, sing your staff's praises, and tell us what makes your center a very special place for families to get assistance. We'll bring it all together in a new report designed to give funders, judges, legislators, and the public a glimpse into the world of Florida's Supervised Visitation Programs. **Please note that we are not interested in anything related to funding or fundraisers – this is all about your accomplishments and success stories!**

**You can complete the attached form, or simply type your narrative in an e-mail and send it back to us at [kes2523@fsu.edu](mailto:kes2523@fsu.edu) Low on time? Just call me and I'll type while you talk. 😊**

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



**Researchers from FSU are seeking your help recruiting parents:** They are conducting a study of parents involved with Florida's dependency court system. They aim to learn from parents entering the system through surveys and interviews. Parents will be compensated for their time (\$25 for surveys and \$50 for interviews).

**Inclusion criteria:** Parents: (a) in Florida with substantiated cases of child maltreatment; (b) cases opened recently regardless of whether or not the child was removed from the home.

**Project Overview and Impact:** We lack critical information from parents involved in the dependency court system in Florida needed to advocate for effective program and service delivery. Parents want and deserve a voice. This project will identify parents' support programs and networks, or "public and private safety nets," when they enter the dependency court system and follow them for 18 months. They will determine (1) how safety nets operate, (2) parents' decision-making processes in engaging with informal and formal resources, and (3) how safety nets contribute to family outcomes. Determining the effects of safety nets will show policy features (e.g., coupling of programs, benefit renewal frequency, social support interventions) needed to nourish child safety and permanency.

**Please provide parents the opportunity to participate in the study.**

- (a) Post the one-page flyer for parents.
- (b) Handout the 1/3 page study invitation to parents.
- (c) And/or give parents our email to get more information.

**Contact:** Melissa Radey & Lenore McWey [PowerOfParents@fsu.edu](mailto:PowerOfParents@fsu.edu)



# POWER OF PARENTS

IN CHILD PROTECTION

**Researchers from Florida State University are conducting surveys and interviews with parents involved in DCF. We want to learn from you. Your responses can help improve the system and help other parents.**

You will be invited to complete 4 online surveys over the next 18 months and have the option to participate in interviews to discuss your experiences. We are not part of DCF and your answers will be confidential. Participation is voluntary.

**To thank you for your time, you will receive \$25 for the 1<sup>st</sup> survey, and up to \$130 total for completing all 4 surveys. If you decide to complete interviews, you can receive \$50 per interview – up to \$200 more.** To be eligible for the study, you must be a parent who has recently become involved with the system.

**Next step: Please click on the QR code below. From there, you can let us know if we can contact you with the survey link.**



If you have problems with the QR code, text this email: [PowerOfParents@fsu.edu](mailto:PowerOfParents@fsu.edu) with your name, phone number, and if you are interested in participating (yes or no).

**We look forward to hearing from you!**



## Are you a parent involved with DCF? If so, we want to connect with you!

Researchers at Florida State University are reaching out to parents who have recently started a case plan with DCF. We want to hear your thoughts about what is working and what could be improved.

You can participate in surveys and interviews to get your voice heard. To thank you for participating, you will receive \$25 per survey and \$50 per interview.

**For more information and to sign up go to:** <https://tinyurl.com/PowerOfParentsStudy>  
Or email us to request a survey at [powerofparents@fsu.edu](mailto:powerofparents@fsu.edu).

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

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OCTOBER IS

# Domestic Violence Awareness Month



1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will experience severe physical violence by a partner in their lifetime.

Domestic violence accounted for 20% of all violent crime in 2018.

2023 Theme  
#Every1KnowsSome1  
Survivor Stories

## Defining Domestic Violence

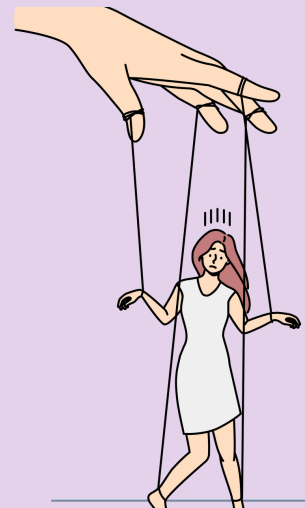
Domestic violence (DV), also referred to as intimate partner violence (IPV) or relationship violence, is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner in a relationship to assert or maintain power and control over the other partner. DV impacts individuals across age, race, sexuality, gender, education level, socioeconomic status, and more.

