

# **Anti-stalking in Taiwan: what we do & need to do in the future?**



**PEI-LING WANG PH.D.**

**DEP. OF SOCIAL POLICY AND SOCIAL WORK, NATIONAL CHI NAN UNIVERSITY  
BOARD MEMBER OF THE MODERN WOMEN FOUNDATION  
CHAIRMAN OF THE TAIWAN COALITION AGAINST VIOLENCE**

— To niech pan słucha: wczoraj wieczorem na trziarszych Prudach spotkałem jakiego tajemniczego obywatela, jakiegoś chyba cudzoziemca, który z góry wiedział, że Berlioz zginie, i widywał osobiście Poncjusza Pilata.

Swita słuchała poety w milczeniu, zamarta bez ruchu.

— Pilata? Tego Pilata, który żył za czasów Jezusa Chrystusa? — patrząc na Iwana zmrużony zapytał Strawiński.

— Właśnie, tego.  
— Aha — powiedział Strawiński — a Berlioz ten, który wpadł pod tramwaj?

— Właśnie na moich oczach wczoraj go przejechała na Patriarszych Prudach, a ten zagadkowy obywatel...

— Ten znajomy Poncjusza Pilata? — zapytał Strawiński, który najwidoczniej umiał bystro koczować fakty.

— Właśnie on — uważnie przyglądając się Strawińskiemu przytaknął Iwan. — Więc on już przedtem powiedział, że Annuszka rozlała olej słonecznikowy... A on się akurat w tym miejscu poślizgnął. No i jak to się panu podoba? — znacząco zagadnął Iwan, pewien, że jego słowa wywierają ogromne wrażenie.

Ale nie wywarły takiego wrażenia, tylko Strawiński najwyraźniej zadał następujące pytanie:

— A któż to taki, ta Annuszka?

To pytanie nieco wytrąciło Iwana z równowagi, słownie wyłożył mu twarz.

— Annuszka nie to nie ma do rzeczy — powiedział domyślnie on. — Dobra wiadomość, że to że jedyna dla nasza mała siostra z Sudrową. Siostra z bratem z góry, co znaczy pan, z góry wiadomości o tym, że on z Annuszką...  
— Annuszka? — zapytał Strawiński.

Właśnie, tego. — powiedział Iwan starając się uśmiechnąć, że tylko spójrzył na niego, że ten straszny tygrys (ten straszny kłanie, że zlanie) ma jakąś niewyłącznie, żeby dogodzić go pan, ale nie ma na to siły, żeby dogodzić panu kłosa — taki wysoki, w sztucznych jeszcze niewiarygodnie wielki kot, który tramwajem. Poza tym — on był osobliwie przerywał, mówił z coraz większym zapalem większym przekonaniem — on był osobliwie Poncjusza Pilata, co do tego nie ma dwóch.

— Więc co się dzieje, ludzie? Trzeba go natychmiast zszedł, bo inaczej zdarzy się jakieś straszne nieszczęście.

— Zatem domaga się pan, aby go sresztowano? Czy dobrze pana zrozumiałem? — zapytał Strawiński.

— To mądry człowiek — pomyślał Iwan. — Trzeba przyznać, że wśród inteligentów także trafiają się wyjątkowo mądrzy ludzie, nie da się temu zaprzeczyć — i odparł:

— Pewnie! Jak mam się tego nie domagać, niech pan sam pomyśli! A tymczasem trzymają mnie tu siła, świecą mi w oczy lampą, wsadzają do wanny, pytają o wujka Fiedię!... Wujek już dawno ziemię gryzie. Żądam, żeby mnie natychmiast wypuszczono!

— No, cóż, wysmienicie, wysmienicie! — powiedział Strawiński. — A zatem wszystko się wyjaśniło. Rzeczywiście, który jest zdrow? Dobrze więc, natychmiast pana stąd wypuszczę. Nie musi pan tylko powie, że jest pan normalny. Nie musi pan tego udowadniać, wystarczy, że pan to powie. A więc — czy jest pan normalny?

Zapadła absolutna cisza, otyła kobieta, która rano czekała się przy Iwanie, popatrzyła na profesora i z zachwytem Iwan zaś raz jeszcze powiedział: „To stanowczo mądry człowiek!”

Let's start with a story...



When Abby was a freshman, she attended a service organization and met a senior male schoolmate, Robert, there. This big “brother” took care of her in academics , club activities and university life. Abby was happy having a new good friend.

