College Students’ Experiences of Partner Physical Assault and Stalking Pursuit at SUNY Geneseo: Results from an Anonymous, Campus-Wide Survey

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Foreword

This research report documents college students’ experiences of partner physical assault and stalking pursuit at SUNY Geneseo. To our knowledge, this report represents the first systematic, campus-wide attempt to document these experiences locally. These survey results do not reflect official campus crime statistics. Rather, results provide a basis for constructive, informed campus-wide conversations about our students’ safety and well-being. Such conversations may inform a meaningful self-assessment regarding our campus response to students who are targets of partner assault or stalking pursuit as well as new directions for prevention. As New York State’s premiere public liberal arts college, SUNY Geneseo does not deny the reality of interpersonal violence in the lives of emerging adults. Instead, our College acknowledges these problems while seeking to develop creative, innovative, and proactive solutions that benefit our students. This report may help to begin this process.
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Executive Summary

There are many different forms of intimate partner violence (IPV), including physical assault and stalking. College students commonly experience IPV enacted by current or former dating/sexual partners. Results of the International Dating Violence Study (Straus, 2004a) showed that between 17% and 49% of college students at each of 31 sites worldwide reported perpetrating physical assault against a dating partner over the past year, with a 29% median rate. Dating women and men alike experience partner physical assault. In studies of heterosexual couples, minor assaults such as grabbing, shoving, and slapping are more often perpetrated by women against men than by men against women (Archer, 2000). Importantly, however, physical assaults occur in both heterosexual and same-sex relationships (Goldberg & Meyer, 2013). Controversies exist regarding the context of physical assault because such acts a) do not always lead to observable injury, b) may reflect self-defense or resistance, rather than attempts to dominate and control another person (Johnson, 2005, 2006), and c) are often minimized, e.g., interpreted as “joking” among highly committed youth in dating relationships (Arriaga, 2002).

Like partner assault, stalking is common among college students (Fox, Gover, & Kaukinen, 2009). Stalking involves the use of repeated, intrusive pursuit behaviors such as online messaging, telephoning, observing, or following a person against his or her wishes. Self-report prevalence rates vary across operational definitions of stalking, with an approximate average rate of perpetration among college students of 33% (Davis et al., 2000; Thompson et al., 2012). Although legal definitions of stalking require that pursuit behaviors elicit fear in the target, certain populations such as youth (Chapin & Coleman, 2012) and men (Fox et al., 2009) are unlikely to report feeling fearful or otherwise personally vulnerable. As such, researchers increasingly study targets’ experiences of obsessional pursuit (defined as repeated, ongoing pursuit behaviors) that may or may not elicit a subjective fear response.

To assess student experiences of physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking at SUNY Geneseo, an anonymous campus wide survey was conducted. The specific aims of this survey were to a) estimate the prevalence of physical assault and obsessional pursuit at Geneseo, b) identify the most common types of assault and pursuit, c) identify demographic risk for assault and pursuit, d) learn which types of experiences, if any, were self-identified by students as reflecting “dating violence”, or “stalking,” e) identify rates of reporting behaviorally-specific experiences to campus authorities, and f) identify barriers to reporting to campus authorities.

Currently enrolled students (N = 1049, 72% female) responded to a brief online survey of “College Students’ Experiences with Romantic/Dating Conflict.” The average age was 20.22. Freshman (17%), sophomores (26%), juniors (28%), seniors (26%), and graduate students (2%) participated. To assess time on campus, students were asked “this is my ____year enrolled at Geneseo” (possible responses were first (1), second (2), etc.). The sample average was 2.44.

Students completed validated behaviorally-specific measures of physical assault and obsessional pursuit. Those who experienced one or more incidents of each type of IPV also indicated the sex of the perpetrator(s), who they told about these experiences, barriers to telling Geneseo personnel, and if they self-identified as having experienced dating violence or stalking at Geneseo. All survey items were preceded with these instructions: “Please include only incidents that occurred at Geneseo. That is, include experiences either on or off campus or involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community.”

About 28% of the overall sample experienced some kind of behaviorally-specific partner physical assault at Geneseo. Rates of any assault were higher among men (36%) than women (25%), although there were no sex differences in assault-related injury (6% of both women and
men). Men also were more likely to experience same-sex perpetration of physical assault than women, although most assaults occurred in a heterosexual context. About 27\% of the sample reported minor assault and 10\% reported severe assault. The most common types of minor physical assault involved being grabbed (21\% of the sample) or pushed or shoved (14\%). The most common types of severe assault were being punched or hit with something that could hurt and being slammed against a wall (4.5\% reported each). The most common type of injury, reported by 3.5\% of the sample, was sustaining a sprain, bruise, or cut.

About 83\% of Geneseo students who reported one or more behaviorally-specific experiences of physical assault did not identify having experienced dating violence. Although one in three men and one in four women in the sample reported behaviorally-specific experiences, only one student reported an experience of partner physical assault to campus authorities. The most common barriers to reporting were viewing the assault as a private matter and minimization of the incident. Other barriers included the belief that the incident was unreportable, worry about getting the person in trouble, and discomfort with reporting process.

With regard to obsessional pursuit/stalking, about 14\% of the sample reported having at least one behaviorally specific experience. Overall rates of being pursued among women (16\%) and men (10\%) did not significantly differ, although women were more likely than men to receive online messages and to be followed, and men were more likely than women to report same-sex pursuit. Among those students who reported experiencing obsessive pursuit at Geneseo, the most common forms were receiving online messages (56\%), being telephoned (41\%), having the pursuer show up uninvited (34\%), and being watched from afar (28\%). In terms of pursuit frequency, the modal response was “two to six times a week,” which was reported by a third of those who experienced obsessive pursuit. Overall, students reported low levels of fear associated with being pursued. Only 30\% of those who endorsed behaviorally specific experiences of obsessional pursuit self-identified as having been stalked at Geneseo. A total of four students reported their experiences to Geneseo authorities -- most commonly, to faculty members. Regarding barriers to reporting, about half of participants indicated that the incident was a private matter that they handled themselves, almost a third reported that their experience didn’t count as a reportable incident, and about one fifth reported that reporting is burdensome.

These survey results suggest the need for campus-wide efforts to enhance student awareness of different forms of IPV on campus. Primary prevention programs focused on campus safety may help students to better differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate methods for managing conflict with a dating or romantic partner. Underreporting also suggests that many students do not believe that incidents of physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking violate our current student code of conduct. We should carefully consider our policies and procedures related to all forms of interpersonal violence in our community. With greater attention to the problem of IPV at Geneseo, we can improve the safety and well-being of all of our students.
**Introduction**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) can take many forms, including physical assault and stalking. Lifetime experiences of IPV are not uncommon. Based on the National Violence against Women Survey (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000), the most prevalent form of IPV is the intentional use of physical aggression to inflict bodily harm. Based on the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 30% women and 26% of men in the US have been slapped, pushed or shoved by an intimate partner at some point in their lives (Black et al., 2010, p. 44). Consequences of partner assault include fear of physical injury, actual injury (including broken bones, sprains, bruising), time lost from work, and need for both medical and mental health treatment (Miller, 2006; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000).

Stalking, sometimes known as obsessional pursuit, is a less common yet still harmful form of IPV. Commonly, those who are stalked receive unwanted messages and telephone calls, are followed, and are monitored regarding their location or activities. In the National Violence against Women Survey study, 8% of women and 2% of men in the United States met legal criteria for stalking victimization (Tjaden & Thoennes, 1998). Notably, however, some respondents reported that they had been pursued and considered themselves victims of stalking, but because they did not indicate being afraid, they were not regarded legally as victims (Tjaden, Thoennes, & Allison, 2000). If the fear requirement was removed, those rates among women and men would rise to 12% and 4%, respectively (Tjaden et al., 2000). Regardless of whether they are fearful of the pursuit specifically, targets of obsessional pursuit experience protracted stress because pursuit behaviors are unpredictable, uncontrollable, and unrelenting. As such, targets of stalking report feelings of apprehension, powerlessness, and violation (Mullen, Pathé, & Purcell, 2009). In turn, such feelings adversely affect the emotional and interpersonal functioning of those who are pursued (Davis, Ace, & Andra, 2000; Thomas, Purcell, Pathé, & Mullen, 2008).

The present research assessed SUNY Geneseo students’ experiences of partner physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking. More specifically, this report documents students’ experiences since they began college and involving others on campus or in the Geneseo community based on an anonymous campus wide survey administered in April 2013.

**Partner Physical Assault among College Students**

Physical assault, or the intentional use of bodily violence, is common in college students’ dating relationships. For example, in the International Dating Violence Study (Straus, 2004a), between 17% and 49% of college students at each of 31 sites worldwide reported perpetrating physical assault against a dating partner over the past year, with a 29% median rate. About one quarter of the assaults caused injury, with injury especially common in cases of men’s violence against women. Dating partner assault also was associated with poorer mental health, including depression and suicidal ideation (Chan, Straus, Brownridge, Tiwari, & Leung, 2008).

Women and men alike experience partner physical assault. Research with college student samples suggests that women may be more likely than men to use physical assault within an intimate dating relationship. For example, Straus (2008) found that 32% of women and 24% of men reported using minor tactics of physical assault against a partner (sex not specified), and 11% of women and 8% of men reported using severe tactics. Other research also shows that college men sustain higher rates of minor partner physical assault than college women (Katz, Kuffel, & Coblentz, 2002; Rouse, Breen, & Howell, 1988). These findings among college sample match with the results of a seminal meta-analysis on heterosexual partner assault among couples generally (not only college students): women were significantly more likely than men to use physical assault within their relationships, although men were more likely to cause injury.
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(Archer, 2000). More specifically, women were more likely than men to throw something at the other, slap, kick, bite, or punch, and hit with an object, whereas men were more likely than women to beat up and to choke or strangle a partner. Because the Archer meta-analysis focused on only studies of heterosexual dating and married couples, however, it is unclear if these findings generalize to samples of college students with same-sex or heterosexual partners.

Some researchers have proposed that there are at least two different types of partner assault. Johnson (2006) described “intimate terrorism” (p. 1006) as characterized by assaultive acts and controlling behaviors enacted by one partner, and possibly assaultive acts, but not controlling behaviors by the other. He suggested that intimate terrorism is usually perpetrated by men against women. In contrast, “situational couple violence” (p.1006), which can be reciprocal, but does not include controlling behaviors, is most commonly identified in studies that assess partner assault without assessing general controlling or intimidation tendencies. He suggested that although heterosexual women represent the majority of victims of “intimate terrorism” (Johnson, 2005, p.1128), whereas heterosexual men may be just as likely or even more likely to experience “situational couple violence” (p.1006). This typology has been controversial, although there has been support for differentiating different types of partner assault among college students. For example, among heterosexual college students, assaultive men are more likely than assaultive women to also attempt control or intimidate their partners (e.g., Katz, Carino, & Hilton, 2002). More generally, this differentiation is also supported by research suggesting that a woman’s assaultive behaviors against a male partner are viewed as more socially acceptable than a man’s assaultive behaviors against a female partner. For example, women who physically assault a heterosexual dating partner are perceived as less intimidating and likely to cause injury to their partner than their male counterparts (Chabot, Tracy, Manning, & Poisson, 2009).

