Alice's Story



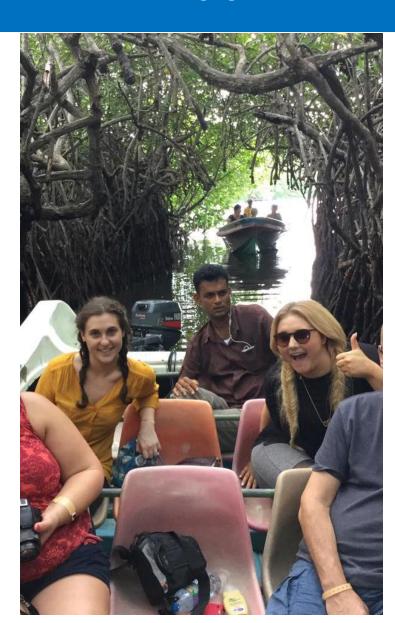


Who was Alice?





So what happened?





Oct 2015:

Introduced on social media

Dec 2015:

"In a relationship"

Jan 2016:

Together for 2 weeks

Apr 2016:

Dhillon returns from Afghanistan for good

Relationship rapidly deteriorates





July 2016: Family holiday

Aug 2016: Relationship ends

Dhillon refuses to accept this





Constant messaging

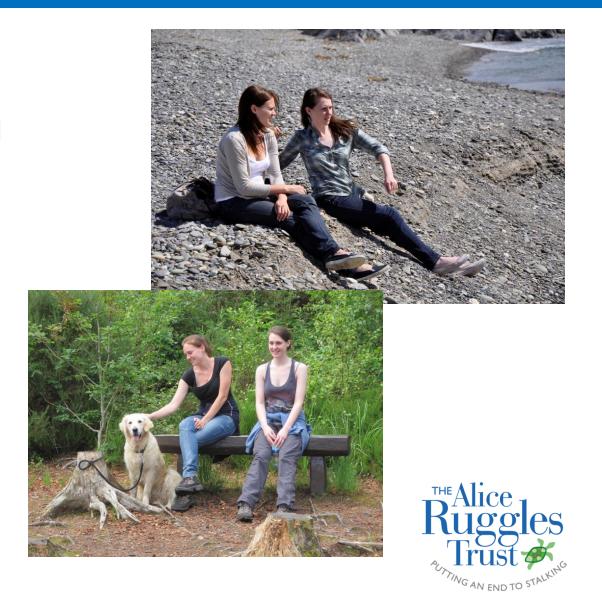
Attempt to blackmail

Hacking into phone

Threats of suicide

Unwanted gifts

Messages friends



Alice has received more than 200 unwanted and unanswered messages from Dhillon in the last two weeks

He scares Alice further by leaving flowers and chocolates outside her bedroom window late at night

He leaves a chilling voicemail message:



Alice, one more reason why I drove up to give you flowers and chocolates was earlier you said guys like me end up killing people and are murderers and I'm not... That's why I just came up with open hands to put the flowers and chocolates there, not even asking you to come out – that's why I just left them there and walked straight out just to prove a point that killing you is something that I've never ever, ever thought about and I would never ever think about that.

So I don't know who's feeding all this negativity into your head that I'm so bad... and that I'll kill you and I want to take revenge and all that. Naaah, someone's really poisoned your head Alice and I don't know who this person is and if I know... I have a feeling it's your sister who's telling you all this and asking you to go to the police and all that. If you want to go to the police, go to the police, but think about what's wrong.

I've literally done nothing, I've never hurt you, never done any physical hurt to you, like, I dunno man, I just wanted to give you flowers and chocolates to prove that no, I don't wanna kill you, I'm not intending to kill you. That's all I wanted to say, that I didn't want to kill you, that's why I gave you chocolates and flowers and walked out straightaway.



Alice finally calls the police:







ALICE: Hi there, I just need a bit of advice really more than anything. I've split up with my boyfriend about three months ago. Since then, I know that he's hacked into my Facebook and also my phone. He's been sending me a lot of messages even though I've asked him not to contact me, basically just messaging my friends and things. Then tonight he's... well, I had a knock at my door. He sent me a message saying "I've been in your garden since 5'. I had a knock at my door, and when I went and had a—well you know the little thing you can look through—there was no one there and then it happened again, two or three times, and then he's come round the back, knocked on my bedroom window at the back of my flat, [it's a] ground floor flat. He stood outside and he's left some flowers and chocolates on the outside window sill. He walked off, he's not done anything, but I'm just, I'm concerned. I've been putting [it] off, my friends have been telling me to call the police, I've been putting it off but I just feel a bit like shaken up tonight so...

OFFICER: Right well, it can be classed as harassment, which is a crime. If you don't want any contact from him, there's a number of things you can do: go to a solicitor and take out an injunction, to keep him away from you, or, you could report it directly to the police now and we can issue him with a PIN notice which means if he ever comes near you again or contacts you again, he'll be arrested. So which would you prefer?

ALICE: Can I try that option, please?

DASH completed

Crimed as harassment without fear

Assessed as medium risk

PIN issued (later conveyed by military)

No connection made to previous restraining order

Referral to Victims First?