**Afterward, Robert showed an interest in her  
and asked her to be his girlfriend.  
Abbey said “No”...**





**Robert did not give up, and believed that his assertiveness will make Abby change her mind. This is where the nightmare began...**



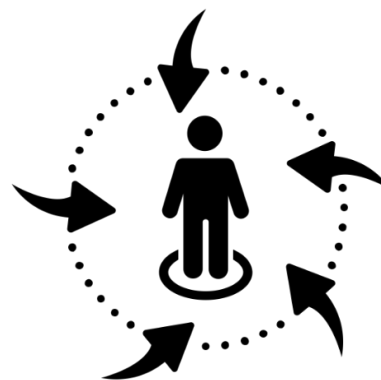
# Robert began to ...



follow Abby



Show up unexpected in Abby's classes or dorm



Appear wherever Abby was and approach her intentionally

## Robert began to ...



**Gather Abby's friends and classmate's information**



**Give her unwanted calls, messages, mails...intensively**

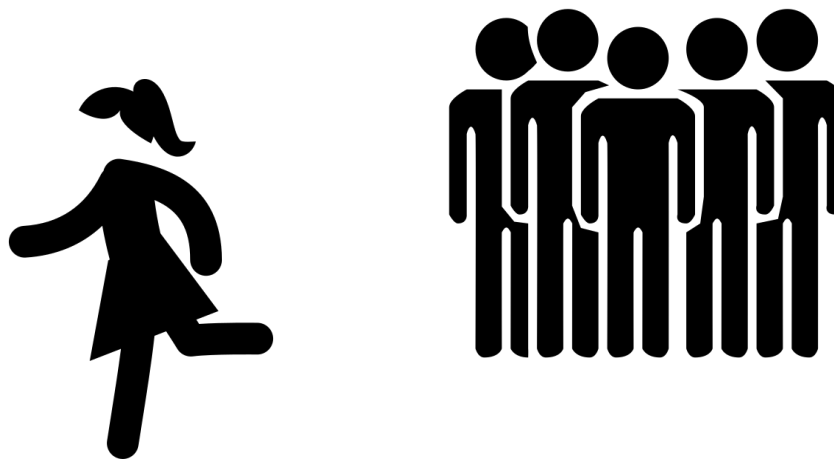


**Leave unwanted items in Abby's class and dorm**



**Send messages and calls to Abby to let her know she was monitored by him**

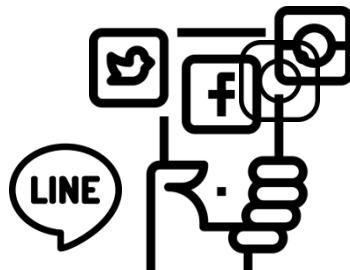
**Robert began to ...**



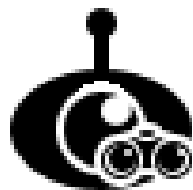
**Employ others, known as Proxy Stalkers, to follow and stalk Abby**



# Robert began to ...



**Cyber monitor Abby by stalking her on the web**



**GPS monitor her movements**



**Spread Abby's information maliciously**



Abby felt....

# Stalking Victim's voice





Photo credit: Stalking Resource Center (since 2000) , A Program of the National Center for Victims of Crime  
<http://victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>

# Types of stalking



- **Intimate partner stalking**
- **Pursuit stalking**
- **Revenge stalking**
- **Serial criminal stalking**
- **Public figure/idol stalking**
- **Political purpose stalking**
- **Hate/murder stalking**

# Prevalence of stalking victimization

## USA

**According to the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), an estimated 15.2% of women and 5.7% of men have been a victim of stalking during their lifetimes.**

(Breiding et al., 2014)



# Prevalence of stalking victimization

## EU

**In the EU-28 survey, 18% of women experienced stalking since the age of 15, and 5% of women experienced it in the 12 months before the survey interview.**

(European Union Agency For Fundamental Rights, 2014)



# Prevalence of stalking victimization

## Taiwan

According to a recent nation wide survey (n=1505), 3.79% of women aged between 18-74, have experienced stalking during their lifetime. (Pan et al.,2017)

Wang (2014) suggested that 89.5% of the abused women(n=379) reported experiencing intimate partner stalking.

