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WHAT WE DID...



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



Supporting victims of cybercrime



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

WHAT WE FOUND...



TFIPV INCREASED DURING COVID-19

THE CYBER HELPLINE SAW A 420% INCREASE IN REPORTED CASES



UNWANTED CONTACT



EXTORTION



UNAUTHORISED ACCESS TO A DEVICE



THEFT



MALWARE AND DEVICE PROBLEMS

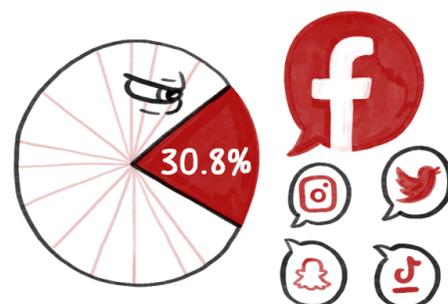
TFIPV CAN BE GROUPED INTO 5 CATEGORIES



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

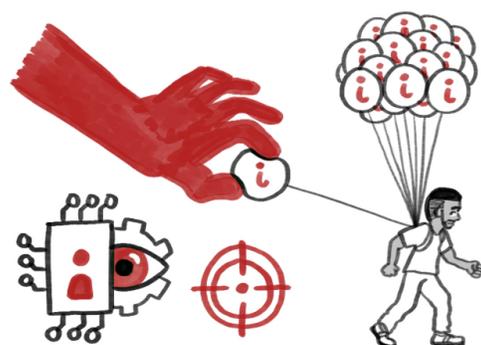


TFIPV PERPETRATORS ACCESSED ACCOUNTS AND SMART DEVICES VIA EASILY GUESSED OR KNOWN PASSWORDS



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

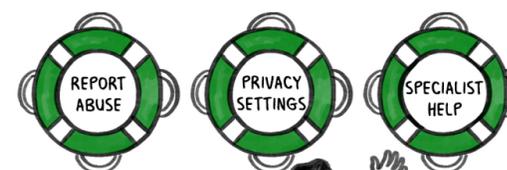
WHAT WE RECOMMEND...



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



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

FOR HELP AND SUPPORT FOR TFIPV VISIT - WWW.THECYBERHELPLINE.COM