WHAT WE DID ...



THE HOME OFFICE FUNDED RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENT TO INVESTIGATE THE PERPETRATION OF TECHNOLOGY FACILITATED INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (TFIPV)



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OUR RESEARCH INVOLVED PARTNERING WITH THE CYBER HELPLINE TO EXPLORE TFIPV USING THEIR ANONYMISED CASE FILES. WE ALSO CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS AND A SURVEY WITH THEIR HELPLINE RESPONDERS





TFIPV INCREASED DURING COVID-19

WHAT WE FOUND...

THE CYBER HELPLINE SAW A 420% INCREASE IN REPORTED CASES



UNWANTED CONTACT



EXTORTION







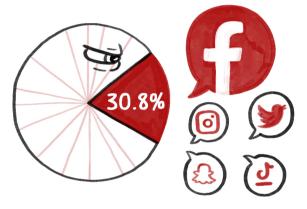
TFIPV CAN BE GROUPED INTO 5 CATEGORIES



EXTORTION WAS MORE COMMON IN BRIEF
RELATIONSHIPS OF A FEW MONTHS OR LESS



WHILE UNWANTED CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION
AND UNAUTHORISED ACCESS WERE MORE COMMON IN
LONGER TERM RELATIONSHIPS



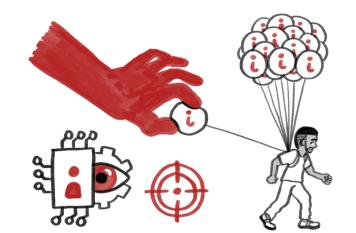
ALMOST A THIRD OF REPORTED TFIPV CASES INVOLVED SOCIAL MEDIA, WITH FACEBOOK THE MOST FREQUENTLY USED PLATFORM



TFIPV PERPETRATORS ACCESSED ACCOUNTS AND SMART DEVICES VIA EASILY GUESSED OR KNOWN PASSLIDEDS



SHARED SPACES OR PHYSICAL PROXIMITY TO VICTIMS ALLOWS TFIPV PERPETRATORS TO MANIPULATE DEVICES, CREATE FAKE ACCOUNTS, INSTALL BUGS AND TRACK LOCATIONS

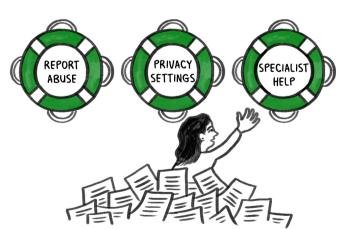


PRE COVID, TFIPV PERPETRATORS FREQUENTLY
UTILISED MORE COMPLEX TECHNOLOGIES TO SURVEIL
TARGETS AND OBTAIN PRIVATE INFORMATION

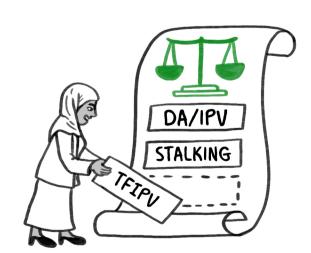


DURING COVID, TFIPV PERPETRATORS MORE OFTEN
UTILISED AVAILABLE ONLINE INFORMATION E.G.,
FROM SOCIAL MEDIA, OR RECORDING VIDEO CALLS
TO COMMIT EXTORTION

WHAT WE RECOMMEND...



SPECIALIST SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS IS AVAILABLE, BUT SYNERGY BETWEEN SAFEGUARDING AGENCIES AND CONSISTENT FUNDING IS NEEDED. TECH COMPANIES AND SOCIAL NETWORKING PLATFORMS NEED TO MAKE IT EASIER TO IDENTIFY AND SANCTION TFIPV PERPETRATORS



TFIPV IS A SERIOUS FORM OF ABUSE. IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE UMBRELLA OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ADEQUATELY REPRESENTED IN LEGISLATION