No advocate



Alice is called back

SECOND OFFICER:

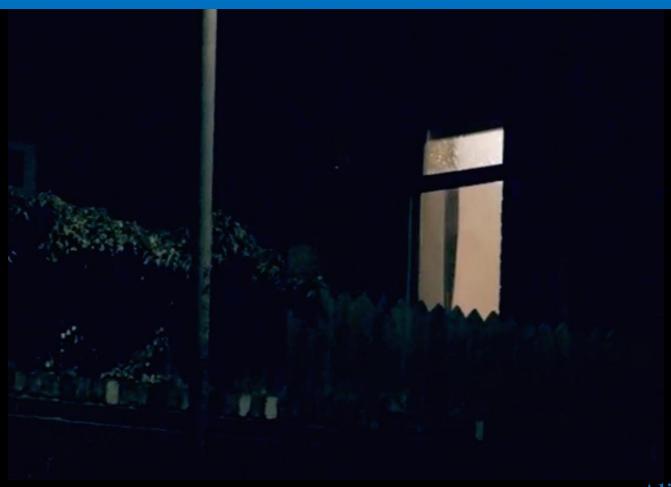
"Well, what do you want us to do about it? Arrest him?"

Recorded that "Alice did not want Dhillon arrested"

Crimed as "harassment without fear"

Crimed as separate incident





Dhillon returns to Alice's flat to take photos









What is stalking?

Stalking is "A pattern of unwanted, fixated and obsessive behaviour which is intrusive and causes fear of violence or serious alarm or distress"



Some examples

- continue to contact you after you have told them not to
- monitor you on and off-line
- show up wherever you go
- make up things to damage your reputation
- contact your friends or family
- threaten to disclose private sexual photographs
- make false complaints to agencies
- spread harmful rumours about you
- threaten to kill themselves

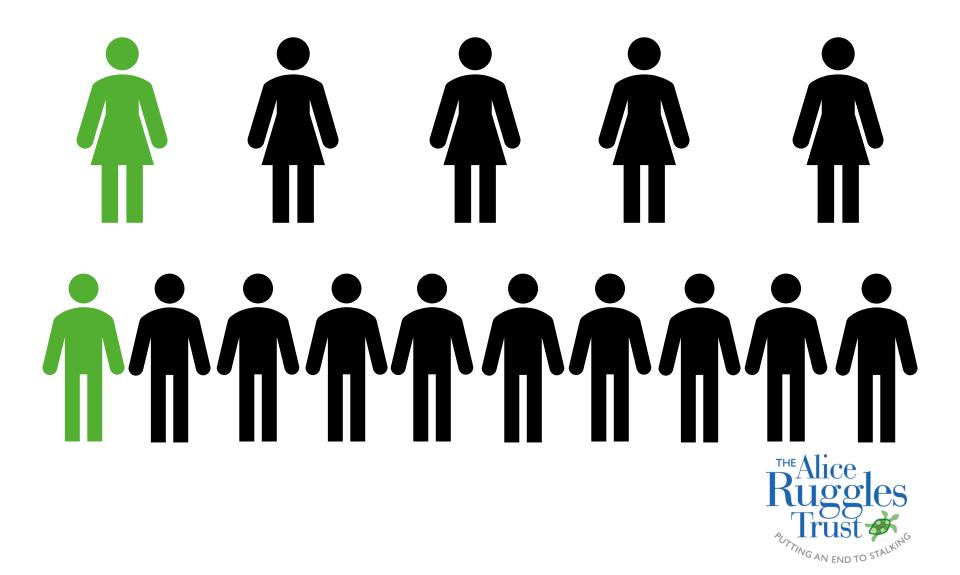


Some examples

- spy on you, follow you or track your movements
- send or leave materials or unwanted gifts
- send unwanted letters, messages, texts and e-mails
- call at your home or workplace
- break into your home and interfere with or damage your property
- physically assault or threaten you
- monitor your phone
- hack into your social media



Who is stalked?



Stalking facts

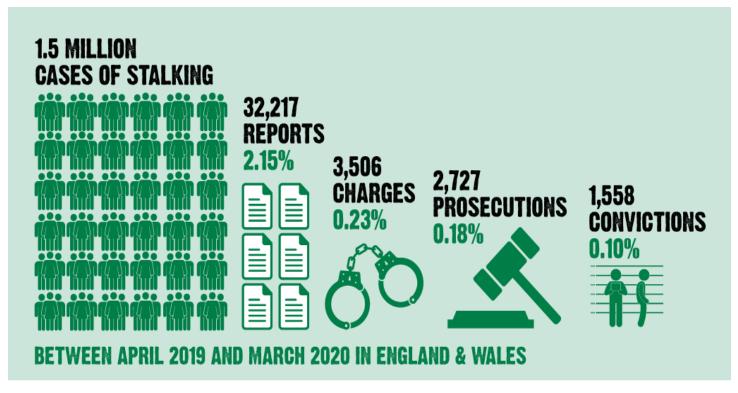
Five types of stalker

- 1. Rejected (over 50%)
- 2. Resentful
- 3. Intimacy seeker
- 4. Incompetent suitor
- 5. Predatory





Is stalking ignored?