## Impact of DV on Children

**Children who witness domestic violence are 3x more likely than their peers to engage in violent behavior and crime and are at greater risk for physical health problems in adulthood.**

Domestic violence has a profound impact on child development. Whether the child is a direct victim, witnesses the abuse, or simply lives in the same house as the violence, they can experience both physical and emotional effects of the abuse. Children who have been exposed to violence may struggle in school, socially, and may experience poor mental health outcomes. Approximately 60% of children who have witnessed IPV have also experience child maltreatment.

**About 1 in 5 children will witness domestic violence in their lifetime.**



## Services Available to Survivors of DV

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, it is important for them to know that they are not alone. There are services available to victims/survivors of domestic violence on the federal, state, and local level. Some of these services may include:

- Safety planning
- Emergency housing
- Medical advocacy
- Legal advocacy services
- Support groups
- Therapy or counseling services
- Transitional housing
- Financial assistance



OCTOBER IS

# Safe Sleep Awareness Month



## The ABCs of Safe Sleep

It is recommended that babies sleep:

- Alone
- On their Back
- Clear and in a Crib
  - Clear of pillows, blankets, bumpers, or other products
  - In a crib that meets the federal standards

**Each year, there are about 3,400 sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUID) in the US.**

The three most common types of SUID include SIDS, unknown cause, and accidental suffocation or strangulation.



Safe sleep practices can help reduce the number of cases of sleep-related infant deaths and deaths due to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). SIDS and sleep-related infant deaths disproportionately impact American Indian/Alaskan Native, Black, and Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander families. In 2021, the Safe Sleep for Babies Act made it unlawful for companies to manufacture, sell, or distribute crib bumpers or inclined sleepers for babies under a year old. A pediatric Doctor from Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston shared some tips for safe infant sleep practices:

### Do

- Follow the Safe Sleep Policy from the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- Share a room with your baby, not a bed.
- Lay your baby on a flat, firm surface.
- Use products specifically designed for infant sleep.

### Don't

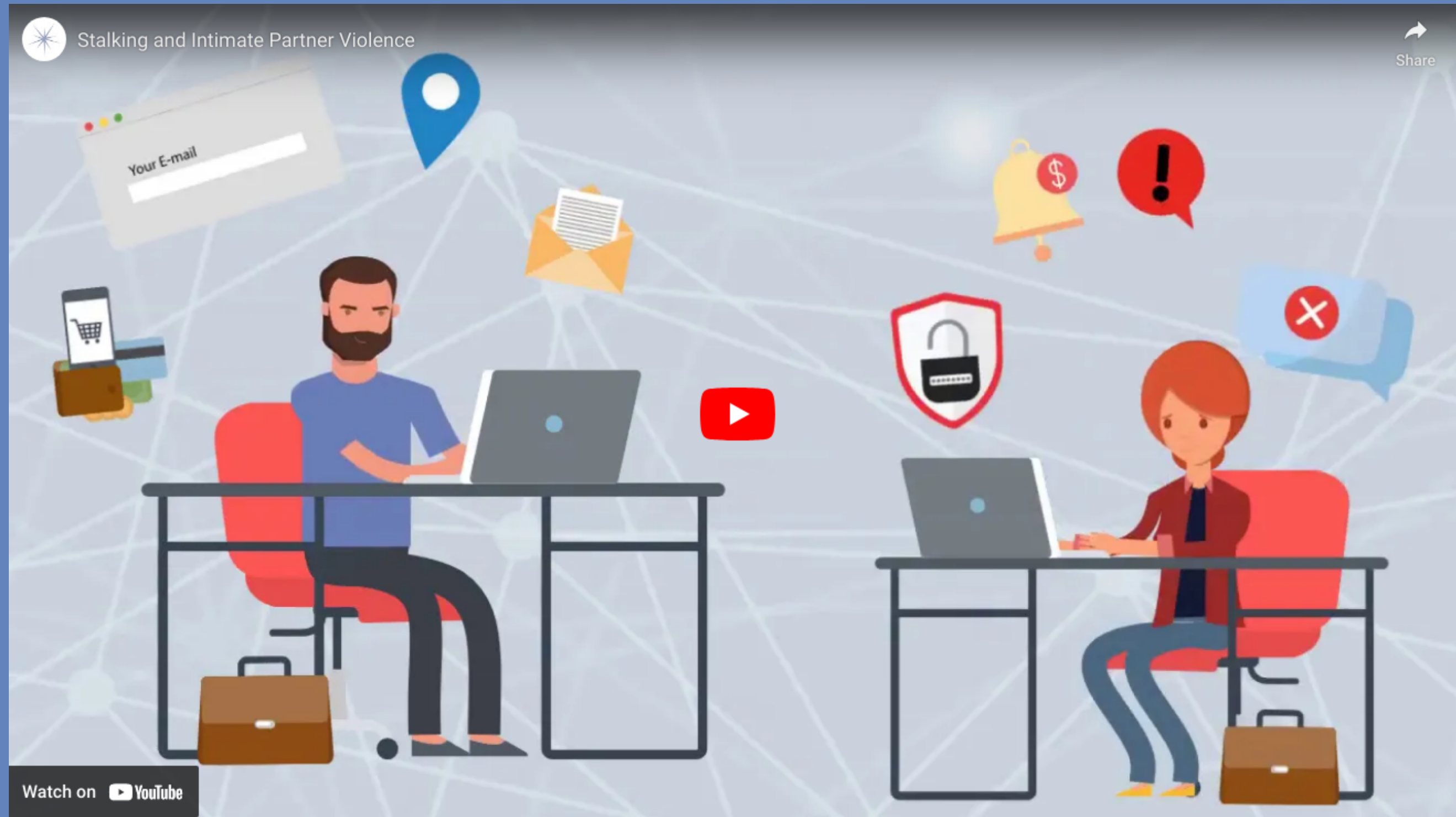
- Don't co-sleep or lay your baby down on soft furniture.
- Don't use a sleeper that inclines more than 10 degrees.
- Don't use crib bumpers, stuffed animals, pillows, or blankets.
- Don't use commercial devices that claim to reduce the risk of SIDS as often the claims are untested.

