Technology Based Violence Against Women: Background Papers and Technical Reports
April 2013

VAWnet: National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women
Safety & Privacy in a Digital World-Special Collection

VAWnet is an online resource centre that provides a comprehensive and easily accessible online collection of materials on violence against women and related issues. The goal of VAWnet is to use electronic communication technology to enhance intervention and prevention efforts to end violence against women. VAWnet has developed a Special Collection titled "**Safety & Privacy in a Digital World**" that provides an extensive list of resources that examines different areas of technology-assisted abuse (e.g., stalking/surveillance, bullying/harassment, sexting), data security and privacy, and considerations regarding technology for advocates and organizations that support survivors of violence. The collection also provides a list of organizations that are working to promote the safe use of technology.
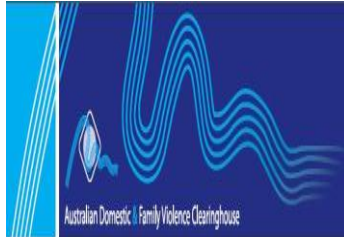

The Association for Progressive Communications Women's Rights Programme (APC-WRP)

The Association for Progressive Communications Women's Rights Programme (**APC-WRP**) promotes gender equality in the design, implementation, access and use of ICTs and in the policy decisions and frameworks that regulate them. More than 175 women from 35 countries come together online to help

women's organizations take control of the ICT tools they use to advance their mission and advocacy and use the transformative capacity of ICTs to strengthen women's movements and women's rights agendas. APC-WRP develops tools and resources for fostering a gender analysis of ICT project and policies which is expressed through several initiatives in the areas of: gender and ICT policy advocacy; violence against women and ICTs; gender evaluation and research in ICTs; and training and capacity building. Some projects by APC-WRP include the Feminist Tech Exchange; Take Back the Tech!; Digital Storytelling; GenderIT.org; and End Violence-Women's Rights and Safety Online. APC-WRP also provides several publications on gender equality and ICTs.

The Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Coerce and Control in Domestic Violence and Following Separation
Tammy Hand, Donna Chung, & Margaret Peters (2009)

This paper discusses the uses of ICTs in situations of intimate partner violence. Specifically, the paper outlines how perpetrators abuse ICTs both in a relationship and following separation. Issues of cyberstalking and digital voyeurism are explored. The paper discusses the use of ICTs by survivors of intimate partner violence and considers implications of the use of ICTs by perpetrators, for services' practice, legislation and policy, and research.

2011 MTV/AP Digital Abuse Research Study: Executive Summary

MTV, partnered with the Associated Press, conducted a study that examines bullying, abuse, and discrimination using ICTs. The study is part of a multi-year public education campaign that addresses youth and digital abuse. Participants were contacted by phone or mail and asked to complete a survey. The sample consisted of 1,355 young adults between the ages of 14 and 24. The research examined the overall incidence of ICT abuse, sexting and digital dating abuse, digital discrimination, effective responses and awareness of consequences, and impacts and risk factors. Learn more about the campaign.

Voices from digital spaces: Technology related violence against women
Flavia Fascendini & Kateřina Fialová (2011)

The aim of this paper is to help VAW organizations understand the implications of the intersection between violence and ICTs and encourage these groups to invest in policy-making processes and advocacy work. The paper identifies the forms of violence perpetuated against women and girls through the internet and mobile phones and advocates for better policies and laws that protect women's rights in order to prevent

technology-related VAW. The paper draws on information from 12 U.S. reports that map the current state of ICTs and VAW in the country and highlight national initiatives such as the Take Back the Tech! campaigns, Feminist Technology Exchanges, national advocacy policy initiatives and small grants projects.

[Safety Net: National Safe & Strategic Technology Project](#)
[National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)](#)

The Safety Net: National Safe & Strategic Technology Project, developed by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) provides resources for victims/survivors and VAW agencies on technology-related violence against women. The resources provide information on specific technology-related violence, the impacts on victims/survivors, and how to effectively respond to this violence. Topics include: stalking and harassment; sexting; online safety tips; information releases; assistive technology; and confidentiality and safety planning.

Understanding Technology-Related Violence Against Women: Categories and Examples – Learning Network Brief 06
Baker, L.L., Campbell, M., & Barreto, E. (2013)
Link to brief

Technology can play a role in all categories of violence against women (e.g., sexual violence, harassment and stalking; intimate partner violence) and while the dynamics of violence largely remain the same, technology extends the reach and creates new forms of abusive behaviour. In this Learning Brief, the Learning Network describes seven broad categories of technology-related violence against women. Each category includes specific examples and case illustrations.

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Trafficking in Persons – Learning Network Brief 07
 Campbell, M. & Baker, L.L. (2013)
Link to brief

The development and advancement of information communication technologies (ICTs) has revolutionized the way people communicate and share information across the globe. ICTs have made modes of communication and accessing information more efficient and effortless. Unfortunately, the benefits of ICTs enable traffickers to more easily recruit, harm, and exploit women without fear of being arrested and prosecuted. The Learning Network brief highlights the harmful uses of ICTs by traffickers and how NGOs, governments, and other anti-trafficking organizations can use ICTs to combat and prevent trafficking in persons.

AVON Foundation for Women

[Violence Against Women: The Communications Evolution Avon and the Avon Foundation for Women (2012)](#)

Violence Against Women: The Communications Evolution describes the evolution of communications campaigns about violence against women from the 1990s to current day. The paper discusses the evolution of images of women, children, and men in violence against women campaigns; the role of the community in addressing social and cultural norms; the role of technology in revolutionizing communications; and the current global reach of campaigns.