CAMPAIGN. EDUCATE. SUPPORT.





Impact of stalking



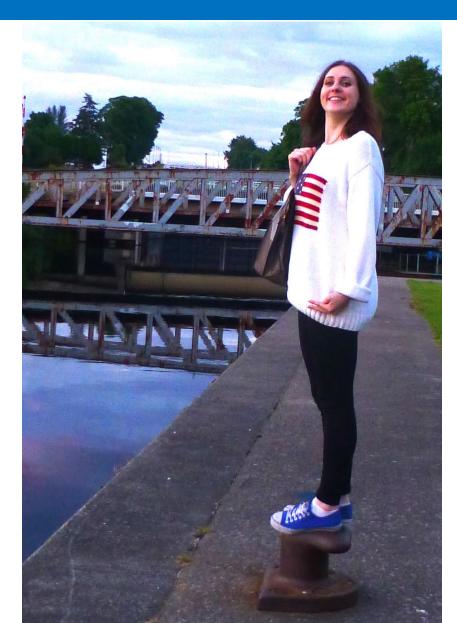
TING AN END TO STA





1

Stalking behaviour must be recognised and crimed as such, not as harassment or a "one-off" crime



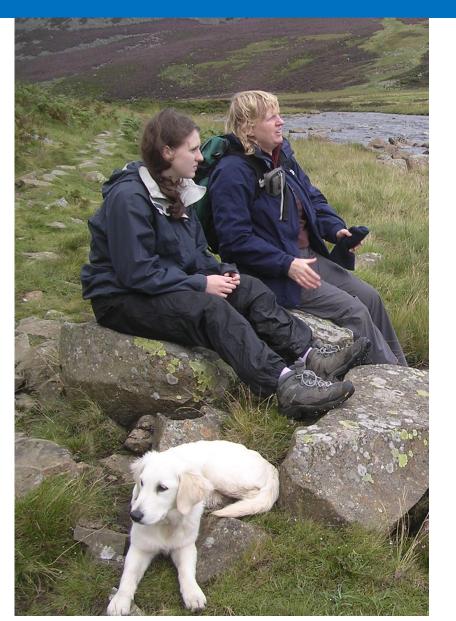


2

No-one reporting a stalking crime should ever be asked "What do you want us to do about it?"







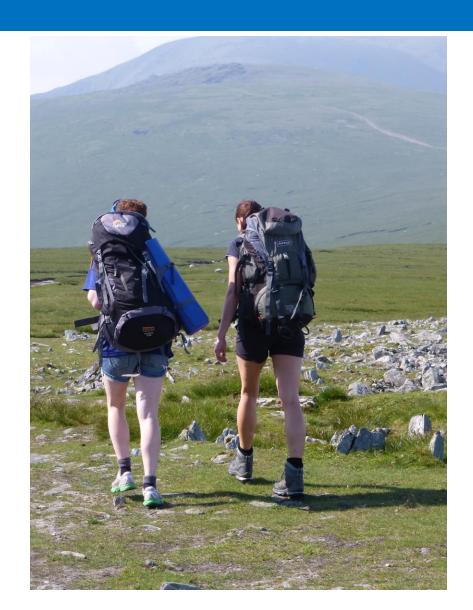
3

Breach of a restraining order must result in arrest or other immediate action



4

There must be effective measures for educating convicted stalkers whilst in prison and for monitoring them and ensuring victim safety after release





The key question

If another Alice came to the police today, would the outcome be any different?





Things have been changing

CPS/NPCC: New protocol on the appropriate handling of stalking or harassment offences (2018)

New FCR guidelines (2018)

Police training initiatives

Multi-agency responses to stalking intervention and risk management (e.g. MASIP)

Stalking Protection Law (2019)
Stalking Protection Orders (Jan 2020)

Campaign for register of stalkers



Sarah Wollaston, former MP



Academic research



Homicide timeline:

8 stages (ex-intimate partners)
(Prof. Jane Monckton-Smith,
Univ. of Gloucestershire)

- 1. Pre relationship history
- 2. Romance quickly becomes serious
- 3. Relationship dominated by coercive control
- 4. Triggers threaten perpetrator's control
- 5. Escalation frequency, seriousness, stalking
- 6. Perpetrator's change in thinking
- 7. Planning
- 8. Homicide



Alice Ruggles Trust

Founded 2017 – self funded





- Raising public awareness
- Training professionals
- Campaigning



Alice Ruggles Trust

- Annual conferences
- Lecture series
- Information leaflets
- Website
- Social Media
- Quality assured teaching resources
- Community policing support in 9 forces across the UK
- Ofqual-accredited short courses aimed at professionals working with young people
- Training for school-teachers
- Training videos
- Project supporting family and friends
- Early perpetrator intervention project



Training Videos

A 5-minute video produced by Broadly UK (vice.com) in 2018 for their "Unfollow Me" campaign



A short video aimed at young people, for schools and social media





The ultimate goal