# **INTRODUCTION TO STALKING**

**THE CLEARINGHOUSE ON SUPERVISED VISITATION**



# STALKING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



# BARRIERS TO HELP-SEEKING

- **Most stalking victims do not report the stalking to the authorities. The victim is more likely to report acts of stalking to law enforcement if the victim has experienced a high level of fear (Randa et al., 2022).**
- **Some barriers that may prevent victims from reporting the stalking include:**
  - **Fear of retaliation from their stalker**
  - **Concerns that they would not be believed by their friends, family, authorities, or even the legal system**
  - **Lack of proof or evidence of the stalking**
  - **Not understanding that their stalker's actions were a crime**
  - **Past negative experience with the police or the criminal justice/legal system**

**(Logan, 2010)**



# SUPPORTING VICTIMS



## Stalking Safety Strategies

Stalkers can be unpredictable and dangerous. Whether in-person or through the use of technology, stalkers use a variety of strategies to invade the lives of their victims. Most stalkers use multiple tactics and can escalate their behavior(s) at any time.

You have no control over the stalker's behavior and are not responsible for what they do. However, it can be useful to think of steps you might take to keep yourself and loved ones safe. This process is called safety planning.

Though victims can make safety plans on their own, it is often helpful to work with a trained professional such as an advocate, victim assistance provider, or even a law enforcement officer. You can find these people in local domestic violence and rape crisis programs, victim assistance programs within state and county prosecutors' offices, and in police departments. **For help locating someone trained in safety planning in your area, contact Victim Connect (855-4-VICTIM/855-484-2846).**

The guidance below is intended for general informational purposes only and is not designed to replace a personalized safety plan created with the assistance of a professional. The suggestions below are also not exhaustive. You are the expert on your own life and you know best what options might be possible or feasible.

### Safety Planning: Basic Considerations

- **Trust your instincts.** Many victims of stalking feel pressured by friends or families to simply ignore the stalker's behavior or "just tell them off." Stalkers are dangerous and your fear is justified.
- Your **safety plan should evolve**, change, and adapt as the stalking situation changes.
- As much as possible, don't only plan around what has already happened – also **think about what might happen next** (for example, "if X happens, I will do Y")
- Consider or try to **anticipate how the stalker may react** to any changes you may make, so you can further plan for your safety. Stalkers often escalate their behavior when the victim reacts (for example, if you block them on social media, they might start showing up at your home).
- Victims must **balance** their need to live normal lives with their concerns over safety. Only you can decide what tradeoffs are realistic and appropriate for you.

### General Safety Strategies – Consider:

- **Working with a local domestic violence shelter or victim services program** to develop a safety plan.
- **Notifying the police**, especially if you feel you are in any immediate danger. You can explain to the police why some actions that might seem harmless (like the stalker driving by your house or leaving you a gift) are causing you fear.