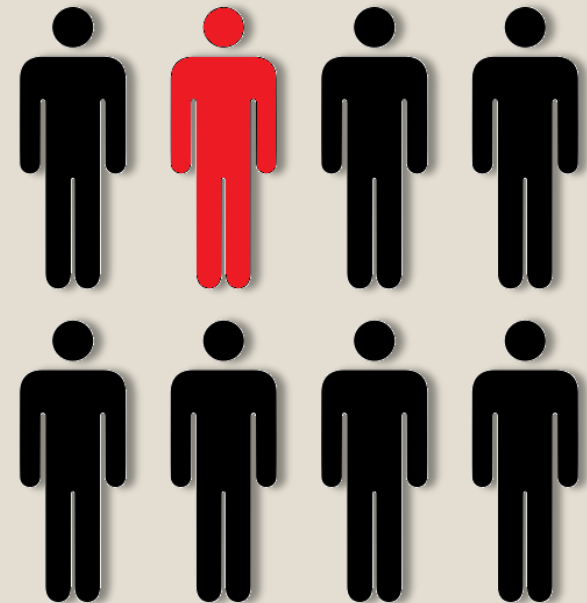




# More Statistics



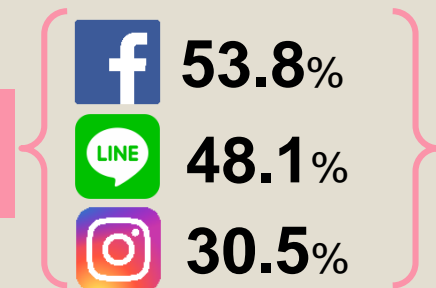
- **1** in **8** female students have been stalked and harassed (MWF, 2014).
- **77.3%** of those victims have experienced cyber-stalking (MWF, 2014).



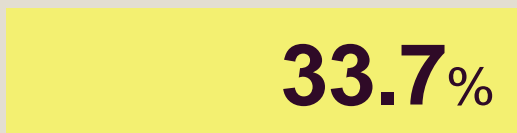
# Social media is becoming the major cyber stalking tool