In addition to questions about the relative harm of assault perpetrated by men versus women, other controversies about the context of physical assault by dating partners exist as well. Although many studies of partner assault seem to presume heterosexuality, physical assaults occur in both heterosexual and same-sex couples, with particular risk for bisexual women with male partners and for gay men (Goldberg & Meyer, 2013). College students who identify as sexual minorities (i.e., gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or transsexual, or queer) are at elevated risk for violence generally, including IPV (Porter & Williams, 2011). Experiences of same-sex perpetration, however, may be under-reported to authorities given the paucity of services for sexual minority students, insensitivity of mainstream services, and both actual and perceived stigma associated with involvement same-sex relationships (St. Pierre & Senn, 2010).

Another controversy in the literature on intimate partner assault involves the interpretation of physical assault behaviors, which may not be experienced as consciously, intentionally malicious. Compared to college students in less committed relationships, highly committed students who sustained partner physical assault were more prone to interpret the assault as “joking” (Arriaga, 2002, p. 599). This same study showed that students in dating relationships were more likely than their married counterparts to report joking violence, and committed dating women and men were equally likely to interpret acts of partner assault as joking.

In the current study, partner physical assault during college was assessed using objective, behaviorally-specific terms (e.g., threw something that could hurt, twisted arm or hair, pushed or shoved, grabbed, slapped) within the context of a conflict situation. More specifically, items regarding physical assault were prefaced with the requirement that behavior occurred during
some kind of disagreement by a person who was romantically or sexually interested in the respondent. This allowed for the objective assessment of partner assault behaviors during a conflict situation without presuming the sex of the partner involved.

**Obsessional Pursuit/Stalking among College Students**

Stalking, or the use of repeated, intrusive pursuit behaviors such as telephoning, messaging, observing, or following someone against his or her wishes, is common among college students (Fox, Gover, & Kaukinen, 2009). Depending on operational definitions, self-report prevalence rates vary, with an average rate of perpetration among college students approximately 33% (Davis et al., 2000; Thompson, Dennison, & Stewart, 2012). Similarly, prevalence rates of stalking victimization reported by college students are similarly varied, with an overall average across studies of about 33% (Cupach & Spitzberg, 2000).

Controversies exist regarding definitions of stalking given that the legality of pursuit depends on the target being fearful in response (Dietz & Martin, 2007). In fact, very few stalkers intend to be frightening (Thompson et al., 2012), and the boundary between appropriate versus inappropriate interpersonal persistence may be unclear. Adolescents and emerging adults often perceive themselves to be invulnerable, which may mitigate fear. An “optimistic bias” is common (Chapin & Coleman, 2012); even youth with histories of violent victimization underestimate personal risk. Furthermore, men are particularly reticent to admit fear of a pursuit or to recognize risk (Fox et al., 2009; Sheridan & Lyndon, 2012; Thompson et al., 2012; Tjaden et al., 2000). For these reasons, a fear requirement may be unnecessarily restrictive.

To differentiate between legal definitions of stalking that require subjective fear responses and more objectively observable intrusive behaviors, some researchers study unwanted pursuit with labels such as obsessive relational intrusion (Cupach & Spitzberg, 2000), obsessional following (Meloy, 1997), and obsessional pursuit (McCann, 1998). Although pursuit may not be due to an obsession per se, experts agree that repeated pursuit behavior is problematic. Accordingly, the current study relied on a definition of obsessional pursuit used in research with college students (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2010) involving repeated, obsessive behavior: “has anyone, from a stranger to an ex-partner – repeatedly followed you, watched you, phoned, written, emailed, or communicated with you in other ways that seemed obsessive?” In other words, a behaviorally-specific definition of obsessional pursuit was used to describe behaviors that did not necessarily induce fear. In their study of women students, 13% reported pursuit behaviors at some point during the current academic year.

There are several reasons why rates of obsessional pursuit/stalking may be elevated among college-aged students in college specifically compared to the general population (Fisher et al. 2010). On a campus setting, large numbers of young, unmarried women and men routinely interact in classes and social settings. They spend a great deal of time on campus in a physical space that is conducive to pursuit behaviors, for several reasons. First, students have regular access to one another on campuses that are “open” 24/7. Second, students have regular academic and employment schedules so that their whereabouts are relatively predictable. Third, student contact information is listed in directories that are widely available. Fourth, the ubiquitous use of social media allows students to be tracked and monitored even remotely. Cyber obsessional pursuit (COP), or cyber pursuit for short, is defined as “using technology-based stalking behaviors to harass or demand intimacy from another person” (Lyndon, Bonds-Raacke, & Cratty, 2011, p. 711). Cyber pursuit may co-occur with other forms of pursuit, with cyber pursuers six times more likely to also engage in other forms of obsessive pursuit (Lyndon et al.).
Finally, students have large amounts out of flexible, unsupervised time permitting any or different types of pursuit to occur repeatedly and over a period of time.

Research by Fisher et al. (2010) suggests that most pursuit of college women specifically was nonvisible to targets; that is, pursuit involved the use of telephones, being watched from afar, or being followed. The average length of the pursuit lasted for 147 days, with a median of 60 days. Within that time period, the most common intensity of pursuit was “two to six times a week.” In terms of location, only 31% off incidents occurred off campus. In the majority of cases, the pursuer was someone the target knew, although it was not always a romantic partner. Over 40% of pursuers were a partner or ex-partner. Others included classmates (25%), friends or acquaintances (20%) and coworkers (5%). Very few women were pursued by faculty, employers, or relatives. The current study examined whether and to what degree similar experiences are reported by both women and men in college at Geneseo.

**Stigma and Reporting**

People who experience partner physical assault, obsessional pursuit/stalking, or both face considerable social stigma. More specifically, victims of IPV are often judged by others as flawed, deviant, weak, or incompetent, especially if they maintain a relationship with the partner (e.g., Ben-Ari, Winstok, & Éisikovits, 2003). Yet the decision to leave a violent dating relationship is affected by many factors (e.g., Katz, Tirone, & Schukraft, 2012), and separating from a violent partner may actually increase risk for physical assault (e.g., Brownridge, 2006), stalking (Langhinrichsen-Rohling, Paterea, Cohen, & Rohling, 2000; Roberts, 2005), or both (Coleman, 1997). As such, targets of IPV are at risk for repeated victimization regardless of whether they choose to stay or leave. Stigmatization, however, may inhibit individuals from identifying themselves as targets of violence or stalking. In addition to stigmatization, minimization may also impede reporting to campus authorities. In a study of college women who experienced obsessive pursuit, Fisher et al. (2010) found that only 17% of incidents were reported to police or campus authorities, with common barriers being the belief that the incident wasn’t serious enough to report (72%), not being clear that the incident was a crime (45%), or not believing that police would view the situation as serious enough to warrant reporting (33%).

Research suggests that sensitive experiences such as being victimized by a partner are more likely to be reported via anonymous survey than any other method (Orchowski, Meyer, & Gidycz, 2009). As such, this report describes an anonymous campus-wide survey of SUNY Geneseo students’ experiences of physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking on campus and in the Geneseo community. The aims of this survey were to a) estimate the prevalence of physical assault and obsessional pursuit at Geneseo, b) identify the most common types of assault and pursuit on campus, c) identify demographic risk for assault, d) learn which experiences, if any, were identified by students as reflecting “dating violence” or “stalking,” e) identify rates of reporting behaviorally specific experiences of assault or pursuit to campus authorities, and f) identify barriers to student reporting to campus authorities.

**Method**

*Participants*

Participants (N = 1065) were recruited from the SUNY Geneseo campus via email and flyer advertisements for a brief online survey about “College Students’ Experiences with Romantic/Dating Conflict”. Fifteen people did not respond to any questions and one person
responded with nonsensical comments; data from these 16 respondents were discarded, leaving a final sample of 1049.

The average student age was 20.22 ($SD = 1.52$, range 17 to 33). As shown in Table 1, most students identified as female (72%; $n = 754$) and 27% ($n = 287$) identified as male. One person identified as transgender, and seven additional participants did not disclose their sex (0.7%; $n = 7$). All class years were represented with the sample consisting of approximately equivalent proportions of sophomores (26%), juniors (28%), and seniors (26%), with fewer freshmen (17%) and even fewer graduate students (2%). To assess time on campus, students were asked, “This is my ______ year enrolled at Geneseo” (possible responses were first (1), second (2), third (3), etc.). On average, respondents had been on campus 2.44 years ($SD = 1.11$, range 1 to 6). Neither race/ethnicity nor sexual orientation was assessed to ensure participants’ responses would remain wholly anonymous.

**Measures**

Behaviorally-specific items from previously validated assessments of partner physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking were administered. Participants were asked to report on their experiences since enrolling at Geneseo, either on or off campus, within the Geneseo community. Twelve items from the 12-item physical assault subscale of the Revised Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS2; Straus, Hamby, Boney-McCoy, & Sugarman, 1996) were prefaced with the following stem: “Since starting college, at Geneseo, during some kind of disagreement, how many times has a person who was romantically or sexually interested in you_________?” Participants responded to the number of times they experienced five moderate assault items (i.e., *threw something that could hurt, twisted arm or hair, pushed or shoved, grabbed, slapped*) and seven severe items (i.e., *used a knife or gun, punched or hit with something that could hurt, choked, slammed against a wall, beat up, burned or scalded on purpose, or kicked*) as listed in Table 4. Each CTS2 item is rated on a 7-point scale: 0 = never, 1 = once, 2 = twice, 3 = 3–5 times, 4 = 6–10 times, 5 = 11–20 times, and 6 = more than 20 times. Each scale is scored by summing the midpoints of each category of response (e.g., for 3–5 times, a score of 4 is assigned, for 6–10 times, a score of 8 is assigned, and for 11–20 times, a score of 15 is used). An additional response option used in this study was, “prefer not to say.” The CTS2 is a valid measure of physical assault by intimate partners (Straus, 2004b).

The six item CTS2 injury scale also was administered: *had a sprain, bruise, or small cut because of a fight with a partner; felt physical pain that still hurt the next day because of a fight with a partner; passed out from being hit on the head by a partner in a fight; went to a doctor because of a fight with my partner; needed to see a doctor because of a fight with a partner, but I didn’t; had a broken bone from a fight with a partner.* Participants were responded yes, no, or unsure to these items. In the current study, the CTS2 subscales were scored in terms of the presence or absence of partner physical assault or injury.

To assess the relationship context within which the assaultive behaviors occurred, we asked “did you experience any of these situations while in an ongoing romantic or sexual relationship with the person?” and “did you experience any of these situations after a romantic or sexual relationship with the person had ended?” Possible responses were yes, no, and unsure. We also assessed “the gender of the persons who did these things” with possible responses including *female(s) only, male(s) only, both male(s) and female(s) and prefer not to say.*

In addition, a question adapted from Banyard et al. (2007) regarding disclosure of romantic conflict experiences allowed participants to indicate who, if anyone, they told about
their experiences. The specific item asked was, “Who did you tell about what happened? If more than one experience happened, please mark ALL of the people you told about any of them.” Possible responses included no one, roommate, close friend other than roommate, romantic partner, parent or guardian, other family member, residence hall staff, dean of students/judicial affairs office, on campus health center, off campus health or medical professional, faculty member, campus police/UPD, other Geneseo staff member, other police, a Title IX coordinator or deputy coordinator, or other. In addition, participants were asked “did you report the incident to any campus authorities?” Participants responded yes, no, unsure, or prefer not to say.

