

CYBERSTALKING IN NIGERIA: NATURE, CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS

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Abstract

Cyberstalking is one of the most salient but dangerous cybercrimes all over the world. The act of following or intimidating someone through the internet or other electronic communication devices is known as cyberstalking. It includes the use of the Internet to send a person a series of messages in order to stalk, threaten, or harass them. This paper examines the nature, causes and the implications of cyberstalking in Nigeria. The similarities and differences between conventional stalking and cyberstalking were highlighted. It argued that social platform addiction, accepting all friends request including strangers, leaving flamboyant life online and frequent uploads of personal information online are some of the factors that are responsible for cyberstalking. The paper also discusses the psychological, physical and social implications of cyberstalking. Space Transition theory is deployed to explain the nature of cyberstalking in Nigeria. The paper reviews the available legislative and protective laws of cyberstalking in Nigeria, and useful security tips are recommended to combat cyberstalking and develop an effective and proactive response to the problem.

Keywords: Computers, Cyberstalking, Information Communication Technology (ICT), Internet, Physical Stalking