Social media



phone



Email



# No laws and lack of practical programs to respond to stalking and harassment problems in Taiwan



laws don't regulate these behaviors



the public doesn't acknowledge the dangerousness and seriousness of stalking

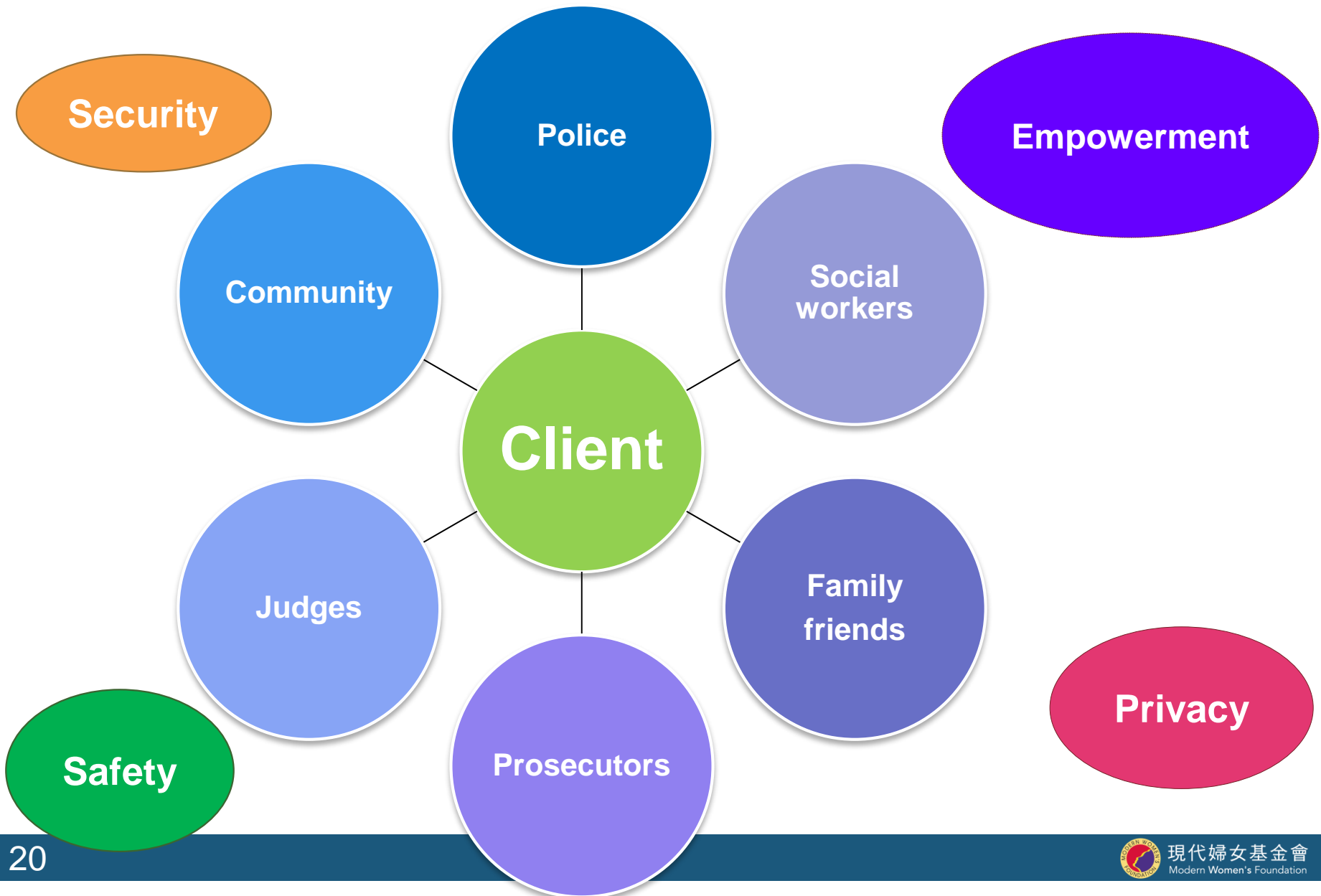


stalking victims don't know where to ask for help and get access to resources



the professionals(police, social workers, judges,... etc.) don't have the knowledge to respond to stalking incidents

# Construct a Safety Network



# Prevention and Education



**Advocacy**

**Legislation**

**Education**

**Prevention**

**Case  
Management**

# Advocacy



- Doing research and surveys to explore the prevalence of stalking and the public experience
- Having a variety of press conferences to advocate for the issue
- Having international and national conferences, workshops to discuss the issue
- Promoting training programs for police officers, social workers, prosecutors and judges
- Promoting awareness for the public and in schools

# International Conferences



# Media Outreach (Press Conferences)





# Issue Advocacy Press Conference

## Laws against stalking too soft: victims

**'MAZE OF REGULATIONS':** Modern Women's Foundation deputy executive director Lin Mei-hsun said that stalking is a crime and called for stalkers to face prison sentences

BY **ABRAHAM GERBER**  
STAFF REPORTER

Many victims of stalking are not protected by law, campaigners said yesterday, calling for the passage of a stalking and harassment prevention act.

"Many women who experience stalking and harassment are not protected by the law," said Lai Fang-yu (賴芳玉), a lawyer and board member of the Modern Women's Foundation, adding that laws such as the Social Order Maintenance Act (社會秩序維護法), Sexual Harassment Prevention Act (性騷擾防治法), Domestic Violence Prevention Act (家庭暴力防治法) and Criminal Code treat stalking as an "incident" rather than repetitive and continuous behavior, punishable only by small fines.

The law allows restraining orders in cases where the victim has some kind of family or romantic relationship with the stalker, denying the option to victims of anonymous stalkers, Lai said, adding that getting a restraining order can take up to a month, potentially endangering victims.

A woman, surnamed Huang (黃), said that she been stalked by her sister's ex-boyfriend for six years, with the man failing to be deterred, despite her repeated calls to police. She has moved homes and changed jobs twice, she said.

"When I felt I could not handle it anymore, I started to call the police, but when they came, they would just say that [the man] just happened to

be in the area and there was nothing they could do," Huang said.

"They said there was no law they could use and that while I could potentially sue him for stalking, that would only stand up if he has refused to leave when asked," she said. "Whenever police came, he would hide and then come back after they left."

Huang said she was only able to get a restraining order after the man was caught breaking into her home.

Foundation deputy executive director Lin Mei-hsun (林美薰) called for the passage of legislation to allow police to directly issue a restraining order after seeing a stalker once, citing a recent survey by the Ministry of Health and Welfare that found that 5.2 percent of women have been stalked or harassed.

After a warning, stalkers should face a prison sentence of up to one year if they violate a



A woman, surnamed Huang, right, who was a victim of stalking for six years, wipes away tears during a news conference organized by the Modern Women's Foundation in Taipei yesterday.

NOTICE: THE NEWS IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

police order, Lin said.

"Stalking is a crime and there should be a law to make it clear so it does not get lost in a maze of regulations," she added.

Huang said that she would like

provisions allowing her to know where her stalker was at any given time, adding that while she has not seen him in the past month, he has continued to write letters and make telephone calls.