Participants who reported experiencing one or more behaviorally-specific types of intimate partner assault and who reported that they did not report conflict experiences to campus authorities were asked about 14 specific barriers to making an official report. These barriers were based on open-ended responses generated by Geneseo students in a prior study about sexual assault; in that study, those who reported behaviorally-specific experiences of nonconsensual sexual activity and did not report these experiences to campus authorities provided open-ended questions as to why they did not make an official report. Instead of gathering open-ended responses, the current study asked participants to rate the degree to which each barrier identified in previous research affected their decision not to make an official report; possible responses were not at all, somewhat, and definitely. More specifically, participants in the present study were asked “to what degree was each of the following *a reason for not making an official report to someone on campus* about these incidents? Barriers were as follows: I didn’t have proof/may not have been believed; Reporting is ineffective; Reporting is burdensome; Locating/timing of the incident make reporting difficult; Reporting is uncomfortable; I’d get the person into trouble; I’d get myself into trouble; My experience doesn’t count as a reportable incident; It wasn’t a big deal; I handled it myself/it was a private matter; I felt shame/fear/embarrassment / unsupported; I didn’t know it was something to tell; It was my fault; I didn’t want to tell.

A single item assessed the participants’ perception of whether they experienced any form of dating violence at Geneseo. “Have you ever experienced dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community? Participants responded yes, no, or unsure to this item.

To assess obsessional pursuit/stalking, a behaviorally-specific screening item was asked from the National College Women’s Sexual Victimization Study (Fisher et al., 2010). If a respondent answered yes to the screening item, then follow up questions were addressed regarding form (cyber-pursuit or other forms of pursuit), duration, intensity, fear or discomfort, location, relationship with the perpetrator, sex of the perpetrator, and who, if anyone, they told about their experiences. Participants who did not report stalking experiences to any campus authorities rated the degree to which each of the same 14 barriers prevented them from making an official reports. A single item assessed the participants’ perception of whether s/he has been experienced stalking at Geneseo with possible responses of yes, no, or unsure.

Finally, basic demographic information (age, sex, year in school, number of years at Geneseo) were collected. Participants also had the option of providing any additional comments (See Appendix A).

Procedure

Participants were recruited by student researchers via email and flyer advertisements for a brief online survey about “College Students’ Experiences with Romantic/Dating Conflict”. The online survey link opened on April 1, 2013 and was closed on April 15, 2013. All recruitment materials listed the web-link for study participation. Email advertisements were sent to student
lists, including off campus students, student residence hall lists, student club and organization lists, and events list. Flyers were hung in academic buildings across campus, including Brodie, Sturges, and Welles. All advertising materials featured the following information:

**QUICK SURVEY -- CASH PRIZES**

Please fill out this brief survey on college students' romantic/dating conflict experiences by clicking on the link below.

http://go.geneseo.edu/campuswidesurvey

The survey will only take a few minutes. By participating you will be eligible for a chance to win one of six $100.00 cash prizes!

Questions or concerns can be directed to Dr. Katz, katz@geneeso.edu. We greatly appreciate your participation.

After clicking the link, participants read the following text advising them about their right to refuse any items and suggesting that they were emotionally and physically prepared to complete the survey. The exact text read as follows: “The following questions are extremely personal and some potentially upsetting. You may skip any items you do not wish to answer without penalty. You may also withdraw your participation at any time. Information about free support services is provided on the exit screen. Please ensure you're in a private location before beginning the survey.”

Next, participants were instructed about how to respond to the survey questions. They were told to report only on their experiences since starting college at Geneseo and involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community. The exact text read as follows: “For each of the following items, indicate how often, if ever, these experiences have happened to you specifically since starting college at Geneseo. Please include only incidents that occurred at Geneseo. That is, include experiences either on or off campus or involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community. Please do NOT include other incidents, e.g., those at home or at another college.”

Immediately following these instructions, participants were administered behaviorally specific items from previously validated measures of physical assault and obsessional pursuit. Those who did not report their experiences to campus officials were also asked about barriers to doing so, as described in the Measures section.

Next, before assessing experiences of obsessional pursuit/stalking, participants read the following instructions: “Now we want to ask about a different type of experience. Only consider experiences since you started college at Geneseo. That is, include experiences either on or off campus involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community.” The item was “Has anyone – from a stranger to an ex-partner – repeatedly followed you, watched you, phoned, written, e-mailed, or communicated with you in other ways that seemed obsessive?” Possible responses were yes, unsure, no, and prefer not to say. Those who reported having such experiences were asked a series of questions about their experiences, about whether they reported to campus officials, and if not, barriers to reporting. Specific questions are described in the Measures section. Finally, participants responded to demographic questions regarding their sex, age, class year, years spent at Geneseo, and they were asked if they had ever experienced dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community or stalking on campus or in the Geneseo community.
At the end of the survey, participants were presented with a short debriefing statement and list of resources available to help people concerned about dating violence, stalking, or both. In addition, participants were offered a chance to participate in a lottery to win one of six $100.00 cash prizes. To enter the lottery, participants sent an email to a researcher-based address with an identification code to ensure that their responses to the survey would not be linked to their personal information if they choose to participate in the lottery. By requiring students to use their Geneseo email accounts, they could only be considered for the raffle once. Six lottery winners were randomly selected at the end of April and contacted that week with instructions about picking up their prizes.

Precautions were taken to ensure respondent welfare. Survey instructions were discussed with several students and staff members, including members of the Institutional Review Board and the Director of Institutional Research. At the top of the survey webpage, respondents were advised to find a private place where they could complete the survey. The response option of “prefer not to say” emphasized that participants were free not to volunteer personal information if they did not wish to do so. At the bottom of the survey webpage, phone numbers to free, 24-hour hotlines and websites were listed. In addition, the principal investigator extended a written offer to talk with students on a one-time basis to provide support and help them find formal services. No one contacted her with any such request.

**Results**

**Physical Assault**

In response to the behaviorally-specific questions on the Revised Conflict Tactics Scales (CTS2), 28.4% (n = 298) reported one or more experiences of partner assault during a disagreement. About 20.4% (n = 214) of the sample experienced multiple assaults. The sample mean for total assaultive incidents was 2.30 (SD = 9.29). Samples means were lower for each of the subscales (M = 1.82 for minor assault, M = 0.47 for severe assault).

Some participants in our sample indicated that they experienced threats of physical assault that were not captured by the CTS2 items. In the optional comments part of the survey, for example, one student wrote, “I have had a partner threaten to physically harm me but not follow through with it.” A few other students described experiences in which they were concerned about violence but not assaulted (e.g., “I was once talking with a guy who yelled at me about something that was never my fault and it made me a little nervous but he never got physically violent”) or described experiences that they labeled emotional or mental abuse (e.g., “This survey did not evaluate emotional/mental dating abuse. This should be studied. I’ve been in an abusive relationship at Geneseo, but most of the ”symptoms” of it were not evaluated in this survey.”). However, this report focuses only on the behaviorally-specific CTS2 questions, all of which involve one or more actual physical assault behaviors enacted during a disagreement. All student comments are included in Appendix A.

Table 2 lists the percentages of participants who endorsed at least one of each behaviorally-specific type of physical assault. Rates experienced by women and men are also included. These percentages differ slightly from those in the preceding paragraphs because Tables 2 and 4 do not include the seven students who did not indicate their sex or the one trans-identified student. Unfortunately, the trans-identified student and three of the seven students who did not identify their sex reported endorsed physical assault items on the CTS2 but could not be included in analyses that compared rates among men and women. As can be seen, just over a quarter of the sample reported some kind of minor assault, about 10% reported severe assault,
and almost 6% reported assault-related injury. In addition, rates of any assault, any minor assault, and any severe assault but not injury were significantly higher among men than women.

Table 4 shows the percentages of participants who endorsed each specific CTS2 item across the sample and separately for women and men. Within each category (minor assault, severe assault, and injury), specific acts are listed in descending order of frequency. Results indicated that the most common forms of minor partner assault involved being grabbed, being pushed or shoved, and being slapped. Compared to women, men reported higher rates of being pushed or shoved, being slapped, and having something thrown at them that could hurt.

The most common forms of severe partner assault were not frequently endorsed (i.e., all were reported by less than 5% of the sample); these included being punched or hit with something that could hurt, being slammed against a wall, and being kicked. Compared to women, men reported higher rates of being punched or hit with something that could hurt, being kicked, being beat up, and being burned or scalded. Base rates for these latter two items, though, were very small and thus chi-squared comparisons may not be reliable. Similarly, assault-related injury was not frequently endorsed (i.e., no more than 3.5% of the sample reported any injury). The most common forms of injury were having a sprain, bruise or a small cut, feeling physical pain that still hurt the next day, and needing to see a doctor. Base rates of injury were low, and there were no differences in rates of injury reported by women and men in the sample.

**Context of Partner Physical Assault**

Of the participants who reported some kind of CTS2 physical assault, 27.9% (n = 85) responded to questions about the context within which the assault occurred. These questions included the sex of the perpetrator and the nature of the relationship with the perpetrator.

**Rates of Same-Sex Perpetration.** Rates of same-sex versus heterosexual perpetration were examined within the subsample of students who endorsed some type of behaviorally-specific assault on the CTS2 and who had provided data about their own sex and the sex of their assaultive partner(s). Table 3 lists the rates of same-sex perpetration by women and men students grouped by any experience of assault, any experience of minor assault, any experience of severe assault, and endorsement of obsessional pursuit/stalking. Injury could not be analyzed given low base rates. As can be seen, greater proportions of men than women indicated experiencing same-sex perpetration within each grouping. Although most physical assaults occurred in a heterosexual context, assaults also occurred in same-sex relationships, typically involving men.

**Rates of Assault by Current versus Former Partners.** Of the participants with complete data who reporting experiencing behaviorally-specific physical assault, 74.7% (n = 65) reported that the incident happened during an ongoing relationship, with one additional person “unsure.” In contrast, 17.9% (n = 15) reported that physical assault occurred after the relationship ended, with three additional participants “unsure.” Overall, most assault occurred in the context of an ongoing rather than previous romantic or sexual relationship.

**Demographic Correlates of Partner Physical Assault at Geneseo**

As shown in Table 5, students who reported experiencing behaviorally-specific physical assault by a partner did not differ from other students in terms of year in school, years spent on campus, or age.
Behaviorally-Specific Partner Physical Assault and Self-Identification of Dating Violence

About 6.4% (n = 67) of the sample self-identified as having “experienced dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community.” An additional 2.7% (n = 28) were “unsure”. Six participants did not respond to this question.

Frequency analyses were calculated to determine how many students who endorsed behaviorally-specific items on the CTS also self-identified as having experienced dating violence. Results are listed in Table 6. As can be seen, although all of these students endorsed one or more behaviorally-specific physical assault experiences on the CTS2, most did not identify as having experienced dating violence.

Chi-squared analyses were conducted within the sample of participants who endorsed at least one CTS2 item and who responded to the question about self-identification (n = 291) to explore potential sex differences in self-identification. Men and women did not differ in rates of self-identification of dating violence, X^2 (2) = 0.86, ns. Within the subsample of those who reported at least one CTS2 physical assault experience, 15.3% of women (n = 29) and 19.6% of men (n = 20) self-identified as having experienced dating violence at Geneseo. An additional 6.3% of women and 5.9% of men were “unsure.”