- **Ceasing any further communication with the stalker.** Many stalkers perceive any contact, even negative contact, to be a reinforcement (more information on this below).
- **Keeping a log** of every stalking incident including the date, time, what happened, and the names and phone numbers of any witnesses. Documentation is key to understanding the scope of the situation, safety planning, and/or holding the offender accountable. [Access the log here.](#)
- **Varying your daily routine** periodically – routes to and from work/school, the grocery store, or other places you regularly go.
- **Telling your family, friends, and neighbors** that you are being stalked and instruct them on what they should do if the stalker contacts them.
- **Seeking a protective order** (For more help, contact [VictimConnect](#), [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#) or [RAINN](#))

## Safety Planning: Stopping Communication with the Stalker

**Consider cutting off any and all communication with the stalker.** Many stalkers misinterpret any contact (even negative contact) as encouragement.

Some victims feel that they should ensure the stalker knows that the contact is unwanted. If that is true for your situation, you may consider **telling the stalker once – and only once – that you do not want any contact.** After that, it is important to consider cutting all ties with the stalker, including not answering messages or calls.

Some examples of how to express your desire for no contact include:

- “I am not interested in having a relationship with you. Do not contact me ever again.”
- “Do not call, stop by, text, or contact me in any way whatsoever.”
- “I do not want you to contact me in any way. If you continue to do so – or if you are on my property, or follow me – I will call the police.”
- “I am ending this relationship. I am not going to change my mind. Do not contact me again. I do not want to have any communication with you, in any form. If you try to contact me, I will call the police/take legal action.”

While disengagement is advisable, it is not always possible or realistic to cease all communication. Some victims feel safer by communicating with their stalkers to gain information on the stalker’s mood and plans. Some victims must maintain contact with their stalker due to shared custody of their children. It is important to understand how continued contact can impact an order of protection or a criminal case, so please discuss this with the professional who is assisting you with your safety planning.

## Additional Tips:

Safety Planning for Workplace and School		
Stalkers may:	Safety Planning Tips:	Documentation Strategies:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow you to, from or around the location</li> <li>Contact colleagues about you</li> <li>Show up</li> <li>Contact you by phone, text or e-mail while you are at work/school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give a picture of the stalker to security and friends at work and school.</li> <li>Consider changing routes to and from work/school</li> <li>Adjust hours (if possible)</li> <li>Have a colleague or security guard walk you to your car/transportation</li> <li>Make sure your school/work knows not to provide your contact information</li> <li>If you have a protective order against the stalker, keep a copy of your protective order with you AND provide a copy to security and/or other officials at your work/school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Save any voicemails, text messages and e-mails</li> <li>Work with building security to acquire any records/logs of the stalker being present on campus/at work</li> </ul>

Safety Planning for Home		
Stalkers may:	Safety Planning Tips:	Documentation Strategies:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow you to, from or around your home</li> <li>Invade your home</li> <li>Damage your property</li> <li>Hack into wireless networks or home devices</li> <li>Disconnect power/cable/internet service</li> <li>Send gifts or mail</li> <li>Install cameras to monitor you</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform neighbors and/ or apartment managers about the situation. Provide a photo/description of the stalker as well as a photo of the stalker's vehicle.</li> <li>Pack a bag with important items in case you need to leave quickly.</li> <li>Identify escape routes out of your house. Teach them to your children.</li> <li>Change locks and upgrade home security system, if possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider installing your own camera (depending on your state law) to capture evidence of the stalker's behaviors.</li> <li>Photograph evidence of property damage</li> </ul>



## Safety Planning Around Technology

Stalkers may:	Safety Planning Tips:	Documentation Strategies:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constantly contact their victim: phone calls, text messages, online messages</li> <li>• Track/monitor through GPS, SpyWare and/or social media</li> <li>• Impersonate victims online (for example, creating fake profiles)</li> <li>• Hack into accounts</li> <li>• Share private or personal images with others</li> <li>• Film or photograph the victim without their consent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update passwords to accounts frequently</li> <li>• Change answers to your security questions so that the stalker is not able to reset your password or gain access to the account</li> <li>• Adjust default settings on phone, apps and websites so that your location is not automatically shared</li> <li>• Do an internet search on your name to make sure none of your personal information is posted by others. If you find information posted about you, notify the site's webmaster immediately and request that the information be removed.</li> <li>• Don't give out your online identification information</li> </ul> <p>If the stalker has had access to your phone or computer, they may be monitoring what you do via Spyware, key logging software or other means. In this case, a stalker can see any changes that you make. You may want to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use another, safer device (for example, a friend's phone, the computer at a library)</li> <li>• Acquire a new device (if feasible)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take screenshots of all text or internet communications with the stalker. Consider apps that can assist you in taking screenshots of long text conversations.</li> <li>• Get a second camera to capture messages and/or photos that disappear or might notify the sender when a screenshot is taken</li> <li>• Get phone records from your phone company to demonstrate frequent calls</li> <li>• Keep track of the stalker's behaviors by writing down every incident in this Documentation Log (<a href="http://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SPARC_StalkingLogInstructions_2018_FINAL.pdf">www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SPARC_StalkingLogInstructions_2018_FINAL.pdf</a>)</li> <li>• Learn more at NNEDV Safety Net (<a href="http://www.techsafety.org/resources-survivors">www.techsafety.org/resources-survivors</a>)</li> </ul>

