A Case Study on Legal Evidence of Tech-Facilitated Abuse in Wisconsin

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1 in 4 1 in 3 women men experience intimate partner abuse in their lifetime [1]

[1] National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), 2022.

63% of survivors experience surveillance or harassment involving **technology** [2]

[2] Messing et al., J Fam Viol **35**, 693–704 (2020).

* Icons from flaticon. Evidence by Iconjam; Question mark and lawyer by Freepik; Policeman by Trazobanana

Survivors of technology-facilitated abuse seek legal recourse



Restraining orders for physical & digital protection

A qualitative case study with 19 Wisconsin legal professionals



Preliminary findings



Evidence is often **printed photos** or testimony showing harassment



Usefulness of evidence depends heavily on a judge's interpretation





Divorce for safer child custody & placement



Criminal charges for actions like stalking & distributing NCII

How do survivors collect & present evidence of technology-facilitated abuse for use in legal proceedings?

Roles

- Attorneys & law clinicians
- Legal advocates
- Police officer
- Judge
- Sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE)
- Program leadership

Legal expertise

- Restraining orders
- Criminal law
- Family law (divorce)
- Immigration
- Civil matters







Evidence of technology-facilitated abuse can be **difficult to collect**

Laws are ill-defined when it comes to technology-facilitated abuse

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