Rates of Reporting Physical Assault to SUNY Geneseo and Barriers to Reporting

Of those who reported experiencing any CTS2 physical assault incidents, only one person indicated that s/he reported to campus officials, and two were unsure. The one person who was certain of reporting to campus officials also self-identified as having experienced dating violence. The specific campus offices that may have been contacted by these three individuals were residence life staff (n = 3), campus health center (n = 2), campus police (n = 1), and Geneseo faculty member (n = 1). No one reported contacting the dean of students. Overall, 96.4% of students who experienced physical assault did not tell any Geneseo personnel about their experiences. In addition, 94.4% of those who self-identified as experiencing dating violence did not tell any Geneseo personnel. These data unequivocally suggest that dating violence is underreported to the college.

About 79 students who reported experiencing physical assault on the CTS2 responded to questions about barriers to reporting these experiences to campus authorities. The barriers are listed in Table 7. Almost two thirds of participants indicated that the incident was a private matter that they handled themselves, and just over one half indicated that it “wasn’t a big deal.” Regarding barriers specific to Geneseo, almost 40% reported that their experience didn’t count as a reportable incident, just under a third were concerned about getting the person into trouble, and just as many cited that reporting is uncomfortable.

Obsessional Pursuit/Stalking

About 14.3% of the total sample (n = 149) reported “yes” in response to the behaviorally-specific item asking about experiences of obsessional pursuit/stalking at Geneseo. An additional 5.7% (n = 59) reported that they were “unsure.” Eight participants did not respond. As shown in Table 2, among those participants who identified their sex, there were no sex differences in rates of experiencing obsessional pursuit; about 16% of women and 10% of men reported at least one such experience. The one trans-identified student also reported experiencing obsessional pursuit.

As with the behaviorally-specific assessment of partner physical assault, some students objected to the fact that their experiences were not captured by the survey. For example, one respondent wrote, “I was stalked at work but I work on Long Island. I think that these questions...”
were used to put Geneseo in a better light, but this happens everywhere, on and off the Geneseo campus. Just because stalking doesn't happen on the Geneseo Campus doesn't mean it doesn't happen at all—which is what this survey is sort of saying.” For this reason, rates of stalking/obsessional pursuit should be considered tentative and may underrepresent our students’ experiences.

Among the 146 participants who endorsed obsessive pursuit and responded to follow up questions, the average number of pursuers was 1.31 ($SD = 0.59$). About 24% of women and 31% of men who reported obsessive pursuit reported more than one pursuer; this was not a significant sex difference. Number of pursuers was not related with age, class, or years at Geneseo.

Table 8 shows the different specific forms of students’ most recent experiences of obsessional pursuit at Geneseo. The first column lists total percentages. As can be seen, cyber pursuit was most common, with 14% of the sample reporting texting pursuit and 9% reporting receiving online messages. Other forms of pursuit, in descending order overall, included showing up uninvited (6%), being watched from afar (6%) and being followed (4%). It was rare for students to report receiving either letters or gifts. The second column in Table 8 lists percentages among students who identified as experiencing obsessive pursuit at Geneseo. As can be seen, over three quarters reported receiving texts and over half reported receiving online messages. The third column lists the pursuit behaviors experienced by those who were “unsure” about experiencing obsessional pursuit. In the last column, among those who self-identified as being stalked, just under half reported receiving texts and over a third reported receiving online messages, about under a third reported being followed, and just under a third reported that their pursuer showed up uninvited (30%), followed them (27%) or telephoned (26%).

Consistent with these findings, of those who reported any or possible obsessional pursuit, about 55% ($n = 109$) reported that pursuit occurred remotely, and another 30.5% ($n = 60$) of the sample reported pursuit occurred both in person and remotely. Only 14.2% ($n = 28$) reported pursuit occurred in person only. Despite the fact that most obsessional pursuit happened remotely, the modal response to the assessment of where the pursuit occurred was “on campus only” (45.8%; $n = 44$), followed by “both on and off campus” (32.3%, $n = 31$) and then “off campus only” (21.9%; $n = 21$). These findings suggest that student experiences of pursuit, even when remote or via the internet, are typically perceived as occurring on campus.

Table 9 shows sex differences in obsessive pursuit behaviors. Overall, women and men did not report differences in rates of obsessive pursuit. However, compared to men, a greater proportion of women reported being followed and receiving online messages, with a trend for being more likely to receive texts.

**Context of Obsessional Pursuit/Stalking**

Participants who either indicated that that they had or that they were unsure as to whether they had experienced obsessional pursuit at Geneseo were asked additional questions about being pursued. In addition to the different types of behaviors they experienced, respondents were asked the relationship with the person who enacted this behavior, the sex of the pursuer, and how long the behavior lasted, the frequency that the behavior occurred during this period. There were occasional missing values for each question, with 146 participants who reported “yes” and 57 who reported “unsure” responding to most follow-up questions. Those who reported “yes” are described here as having endorsed experiences of obsessional pursuit at Geneseo.
Rates of Same-Sex Pursuit. This analysis was conducted with the 141 participants who provided complete data regarding own sex and perpetrator sex. The one trans-identified student was not included in this analysis. About 93% of respondents who endorsed obsessional pursuit reported that their most recent experience involved a pursuer of the other sex. As shown in Table 3, about 21% of men but 3% of women endorsed same-sex pursuit.

Relationship with the Pursuer. This analysis was conducted with the 143 participants who endorsed obsessive pursuit behaviors at Geneseo and who indicated who had pursued them. The modal response was that the pursuer was a former dating or sexual partner (44%, n = 63). In descending order, others who most recently pursued students included acquaintances (18.2%, n = 26), friends (15.4%, n = 22), classmates (9.8%, n = 14), strangers (7.7%, n = 11), or a current dating or sexual partner (3.5%, n = 5). One student was pursed by a co-worker and another was pursued by someone unknown to them.

Duration and Frequency of Pursuit. One participant reported that she had been pursued for over 4 years. After she was removed from the data set, the average number of days was 84.20 (SD = 113.40, range 1 to 731 days). As shown in Table 11, the modal frequency of pursuit was “2-6 times a week,” which was reported by about 1/3 of all respondents who answered this question. The next most common response was “at least once daily,” which was reported by almost ¼ of all respondents who answered this question. The greatest frequency, “more than once daily” was reported by 15% of the sample. Women (n = 105) and men (n = 27) did not differ in reported duration or frequency of pursuit.

Level of Fear. This analysis was conducted with the 146 participants who said “yes” to the item about obsessive pursuit. About 44.5% (n = 65) reported that they were “slightly” afraid, 15.1% (n = 22) reported that they were “somewhat” afraid, and only 3.4% reported that they were either “very” (n = 4) or “extremely” (n = 1) afraid. About 37% (n = 54) reported that they were “not at all” afraid. Women (M = 0.96) reported greater average fear than men (M = 0.48), t(142) = 2.89, p < .02. In addition, age was positively associated with fear, r(144) = .17, p < .05, but not with class rank or years at Geneseo.

Demographic Correlates of Obsessional Pursuit at Geneseo

Table 10 shows that students who reported experiencing obsessional pursuit at Geneseo did not differ from other students in terms of age, year in school, or number of years on campus.

Behaviorally-Specific Pursuit Behaviors and Self-Identification of Stalking

About 8% (n = 84) of the sample self-identified as having “experienced stalking on campus or in the Geneseo community.” An additional 4.6% (n = 48) were “unsure”. Three participants did not respond to this question.

Frequency analyses were calculated to determine how many of the 147 students who endorsed the behaviorally-specific item about obsessional pursuit also self-identified as having experienced stalking. Only 29.9% (n = 44) of those who reported obsessional pursuit at Geneseo also self-identified as having been stalked. Another 12.2% (n = 18) who reported obsessional pursuit at Geneseo were “unsure” about whether they had been stalked. The majority of those who reported obsessional pursuit at Geneseo, 57.8% (n = 85) did not identify as having experienced stalking.

Chi-squared analyses were conducted within the sample of participants who endorsed pursuit and who responded to question about self-identification (n = 291) to explore potential sex differences in self-identification. Men and women did not differ in rates of self-identification of
being stalked, $X^2(2) = 1.75, ns$. Within the subsample of women and men who reported they experienced obsessional pursuit, 30.5% of women ($n = 36$) and 27.6% of men ($n = 8$) self-identified as having experienced stalking at Geneseo. An additional 12.7% of women and 10.3% of men were “unsure.”

**Rates of Reporting Obsessional Pursuit to SUNY Geneseo and Barriers to Reporting**

Rates of reporting to campus authorities were low. Of the 208 students who reported they either experienced or they were unsure about experiencing any obsessional pursuit at Geneseo, 4 students said that they reported to campus, and another 2 were unsure. Eight students did not answer this question. The specific campus offices contacted by these individuals, in descending order, were faculty member ($n = 6$), campus police ($n = 2$), dean of students ($n = 2$), residence life staff ($n = 2$), and the campus health center ($n = 1$). Overall, 97% of students who experienced obsessional pursuit did not tell any Geneseo personnel about their experiences. In addition, 91% of those who self-identified as experiencing stalking did not tell any Geneseo personnel. These data unequivocally suggest that stalking is severely underreported to the college.

About 197 students responded to questions about barriers to reporting obsessive pursuit experiences to campus authorities. The barriers are listed in Table 12. About half of participants indicated that the incident was a private matter that they handled themselves and/or that wasn’t a big deal. Regarding barriers specific to Geneseo, almost a third of students reported that their experience didn’t count as a reportable incident, and about one fifth reported that reporting is burdensome. Overall, however, barriers tended to be nonspecific to Geneseo policy or procedures.

**Why Students are “Unsure” About Obsessional Pursuit**

Exploratory analyses were conducted to compare the experiences of students who reported that they experienced obsessional pursuit with those who were “unsure” whether they did. No differences emerged regarding age, class, years at Geneseo, sex, sex of the pursuer, relationship with the pursuer, number of days of pursuit, or frequency of pursuit.

In contrast, differences were found regarding the number of pursuers, location of the pursuit, and level of fear evoked by the pursuit. More specifically, fewer participants who responded that they were “unsure” about experiencing obsessive pursuit reported multiple pursuers (12.2%) than participants who responded “yes” (32.1%), $X^2 (1) = 6.42, p < .02$. There also were significant differences in the location of the pursuit, $X^2(2) = 6.31, p < .05$. Of those who reported they were unsure if they experienced obsessive pursuit, 23.1% reported pursuit happened in person, 55.8% reported pursuit occurred remotely, and 21.2% reported pursuit occurred both in person and remotely. In contrast, of those who reported experiencing obsessive pursuit, 10.5% reported it occurred in person, 55.9% reported it occurred remotely, and 33.6% reported it occurred both in person and remotely. A greater proportion of unsure students experienced in person pursuit only, whereas others experienced both in person and remote forms of pursuit.

Finally, an independent samples t-test showed that participants who reported they were unsure whether they experienced obsessional pursuit were less fearful, on average ($M = 0.52$) than participants who reported they had experienced obsessional pursuit ($M = 0.56$), $t(202) = 2.76, p < .01$. In brief, students who were unsure about whether their experiences constituted obsessional pursuit were less likely than students who were certain to report multiple pursuers, to
Partner Physical Assault and Stalking at Geneseo

report experiencing remote forms of pursuit, and to report fear in response to the pursuit behaviors.