2016, March 7<sup>th</sup>

# Legislative Actions



- Studying the anti-stalking laws in the world
- A map here to show the countries which had implemented anti-stalking law



# Legislative Actions



- Forming a legislative team in 2014 to construct the Anti-Stalking Law draft
- Visiting legislators and NGOs to seek cooperation
- Discussing with the Ministry of Interior to have the government draft edition of the Anti-Stalking Law



# Milestones : Anti-Stalking Law



**2014**

Special working group established.  
Drafting of the bill.



**2015**

First draft completed.  
Proposed by PM Pan Wei-Kang and passed the first reading, however delayed after.



**2017**

Supported by PM Wu Chi-Yang.  
Host Public hearing.  
Negotiate with the Executive Yuan (Administration)



**2018/4/19**

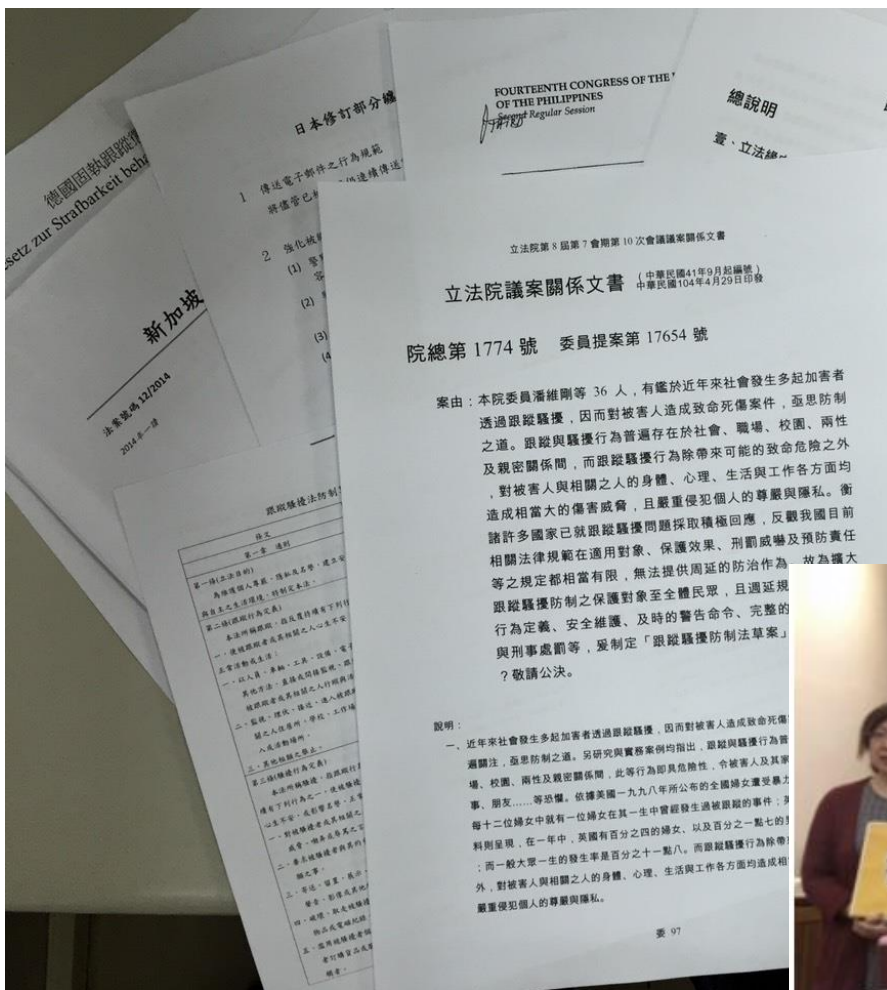
The Executive Yuan version is delivered to the Parliament and reviewed by the Internal Administration Committee on 12/13  
Wait for seconding and third reading.



**2019/4/30**

Internal Affairs Administration suspends all lobbying activities during bipartisan negotiation.  
Parliament determine that the IAA shall modify the draft.

# Legislative Action



# Achievements to Date



- Completed the Anti-Stalking Law draft and presented it to the Legislative Yuan (Congress) to be discussed
- Shed some light on the stalking problem in Taiwanese society
- Constructed the Intimate Partner Stalking Scale
- Established the SHARP program to provide services to stalking and harassment victims

跟蹤與騷擾評估和風險樣態描述  
(安全管理小幫手SHARP)



現代婦女基金會  
Modern Women's Foundation



# Challenges in front of us



No laws means  
**no government actions and resources**

The legislation of anti-stalking law  
**is still on the way**

# Future Agenda



- **Legislation of the Anti-Stalking Law**
- **The Stalking Hotline**
- **Continuing Advocacy and Education – Awareness Month and Campaign for Young People**
- **Training – Information Security and Anti-Cyberstalking**