## Safety Planning Resources

### Hotlines and Live Chat Available to Connect you to Local Resources

- VictimConnect  
<https://victimconnect.org/>
- RAINN  
<https://www.rainn.org/about-national-sexual-assault-telephone-hotline>
- National Domestic Violence Hotline  
<https://www.thehotline.org/contact/>

### Documentation Log

- SPARC  
[https://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SPARC\\_StalkingLogInstructions\\_2018\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SPARC_StalkingLogInstructions_2018_FINAL.pdf)

### Safety Planning Around Technology

- Safety Net  
<https://www.techsafety.org/resources-survivors>  
<https://techsafetyapp.org/home>

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WELCOME TO OUR

# BABY PARENTING CLUB

IFVS - FSU

DRAFT



INFANTS (0-1 YEARS OLD)



# FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS:

1

Identify  
Clients who  
have children  
ages 0 to 1

2

Ask your client if  
you can send them  
information and tips  
about their child's  
development

3

Decide how often  
your program  
wants to send  
messages.

we recommend  
sending a message  
every 15 days


4

Decide which  
platform you  
would like to send  
these messages.



text?  
email?







In the following slides, you will find useful and easy micro-parenting skills, designed to be sent to parents via text message.



Our aim is to provide simple and direct advice for new parents of infants between birth and 12 months.

Please use the next slides as examples of texts you can send.



# HOW TO HOLD YOUR BABY?



Keep the  
baby close to  
your body

Make sure that  
the baby's face  
is not covered  
or obstructed

Easy  
video  
tutorial

Secure the  
baby's head  
close to your  
chest



# HOW TO HOLD A NEWBORN?

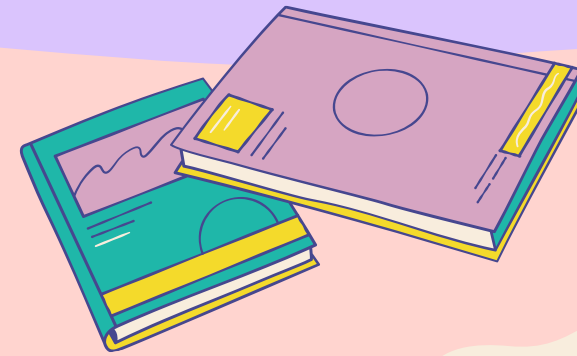
VIDEO



# DIFFERENT WAYS TO HOLD YOUR BABY



Dad shows  
various  
techniques you  
can use.



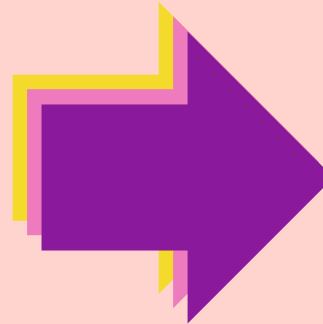
Click to  
watch the  
video



# THE IMPORTANCE OF EYE CONTACT



Eye Contact:  
Key to Bonding  
with Baby\_



Making eye contact is the most powerful mode of establishing a communicative link between humans.



Click to  
watch  
the video



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# PUTTING YOUR BABY TO BED

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Quick tips for  
newborn  
sleeping  
techniques

Sleep basics  
for babies 3 to  
9 months old

Click to  
watch the  
videos



# BONDING

With your  
baby in  
the womb



With  
your  
newborn  
baby\_



Use your  
voice

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# PLAY WITH YOUR NEW BORN BABY

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Use soft  
toys

Tummy  
time  
moments

Sing

Click to  
watch  
the video

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# HOW TO SETTLE A FUSSY BABY

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Click to  
watch  
the video

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# CALMING A COLICKY BABY

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**BOTTLE  
FEEDING  
YOUR BABY**



**TIPS FOR TEACHING  
YOUR BABY  
SELF-FEEDING**



Click to  
watch the  
video



# TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

HAPPY PARENT =  
HAPPY CHILD



Click the  
links to  
access  
the  
videos



**Contact the Clearinghouse at  
850-644-1715**