**Discussion**

*Physical Assault*

About 28% of the overall sample experienced some kind of behaviorally-specific partner physical assault at Geneseo. These rates are consistent with the 29% median rate of dating assault perpetrated by college students in the International Dating Violence Survey (Straus, 2004a). In the current sample, about 27% of the sample reported minor assault, whereas 10% reported severe assault. These rates are similar to those reported by Straus (2008), who found that 32% of women and 24% of men reported use of minor physical assault against a partner (sex not specified), and 11% of women and 8% of men reported use of severe physical assault.

The most common types of minor physical assault experienced by students at Geneseo involved being grabbed (21% of the sample) or pushed or shoved (14%). The most common types of severe assault were being punched or hit with something that could hurt and being slammed against a wall (4.5% reported each). The most common type of injury, reported by 3.5% of the sample, was sustaining a sprain, bruise, or cut. Based on the data available, about 75% of partner assaults among Geneseo students occurred within an ongoing relationship, with about 18% enacted by ex-partners.

Significant sex differences in experiences of partner physical assault emerged. Rates of any assault were higher among men (36%) than women (25%). Likewise, rates of any minor assault were higher among men (33%) than women (24%). These sex differences match with past research with heterosexual samples showing that minor assault is more commonly perpetrated toward men than toward women by men (Archer, 2000; Katz et al., 2002).

Unexpectedly, men in the current sample also were more likely than women to experience severe assault, with 19% of men and 7% of women reporting severe assault. Also unexpectedly, there were no sex differences in assault related injury (6% of both women and men). These findings diverge from Archer’s (2000) meta-analysis of heterosexual couples in which women were more likely than men to experience severe violence and injury. Because Archer did not study college students per se, rates of severe violence may be higher against women than men in longer term or marital relationships rather than college dating relationships. Most specific forms of severe violence (e.g., choking, use of weapons) likely to cause physical injury were infrequently endorsed, a common finding in college student samples (e.g., Katz et al., 2002). Furthermore, because Archer studied exclusively heterosexual relationships, differences between past and the current results could be due to the fact that men also were more likely than women to experience same-sex perpetration of physical assault. The current findings suggest that attention to physical assault experiences of all students, across all types of intimate relationships, is needed at Geneseo.

Beyond sex differences in assault experiences, there were no other demographic correlates of partner assault. More specifically, students who reported behaviorally-specific partner assault at Geneseo did not differ from students who did not report assault in terms of age, year on campus, or class rank. Furthermore, there were no sex differences in students’ self-identification as experiencing “dating violence.” Among those who reported one or more behaviorally specific incidents of assault, about 15% of women and 20% of men self-identified as having experienced dating violence.

Overall, about 6% of the sample self-identified as having experienced dating violence. Most students who reported one or more behaviorally-specific experiences of physical assault
did not identify as having experienced dating violence. More specifically, about 75% of those who reported minor assault, 64% of those who reported severe assault, and 59% of those who reported assault-related injury reported that they had not that they had experienced dating violence at Geneseo. Student comments minimizing their physical assault experiences (Appendix A) converge with past research on “joking violence” (Arriaga, 2002) to suggest that some assaults were interpreted as non-malicious. Likewise, although controlling and dominant behaviors were not concurrently assessed with physical assault in the current study, it seems likely that most of the assaults in the current study represented “situational couple violence” rather than “intimate terrorism” (Johnson, 2005, 2006).

Although one in three men and one in four women in the sample reported behaviorally-specific experiences, and although 6% of the sample overall self-identified as having experienced dating violence, only a single student reported an experience of partner physical assault to campus authorities. The most common barriers to reporting were viewing the assault as a private matter and minimization of the incident. Other barriers included the belief that the incident “doesn’t count” as a reportable incident, worry about getting the person in trouble, and discomfort with reporting process. These findings are consistent with past research showing that students are more likely to disclose sensitive experiences via anonymous surveys than to campus authorities (Orchowski et al., 2009). These findings also clearly suggest that physical assault by dating partners is under-reported to the college.

**Obsessional Pursuit/Stalking**

About 14% of the sample reported having at least one behaviorally-specific experience of obsessional pursuit. These rates are somewhat lower than rates based on past research with college samples (e.g., Cupach & Spitzberg, 2000), possibly because the operational definition in current study required repeated behavior that “seemed obsessive,” whereas other studies commonly use less stringent or specific criteria (e.g., Williams & Frieze, 2005). In a study of college women using the exact same assessment item, 13% of women had been stalked over the course of the previous academic year (Fisher et al., 2010). However, because the current study focused on a larger time frame (since starting college, at Geneseo) than the Fisher et al. study (since the start of the academic year), overall rates of obsessive pursuit seem somewhat lower at Geneseo than might otherwise be expected.

In other respects, student experiences at Geneseo more closely converge with past research on obsessive pursuit. The most common forms of pursuit among students at Geneseo were receiving online messages (56%), being telephoned (41%), having the pursuer show up uninvited (34%), and being watched from afar (28%). As in previous research by Fisher et al. (2010), most pursuit occurred in a way that was not physically visible to the targets. Regarding pursuit duration, the average number of days the pursuit lasted was 84, which is not dissimilar from the median number of 60 days reported by Fisher et al. Regarding pursuit frequency/intensity, the modal response was “two to six times a week,” which was reported by about a third of Geneseo students who reported experiencing obsessional pursuit. Again, this finding matches with Fisher et al., who also found that “two to six times a week” was the modal response (reported by 41%) of women who had been pursued in her sample.

The present survey findings about the location of obsessional pursuit and relationship with the pursuer are also consistent with Fisher et al. (2010). Most pursuit of college students occurs on campus. In the current study, only 22% of students reported being pursued “off campus only,” which is similar to Fisher et al.’s finding of 31%. Of note, although most pursuit
Partner Physical Assault and Stalking at Geneseo occurred remotely via online messages, these experiences most often were perceived by Geneseo students as occurring on campus. Regarding the target-pursuer relationship, in the current study, about 47% of those who experienced obsessional pursuit were pursued by a current or former dating or sexual partner. Similarly, in the Fisher et al. study, over 40% of pursuers were a partner or ex-partner. Although Fisher et al. found that 20% of pursuers were strangers, the current study showed that less than 8% of respondents were pursued by strangers. Possibly, this difference is due to the fact that participants in the current study responded to questions about only their most recent pursuit experience rather than all experiences; 24% of women and 31% of men reported multiple pursuers at Geneseo.

As expected, most students were not strongly fearful as a result of experiencing obsessional pursuit. The modal fear response, which was endorsed by 45% of those who reported experiences of obsessional pursuit, was “slightly” afraid. As such, most student experiences of obsessional would not qualify as stalking given the legal requirement of fear. Low fear responses are consistent with past research suggesting that youth, even those who have experienced violent victimization, are particularly unlikely to report feeling afraid or vulnerable due to an “optimistic bias” (Chapin & Coleman, 2012). Current findings about fear responses, in conjunction with the larger literature on adolescent perceptions of invulnerability, support the study of obsessional pursuit behaviors rather than stalking per se among youth.

Overall rates of being pursued among women (16%) and men (10%) did not significantly differ. A few significant sex differences in obsessional pursuit experiences did emerge, however. Women were more likely than men to receive online messages and to be followed than men. In contrast, men were more likely than women to report same-sex pursuit. Furthermore, men reported lower levels of fear than women in response to pursuit, a finding that converges with past research suggesting that men are particularly reticent to admit fear of a pursuit or to recognize risk (Fox et al., 2009; Sheridan & Lyndon, 2012; Thompson et al., 2012; Tjaden et al., 2000). Beyond sex differences in a few specific types of pursuit experiences, there were no other demographic correlates of obsessional pursuit. More specifically, students who reported behaviorally-specific obsessional pursuit at Geneseo did not differ from students who did not report being pursued in terms of age, year on campus, or class rank.

About 8% of the total sample identified as having experienced stalking on campus or in the Geneseo community, with an additional 5% as “unsure”. Only 30% of those who endorsed behaviorally-specific experiences of obsessional pursuit self-identified as having been stalked at Geneseo, with another 12% as unsure. There were no sex differences in self-identification of being stalked; 30% of women and 28% of men who reported behaviorally specific experiences of obsessional pursuit self-identified as having been stalked.

Only four students reported their experiences to Geneseo authorities -- most commonly, to faculty members. Two additional students were unsure whether they reported their experiences. The finding that 4% of students (may have) made official reports is much lower than expected given that Fisher et al. (2010) found that 17% of women who experienced pursuit reported it to either campus or local police. Possibly, college women are more likely than college men to report stalking to authorities, although this could not be explored in the current research given how few Geneseo students reported their experiences. In the current study, Geneseo faculty members were most likely to have been told about a pursuit experience. Education for faculty and staff about responding to such disclosures may be needed.

Regarding barriers to reporting, about half of participants in the current study indicated that the incident was a private matter that they handled themselves, almost a third reported that
their experience didn’t count as a reportable incident, and about one fifth reported that reporting is burdensome. These barriers are highly consistent with the barriers identified by Fisher et al. (2010). More generally, these barriers suggest a need for Geneseo policy to be more explicit about various IPV behaviors that violate the student code of conduct.

Some students were “unsure” about whether they experienced obsessional pursuit at Geneseo. Comparisons showed that students who were unsure about whether their experiences constituted obsessional pursuit were less likely than students who were certain to report multiple pursuers, to report experiencing remote forms of pursuit, and to report fear in response to the pursuit behaviors. No differences emerged regarding age, class, years at Geneseo, sex, sex of the pursuer, relationship with the pursuer, number of days of pursuit, or frequency of pursuit. These findings have implications for awareness programming on our campus.

**Limitations and General Implications**

Possible limitations of this survey should be acknowledged. Not all students at Geneseo participated. With a sample size of 1049, however, if we consider that Geneseo enrolls roughly 5000 full-time students, about one fifth of the student body responded. Not all students may have been represented. About 70% of the sample was female. Although we have more female than male students on campus, this is a bigger gender gap than would be expected based on enrollments alone. Of note, similar patterns have been observed in multiple prior studies on our own campus (e.g., in the fall 2009 campus-wide survey of student scheduling preferences at Geneseo, the spring 2010 campus wide survey of sexual assault). Compared to their male counterparts, female students at Geneseo are more likely to complete surveys.

We did not assess race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other demographic variables that could be helpful in identifying students at risk for IPV. Although this would be useful information, assessing these characteristics could compromise the anonymity of minority students. We also did not assess other forms of IPV such as emotional abuse that would allow us to differentiate between “intimate terrorism” and other forms of couple violence, and we did not assess the social or emotional consequences of either partner physical assault or obsessional pursuit. In addition, including these questions, however, would increase the length of the survey (and thus decrease response rates).

Estimates of IPV on our campus may have been subject to error. Currently dating students may have been more likely than other students to participate in our study of “College Students’ Experiences with Romantic/Dating Conflict.” However, this description would not otherwise appear to disproportionately attract targets of IPV. In addition, this survey may underestimate IPV at Geneseo because several students described experiences not captured by our behaviorally-specific items. In addition, it is possible that some individuals who did experience IPV were unsettled by the questions and so did not complete the survey, submit their responses, or both. Students who left 50% or more of the survey blank were not included in the sample. In addition, students who marked prefer not to answer were not included in estimated rates of IPV, although it is likely that at least some of those students were, in fact, targets of physical assault or obsessional pursuit. The high level of convergence between our findings and from past studies, as described throughout the discussion section, is also encouraging.

These limitations notwithstanding, the current results suggest the need for campus-wide efforts to enhance student awareness of different forms of IPV on campus. Primary prevention programs focused on campus safety may help students to better differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate methods for managing conflict with a dating or romantic partner. Under-
reporting also suggests that many students do not believe that incidents of physical assault and obsessional pursuit/stalking violate our current student code of conduct. We should carefully consider our policies and procedures related to all forms of interpersonal violence in our community. With greater attention to the problem of IPV at Geneseo, we can improve the safety and well-being of all of our students.
References


Table 1

*Sample Characteristics (N = 1049)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>%</th>
<th>n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer/left blank</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer/left blank</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year at Geneseo</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left blank</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2

*Overall Prevalence and Sex Differences in Any and Each Type of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>$p$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>($N = 1041^a$)</td>
<td>($n = 754$)</td>
<td>($n = 287$)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any physical assault (% yes, $n$)</td>
<td>28.2 (294)</td>
<td>25.3 (191)</td>
<td>35.9 (103)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any minor assault</td>
<td>26.6 (277)</td>
<td>24.3 (183)</td>
<td>32.8 (94)</td>
<td>.006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any severe assault</td>
<td>10.5 (109)</td>
<td>7.2 (54)</td>
<td>19.2 (55)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any assault-related injury</td>
<td>5.8 (60)</td>
<td>5.8 (44)</td>
<td>5.6 (16)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any obsessional pursuit/stalking</td>
<td>14.2 (147)</td>
<td>15.8 (118)</td>
<td>10.2 (29)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: $^a$ Excludes students who didn’t indicate their sex ($n = 7$) and the one trans-identified student ($n = 1$); rates are slightly underestimated because the trans student and three of the students who did not indicate their sex endorsed CTS2 dating violence but are not represented above; comparisons with $p$ values of less than .05 reflect that a greater proportion of men than women students reported any assault, any minor assault, and any severe assault.
Table 3

Sex Differences in Rates of Same-Sex Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviorally Specific Physical Assault Report on the CTS2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any Assault ( (n = 83) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men (%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ X^2(1) = 3.91^{***} \quad 3.46^{+} \quad 4.42^{*} \quad 10.90^{**} \]

Notes: Table entries reflect percentages of students within each column category (who experienced any assault, any minor assault, or any severe assault) who report same-sex perpetration. Injury was not included due to small sample sizes. Sample sizes for physical assault are reduced after excluding students who reported behaviorally specific experiences but did not respond to questions about either perpetrator sex \( (n = 212) \) or own sex \( (n = 7) \). Similarly, sample sizes for obsessional pursuit/stalking are reduced because some reported behaviorally specific experiences but did not respond to questions about perpetrator sex \( (n = 6) \) or own sex \( (n = 1) \). The one trans-identified student also reported both physical assault and obsessional pursuit but was not included above. Significant chi-squared values reflect that same-sex perpetration was more commonly reported by men than women respondents within each subgroup; \[ + p = .06, \quad ^{*} p < .05, \quad ^{**} p < .01, \quad ^{***} p < .001. \]
Table 4

*Prevalence and Sex Differences in Each Physical Assault Behavior & Injury Type*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall (N = 1041&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;)</th>
<th>Women (n = 754)</th>
<th>Men (n = 287)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Any Minor Assault</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o grabbed you (%) n</td>
<td>20.9 (218)</td>
<td>21.1 (159)</td>
<td>20.6 (59)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o pushed or shoved you</td>
<td>13.8 (144)</td>
<td>10.3 (78)</td>
<td>23.0 (66)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o slapped you</td>
<td>6.6 (69)</td>
<td>2.8 (21)</td>
<td>16.7 (84)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o twisted your arm or hair</td>
<td>6.2 (65)</td>
<td>6.2 (47)</td>
<td>6.3 (18)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o threw something at you that could hurt</td>
<td>5.5 (57)</td>
<td>4.2 (32)</td>
<td>8.7 (25)</td>
<td>.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Any Severe Assault</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o punched or hit you with something that could hurt</td>
<td>4.5 (47)</td>
<td>2.1 (16)</td>
<td>10.8 (31)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o slammed you against a wall</td>
<td>4.5 (47)</td>
<td>4.0 (30)</td>
<td>5.9 (17)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o kicked you</td>
<td>3.0 (31)</td>
<td>0.4 (3)</td>
<td>9.8 (28)</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o choked you</td>
<td>2.5 (26)</td>
<td>2.5 (19)</td>
<td>2.4 (7)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o beat you up</td>
<td>0.6 (6)</td>
<td>0.3 (2)</td>
<td>1.4 (4)</td>
<td>.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o used a knife or gun on you</td>
<td>0.5 (5)</td>
<td>0.3 (2)</td>
<td>1.0 (3)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o burned or scalded you on purpose</td>
<td>0.2 (2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.7 (2)</td>
<td>.022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Any Assault-Related Injury</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o sprain, bruise, or small cut</td>
<td>3.5 (36)</td>
<td>3.9 (29)</td>
<td>2.5 (7)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o felt physical pain that still hurt the next day</td>
<td>2.9 (30)</td>
<td>2.8 (21)</td>
<td>3.2 (9)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o needed to see a doctor</td>
<td>1.1 (11)</td>
<td>0.9 (7)</td>
<td>1.4 (4)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o went to a doctor</td>
<td>0.7 (7)</td>
<td>0.8 (6)</td>
<td>0.3 (1)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o passed out from being hit on the head</td>
<td>0.6 (6)</td>
<td>0.7 (5)</td>
<td>0.4 (1)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o had a broken bone</td>
<td>0.6 (6)</td>
<td>0.5 (4)</td>
<td>0.7 (2)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Notes:* <sup>a</sup> Excludes students who didn’t indicate their sex (n = 14) and trans-identified students (n = 4); comparisons with p values of less than .05 reflect significant differences in rates between women and men students, with a greater proportion of men victimization.
Table 5  
Demographics of Those Who Reported Behaviorally-Specific Partner Physical Assault

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class rank</th>
<th>Entire Sample (N = 1407)</th>
<th>Physical Assault at Geneseo (N = 297)</th>
<th>Physical Assault at Geneseo (n = 751)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year on campus (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth or more</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (M, SD)</td>
<td>20.11 (1.64)</td>
<td>20.29 (1.46)</td>
<td>20.19 (1.54)</td>
<td>ns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6

*Behaviorally-Specific Experiences of Physical Assault and Self-Identified Dating Violence*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have you ever experienced dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>76.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to behaviorally specific items (CTS2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any physical assault (n = 290)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor physical assault (n = 277)</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>76.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe physical assault (n = 109)</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>63.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault-related injury (n = 59)</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>58.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Notes:* Percentages are based on the proportion of students within each row. Subsample sizes are included because 6 students did not respond to the question about experiencing dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community and thus could not be included.
Table 7

**Perceived Barriers to Reporting Physical Assault to Campus Personnel (n = 79)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers nonspecific to Geneseo policy or personnel</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Definitely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I handled it myself/it’s a private matter</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>31.7</td>
<td>61.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It wasn’t a big deal</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>54.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn’t want to</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn’t know it was something to tell</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It was my own fault</td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>31.7</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt shame/fear/embarrassment/unsupported</td>
<td>75.9</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers related to how incidents are handled at Geneseo</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Definitely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My experience doesn’t “count” as reportable</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>31.7</td>
<td>37.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’d get the person into trouble</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting is uncomfortable</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting is burdensome</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/timing made reporting hard</td>
<td>59.0</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’d get myself into trouble</td>
<td>67.5</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t have proof/may not be believed</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting is ineffective</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Table entries reflect percentages of participants who reported that each item was not at all, somewhat, or definitely a barrier to reporting a behaviorally-specific experience of partner physical assault to campus authorities.*
Table 8

Different Types of Pursuit Behaviors Experienced

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Obsessive Pursuit</th>
<th>Unsure if Obs. Pursuit</th>
<th>Self-Identified as Stalked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(N = 1049)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(n = 149)</td>
<td>(n = 59)</td>
<td>(n = 84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texted you (%, n)</td>
<td>14.0 (147)</td>
<td>76.5 (114)</td>
<td>55.9 (33)</td>
<td>45.2 (38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent email or other online messages</td>
<td>9.3 (98)</td>
<td>56.4 (84)</td>
<td>23.7 (14)</td>
<td>34.5 (29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephoned you</td>
<td>7.3 (77)</td>
<td>40.9 (61)</td>
<td>27.1 (16)</td>
<td>26.2 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showed up uninvited</td>
<td>5.9 (62)</td>
<td>33.6 (50)</td>
<td>20.3 (12)</td>
<td>29.8 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watched from afar</td>
<td>5.6 (59)</td>
<td>27.5 (41)</td>
<td>30.5 (18)</td>
<td>33.3 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Followed you</td>
<td>4.5 (47)</td>
<td>24.8 (37)</td>
<td>16.9 (10)</td>
<td>27.4 (23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent letters</td>
<td>1.4 (15)</td>
<td>8.7 (13)</td>
<td>3.4 (2)</td>
<td>7.1 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.7 (7)</td>
<td>3.4 (5)</td>
<td>3.4 (2)</td>
<td>3.6 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent gifts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Percentages in each column are based upon subgroups identified as column headers; those in the obsessive pursuit column responded “yes” to the behaviorally specific question about being pursued, those in the unsure column responded that they were “unsure,” and those in the self-identified as stalked column responded “yes” when asked if they had been stalked at Geneseo. Totals may exceed 100% because respondents selected all pursuit behaviors that they experienced.
Table 9

Sex Differences in Types of Pursuit Behaviors Experienced

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Total (n = 1041)</th>
<th>Women (n = 754)</th>
<th>Men (n = 287)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texted you (%, n)</td>
<td>13.8 (144)</td>
<td>15.1 (114)</td>
<td>10.5 (30)</td>
<td>.05*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent email or other online messages</td>
<td>9.3 (97)</td>
<td>10.6 (80)</td>
<td>5.9 (17)</td>
<td>.02*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephoned you</td>
<td>7.3 (76)</td>
<td>8.1 (61)</td>
<td>5.2 (15)</td>
<td>.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showed up uninvited</td>
<td>5.9 (61)</td>
<td>6.5 (49)</td>
<td>4.2 (12)</td>
<td>.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watched from afar</td>
<td>5.5 (57)</td>
<td>5.7 (43)</td>
<td>4.9 (14)</td>
<td>.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Followed you</td>
<td>4.3 (45)</td>
<td>5.2 (39)</td>
<td>2.1 (6)</td>
<td>.03*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent letters</td>
<td>1.4 (13)</td>
<td>1.7 (13)</td>
<td>0.7 (2)</td>
<td>.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.7 (7)</td>
<td>0.9 (7)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent gifts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Percentages in each column are based upon subgroups identified as column headers, excluding one trans-identified student and seven students who did not report their own sex; p values of less than .05 signify sex differences in pursuit experiences, with a greater proportion of women than men reporting each type of specific pursuit, + p = .05, * p < .05
Table 10

Demographics of Those Who Endorsed Behaviorally-Specific Obsessional Pursuit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class rank</th>
<th>Entire Sample (N = 1407)</th>
<th>Obsessional Pursuit at Geneseo</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes (n = 148)</td>
<td>Unsure (n = 59)</td>
<td>No (n = 833)</td>
<td>p</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class rank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad Student</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year on campus (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>3021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth or more</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (M, SD)</td>
<td>20.11 (1.64)</td>
<td>20.34 (1.54)</td>
<td>20.27 (1.46)</td>
<td>20.19 (1.53)</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 11

**Frequency/Intensity of Pursuit Behaviors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total ($N = 190$)</th>
<th>Obsessive Pursuit ($n = 143$)</th>
<th>Unsure if Obs. Pursuit ($n = 47$)</th>
<th>Self-Identified as Stalked ($n = 49$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than once daily</td>
<td>15.3 (29)</td>
<td>16.1 (23)</td>
<td>12.8 (6)</td>
<td>14.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least once daily</td>
<td>23.7 (45)</td>
<td>21.7 (31)</td>
<td>29.8 (14)</td>
<td>26.5 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two to six times a week</td>
<td>33.2 (63)</td>
<td>36.4 (52)</td>
<td>23.4 (11)</td>
<td>34.7 (17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once a week</td>
<td>13.2 (25)</td>
<td>11.9 (17)</td>
<td>17.0 (8)</td>
<td>10.2 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or three times a month</td>
<td>9.5 (18)</td>
<td>9.8 (14)</td>
<td>8.5 (4)</td>
<td>8.2 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than twice a month</td>
<td>5.3 (10)</td>
<td>4.2 (6)</td>
<td>8.5 (4)</td>
<td>6.1 (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Notes: *Percentages in each column are based upon subgroups identified as column headers; those in the obsessive pursuit column responded “yes” to the behaviorally specific question about being pursued, those in the unsure column responded that they were “unsure,” and those in the self-identified as stalked column responded “yes” when asked if they had been stalked at Geneseo. Totals exceed 100% because respondents selected all behaviors that applied; Column totals are reduced due to occasional missing data.
Table 12

*Perceived Barriers to Reporting Obsessional Pursuit/Stalking to Campus Personnel (n = 197)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers nonspecific to Geneseo policy or personnel</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Definitely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I handled it myself/it’s a private matter</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>53.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It wasn’t a big deal</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td>42.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn’t want to</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn’t know it was something to tell</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt shame/fear/embarrassment/unsupported</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It was my own fault</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers related to how incidents are handled at Geneseo</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Definitely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My experience doesn’t “count” as reportable</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting is burdensome</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’d get the person into trouble</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/timing made reporting hard</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting is ineffective</td>
<td>57.9</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t have proof/may not be believed</td>
<td>63.1</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’d get myself into trouble</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* Table entries reflect percentages of participants who reported that each item was *not at all*, *somewhat*, or *definitely* a barrier to reporting a behaviorally-specific experience of obsessional pursuit to campus authorities.
Appendix A

Responses to “Optional – please feel free to leave whatever comments you wish about this survey or topic here” (comments are verbatim; post-hoc categories generated by the author)

**Criticisms of the Survey**

- Try to make more sensitive questions.
- You didn't include anything about rape, which I feel is a form of violence.
- The survey assumed that something happened first off, which is gonna skew statistics.
- I think verbal and emotional abuse should also be surveyed as it is also an important issue.
- This survey did not evaluate emotional/mental dating abuse. This should be studied. I've been in an abusive relationship at Geneseo, but most of the "symptoms" of it were not evaluated in this survey.
- The questions about seeing a doctor don't allow for people who have not been physically abused.
- "Students face many barriers to reporting to campus authorities. To what degree was each of the following *a reason for not making an official report to someone on campus* about this/these incident(s)?" This wording is a bit hard to follow and to understand, maybe change the wording so it makes more sense when applying it to the questions that follow.
- Great survey, quick and concise! One typo: "scaled" rather than scalded on the: "has your partner ever burned or..." question, hope that helps!
- I was stalked at work but I work on Long Island. I think that these questions were used to put Geneseo in a better light, but this happens everywhere, on and off the Geneseo campus. Just because stalking doesn't happen on the geneseo Campus doesn't mean it doesn't happen at all- which is what this survey is sort of saying.
- Burned or SCALDED (spelling error)
- To make your information more reliable, I believe you should have answers that include "does not have a sexual partner" etc.
- I fear that this survey will greatly inflate the statistics for dating violence because in some instances, violence is not a show of malice or wrath, but simply an expressive response as part of communication between partners. If one partner says something that legitimately offends the other, a slap may be an appropriate response. It results in about one second of mild pain, it's a very rapid expression of taking offense, and the couple can laugh about it five minutes later after discussing what prompted it. Enforcing the same zero-tolerance standard on everyone is a poor policy, because it endangers those who are mature enough not to use violence in a damaging way.
- I feel like there should have been a separate set of the same questions but for not at Geneseo, to get a comparison; my answers would have been very different. Also, I feel like questions on sexual violence or coercion should have been included.
- Although I have never been hit, smacked, beat up, kicked, punched or anything of the like, I have slapped someone across the face. He was my romantic interest and was saying some very insulting things -- I slapped him across the face without really thinking. Perhaps this survey should also include any violence here at Geneseo and not just violence from someone else. Just a thought.
- This survey doesn't include options for voluntary violence or knife play.
- This survey also excluded emotional abuse-- perhaps that was intentional. I think emotional abuse is much harder to identify because it can be subtle and sporadic.
• I'm not sure if it pertains to your topic of interest, but it may help to consider threats as well as actual physical harm
• It may be more helpful to ask Geneseo students whether or not they may have ever engaged in these activities themselves rather than have been on the receiving end of the abuse. Those findings may be helpful as well.
• I think most of this didn't apply because I am in a relationship that is not on campus.

Description of Friends’ or Others’ Experiences
• One of my best friends was stalked for months and months by her ex boyfriend and also emotionally and sometimes physically abused. Twisting arm and hair pulling stuff. He's gone now because she's abroad.
• In my experience I have not encountered much in the ways of violent dating, or dating-like activities. In a relatively isolated incident I became familiar with this type of conflict through a friend of mine. However, I have had no such issues with dating.
• I am in a healthy relationship, but I do hear an astonishing number of stories of people being sexually and physically abused for such a small and safe-seeming campus.
• Although I have never experienced dating violence. I know a few other people on campus who have. I think there could definitely be a bit more publicity about stopping these kinds of things.
• I witnessed dating violence but was not personally involved.
• Nothing has ever happened to me personally but I have heard about it happening but it wasn't someone I knew more like a friend of a friend.
• Sometimes girls feel like they don't want to report because they either feel they instigated the incident or they returned the violence in a way that would make the incident "unreportable".
• Any time I have been a third party witness to dating violence and stalking on this campus it has been at the hands of the male counterpart of a heterosexual couple. The women were either beaten or stalked.
• I feel very safe, but I feel that many individuals struggle with these issues and don't report them and more awareness is needed in Geneseo about these issues.
• Just today I overheard a serious conversation that went like this, "I am not saying what we did wasn't awful or rape but at the time..."
• I witnessed one unpleasant interaction between a couple. It was a late weekend night. I did not see any physical violence, only aggressive verbal interaction coming mostly from the 1 and directed at the male.
• For the question "Have you ever experienced stalking on campus.." I put unsure just because I have not personally been stalked but my roommate Freshman year was stalked by an ex-boyfriend. If the experience is meant to be personal, this answer can be disregarded.
• I've never experienced stalking but a friend has in a somewhat mild case
• I have seen people of one gender behave aggressively towards that of the opposite gender. But the two were just friends, not romantically involved.
• I've had a friend that was harassed / stalked freshman year
• I have never been a victim of sexual assault or stalking, but I have had more than one friend deal with both of these problems.
• Though I have not suffered or been in involved in personally with any of the things listed here, I do know several people who have had to deal with potential obsessive stalkers.
Description of Geneseo
- I feel very safe here at Geneseo.
- Geneseo is a fairly safe community and I believe that such actions or events that occur are rare and minimum.
- I have never seen, heard, or heard about anything like this happening at Geneseo.

Description of Personal Experiences with Relationships
- I have never experienced any one of these, but feel awful for people who may have!
- Have never encountered any of these things
- I have heard of relationship violence and stalking in Geneseo before, but I have never experienced either of these things.
- While I have not been involved in a romantic/sexual relationship with anyone who attends Geneseo, only with men from other schools.
- Well, for starters, it is difficult to even engage in a relationship here— from pointless drama to being pushed away if you are too forward, it has been very hard for me to get into a relationship in the first place here. The drama, especially group and hall/dorm drama, is the worst of this. It is difficult to even imagine having what could be called a "healthy" relationship with anyone because high-school-esque drama is all over the place here. This brings down your confidence, probably even self-esteem I can imagine, and you don't even try to make a move at all. All I'm saying is the college mentality that getting drunk makes you more "available" and the drama when you're sober is obnoxious and petty. That's pretty much it, not to overtly generalize everyone's experiences here.
- Only had one significant other during time at Geneseo
- I've never been romantically involved with anyone associated with Geneseo.
- I really haven't dated that much, so this survey is pretty irrelevant to me
- Although I answered no to all of these questions, I believe it mostly has to do with the fact that I've been in a healthy, committed relationship for the vast majority I've been at Geneseo. If I had had several partners or frequently interacted with men at parties, I feel like I'd have an increased risk of being hurt by a partner.
- I've never been romantically involved (haven't dated, had physical relations with, etc) with anyone during my time at geneseo
- I just find it a bit funny that my answers were "no" to pretty much all the questions
- I never dated or saw someone regularly on campus, which might make me an outlier in your research.

Lottery
- Please let me win
- Pick me I need $$$
- mr22 is my email.

Minimizing/Defensive Response to the Survey
- Most of the dating violence I've experienced at Geneseo was after nights of drinking. All of it was minimal, containable, and affected my close friends.
• Violence was not very aggressive. Was either playful or out of nonsensical anger.
• The person I was referring to did not exhibit obsessive behaviors - but I felt like I should put it in, because it was something. He would just wait for me after class every day, and I would randomly see him staring at me. But it was never that big of a problem - he asked for my number and I didn't give it to him, and that was that. After that, he never game me any problems.
• Any "violence" that I have personally experienced or witnessed has always been somewhat playful, i.e. being punched in the arm while fooling around, or wrestling with a partner, as opposed to violence to intentionally harm someone.
• Choking was consensual.
• The only reason I said yes to the slapping thing is kind of a joke. That's just something we did for a while, I don't really know how to explain it. I slapped him back, if that means anything!
• About my comments that were yes, that was with agreement, it did not hurt, it was more part of the game.
• Honestly, it was more playful than anything...still, she did bruise me quite a bit.
• The shoving/kicking bit that I responded positively to are not serious. My girlfriend and I have a tendency to playfully shove one another around when we walk. The kicking bit is also not serious; if I say something off color, she has a tendency to kick my shin under the table. Our relationship is not malicious, but I figured that I would respond as honestly as I could to the aforementioned survey.

Miscellaneous
• Scary
• I met my future husband at Geneseo and we are getting married this summer :)
• I would, in fact, step up to help if I saw something this inappropriate going on at Geneseo
• I was wondering how big an issue the topics asked by this survey are at Geneseo and if there was anything I could do as a concerned student to help those affected or in their prevention
• What did you hope to accomplish with this survey?
• N/A
• I'd kick anyone's butt who tried.

My Experiences Not Included
• I have had a partner threaten to physically harm me but not follow through with it.
• I have had an obsessive ex-partner, but he didn't go to Geneseo so I put "no". It was during my time at Geneseo, but he was from my hometown. I wasn't sure if that qualified.
• I was once talking with a guy who yelled at me about something that was never my fault and it made me a little nervous but he never got physically violent.
• I know that this was more about abuse, but there is some sexual (verbal) harassment on campus. Last semester some boys in a car driving past me had a phone out (taking a picture or video) and called out to me "damn girl, look at them big ol' titties". I didn't feel threatened mostly due to the fact that they were in the process of driving by and did not stop or get too close, but I do feel that there are a few issues on campus that should be addressed.
• The incident which I experienced had been with an ex-boyfriend that goes to a different school.
• I haven't experienced any physical violence, but definitely emotional abuse from a partner. From being cheated on to being manipulated to being entirely abandoned alone in a foreign country when a boyfriend was supposed to meet me there, it was definitely emotionally traumatizing.
Boys at Geneseo need to be taught how to treat people like human beings, both in the physical sense and the emotional sense. I think this emotional type of trauma is less perceptible but can be equally scarring for someone in a relationship that she thought was founded on trust and respect.

- The person who bothered me was not a Geneseo student, but I was a student living on campus at the time.
- The only sketchy behavior that has happened to me is dancing at the IB one guy kept asking me to dance and when I said no for a fifth time he started yelling at me and scaring me. Luckily one of my guy friends was near me so he just walked away.

**Praise/Support for the Survey**

- This is an important survey. I think an important question to ask in addition is if any of this violence was reported. The systems in place are quite helpful but I feel as though they are underutilized
- Wasn't offensive at all! Good luck with your projects!
- Good that you guys are conducting surveys like this
- This survey is really helpful for those who may be unsure about whether or not they may be domestically abused by their partners.
- This is a very important topic! Thanks for asking
- Very detailed and thorough
- A well done survey
- I think this is very important research. Good luck!
- Best of luck collecting data - our school has incredible resources for sexual assault incidents because students and Dr. Katz are so proactive!
- I think the purpose of this survey is very critical to further improving the safety on campus and progressing towards a violence-free community.
- Glad that you are doing this, nothing happened to me but this is important for anyone that it did happen to
- Simple, Fast, Good
- It was a good survey. I hope the answers help the school better prepare and appropriately respond to acts of violence, assault (sexual, physical or otherwise), and harm in general.
Appendix B

**ANONYMOUS SURVEY** (bold text was presented to ALL participants, regardless of their patterns of responses. Non-bold text was presented only to those who report having experiences of dating conflict so we can better understand these experiences)

The following questions are extremely personal and some potentially upsetting. You may skip any items you do not wish to answer without penalty. You may also withdraw your participation at any time. Information about free phone support services is provided at the end of the survey.
Please ensure you’re in a private location before beginning the survey.

For each of the following items, indicate how often, if ever, these experiences have happened to you specifically since starting college at Geneseo.

Please include only incidents that occurred at Geneseo. That is, include experiences either on or off campus or involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community.

Please do NOT include other incidents, e.g., those at home or at another college.

*Since starting college, at Geneseo, how many times has a person who was romantically or sexually interested in you, during some kind of disagreement*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 = never</th>
<th>1 = Once</th>
<th>2 = Twice</th>
<th>3 = 3-5 times</th>
<th>4 = 6-10 times</th>
<th>5 = 11-20 times</th>
<th>6 = More than 20 times</th>
<th>99 - Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- threw something at you that could hurt
- twisted your arm or hair
- pushed or shoved you
- grabbed you
- slapped you
- kicked you
- used a knife or gun on you
- punched or hit you with something that could hurt
- choked you
- slammed you against a wall
- beat you up
- burned or scalded you on purpose

The following questions pertain to any person or persons who’ve displayed any romantic/sexual interest in you. The term “partner” refers to any romantic or sexually intimate relationship partner -- long-term or short-term, formal or casual, public or private, serious or not.

*Since starting college, at Geneseo, ____________ Yes  No  Unsure  Prefer not to say*
- I needed to see a doctor because of a fight with a partner, but I didn’t
- I had a sprain, bruise, or small cut because of a fight with a partner
- I felt physical pain that still hurt the next day because of a fight with a partner
- I passed out from being hit on the head by a partner
- I went to a doctor because of a fight with a partner
- I had a broken bone from a fight with my partner

Did any of these experiences happen to you one or more times?  Yes  No  Unsure

*(If no, skip to ********next bolded section)*

*(If yes or unsure):*
Did you experience any of these situations while in an ongoing romantic or sexual relationship with the person?  
Yes  No  Unsure

Did you experience any of these situations after an ongoing romantic or sexual relationship with the person ended?  
Yes  No  Unsure

What was the sex of the person or persons who did these things?  
Female only  Male only  Both female and male  Prefer not to answer

Who did you tell about what happened? If more than one experience happened, please mark all the people you told about any of them. Please mark all that apply  
No one  Roommate  Close friend other than roommate  Romantic partner  Parent or guardian  Other family member  Residence hall staff  Dean of students/judicial affairs  On campus health center  Off campus health or medical professional  Faculty member  Campus police/UPD  Other Geneseo staff member  Other police  Other

Did you report the incident(s) to any campus authorities?  Yes  No  Unsure  Prefer not to say

Students face many barriers to reporting to campus authorities. To what degree was each of the following a reason for not making an official report to someone on campus about these experiences? *(not at all, somewhat, definitely)*  
I didn’t have proof/may not be believed  Reporting is ineffective  Reporting is burdensome  Location/timing of the incident made reporting difficult  Reporting is uncomfortable  I’d get the person into trouble  I’d get myself into trouble  My experience doesn’t “count” as a reportable incident  It wasn’t a big deal  I handled it myself/it’s a private matter  I felt shame/fear/embarrassment/unsupported  I didn’t know it was something to tell  It was my fault  I didn’t want to tell
Now we want to ask about a different type of experience. Only consider experiences since you started college at Geneseo. That is, include experiences either on or off campus or involving others affiliated with the Geneseo community.

Has anyone – from a stranger to an ex-partner – repeatedly followed you, watched you, phoned, written, e-mailed, or communicated with you in other ways that seemed obsessive?

Yes  No  Unsure  Prefer not to say

(If no, skip to "demographic items in next bolded section")

(If yes or unsure).

how many people exhibited this type of behavior toward you since you started college at Geneseo? ______

Please consider only the most RECENT experience you’ve had with a person’s obsessive behavior toward you

How afraid or concerned did you feel for your safety?

Not at all  Slightly  Somewhat  Very  Extremely

What form did this person’s obsessive behavior take? Mark all that apply.

Telephoned you
Texted you
Watched from afar
Followed you
Sent letters
Sent emails or other online messages
Sent gifts
Showed up uninvited
Other (specify)
Prefer not to say

For how long did this obsessive behavior last (estimated number of days from start to end)? ________________

During the period when this happened, how often did this obsessive behavior occur?

More than once daily
At least once daily
2-6 times per week
Once a week
2-3 times a month
Less than 2 times a month
Other
Prefer not to say

Where did this obsessive behavior take place?

In person (e.g., followed me, left me notes)
Remotely, via phone, online, or other electronic
Both in person and remotely (phone/online/electronically)
Prefer not to say

If in person,

Please specify further where this behavior took place

On campus only
Off campus only
Both on and off campus
Prefer not to say
How did you know the person who showed this obsessive behavior? The person was (consider your relationship at the time of the obsessive behavior)

- current dating or sexual partner
- previous/former dating or sexual partner
- Friend
- Classmate
- Acquaintance
- Co-worker
- Geneseo Faculty member
- Geneseo Staff member
- Employer/supervisor
- Relative
- stranger
- Prefer not to say

What was the gender of person who did these things?

- Female only
- Male only
- Prefer not to say

Regarding this most recent experience with someone’s obsessive behaviors, who did you tell about what happened? If more than one experience happened, please mark all the people you told about any of them. Please mark all that apply

- No one
- Roommate
- Close friend other than roommate
- Romantic partner
- Parent or guardian
- Other family member
- Residence hall staff
- Dean of students/judicial affairs
- On campus health center
- Off campus health or medical professional
- Faculty member
- Campus police/UPD
- Other Geneseo staff member
- Other police
- Other

Did you report this incident to any campus authorities?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students face many barriers to reporting to campus personnel. To what degree was each of the following a reason for not making an official report to someone on campus about these experiences? (not at all, somewhat, definitely)

- I didn’t have proof/may not be believed
- Reporting is ineffective
- Reporting is burdensome
- Location/timing made reporting hard
- Reporting is uncomfortable
- I’d get the person into trouble
- I’d get myself into trouble
- My experience doesn’t “count” as a reportable incident
- It wasn’t a big deal
- I handled it myself/it’s a private matter
I felt shame/fear/embarrassment/unsupported
I didn’t know it was something to tell
It was my fault
I didn’t want to tell

If you’ve had more than one incident of obsessive behavior at Geneseo, who did you tell about any of these incidents? Please mark all the people you told about any episodes before the most recent one. Please mark all that apply

Not counting the most recent incident(s) of obsessive behavior you've already addressed, who did you tell about any other incidents at Geneseo?

Not applicable – only had one person exhibit obsessive behavior
No one
Roommate
Close friend other than roommate
Romantic partner
Parent or guardian
Other family member
Residence hall staff
Dean of students/judicial affairs
On campus health center
Off campus health or medical professional
Faculty member
Campus police/UPD
Other Geneseo staff member
Other police
Other

My gender:

My age (in years):

My class  (choices: freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, or grad student)

This is my ________ year enrolled at Geneseo (this refers to time at Geneseo, not class rank)

Have you ever experienced dating violence on campus or in the Geneseo community?

Yes  No  Unsure

Have you ever experienced stalking on campus or in the Geneseo community?

Yes  No  Unsure

Optional – please feel free to leave whatever comments you wish about this survey or topic here

If you or someone you know needs help dealing with dating or romantic conflicts, the following resources might be of help.

For information about domestic violence, including emergency safety services and a 24 hour hotline, go to www.chancesandchanges.org

For information on cyberstalking or cyberbullying, see http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/telecom/cyberstalking-and-cyberharassment-laws.aspx

To talk with a trained non-professional peer advocate, contact Pathways from 8 pm to 8 am at
585-237-8860 (www.geneseo.edu/pathways)

To talk with a professional psychologist or counselor, contact Counseling Services at 585-245-5716 /www.geneseo.edu/health/counseling_services_home

LOTTERY:
Thank you for your participation in the study. If you're interested in being entered into a lottery to win one of 6 of $100.00 cash prizes, please email sunygenresearch@gmail.com with your name, phone number, and the identification code 104076, which verifies that you have been a participant in our survey. Participation in the raffle will remain completely anonymous. That is, your name will not be linked to your responses to the questions. You can only enter the lottery one time. We expect to contact raffle winners by the end of June.