**Stalking Awareness Month 2014**

**Social Networking Safety: Helpful Reminders**

1. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PRIVACY SETTINGS.**

**Some social networking sites allow you to make your profile completely private. Making your profile private means only those you are friends with can view your information.**

1. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ADDED SECURITY SETTINGS.**

**An example of this is two-factor authentication. When this feature is enabled, your account will require you to provide something you know (like a password) with something you have (like a specific device). Therefore, if someone gets your password he or she will not be able to log in to the account without the specific code the service sends to your device.**

1. **LIMIT HOW MUCH PERSONAL INFORMATION YOU POST TO YOUR ACCOUNT.**

**For example, do not post your contact information, birth date, the city in which you were born, or names of family members.**

1. **DO NOT ACCEPT FRIEND REQUESTS OR FOLLOW REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS.**

**If you recognize the individual sending the request, contact him or her offline to verify he or she sent the request.**

1. **WARN YOUR FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES NOT TO POST PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU.**

**Warn them to not post your contact information or location.**

1. **AVOID ONLINE POLLS AND QUIZZES.**

**Especially avoid those polls and quizzes that ask for personal information.**

1. **DO NOT POST PICTURES OF YOUR HOME THAT MIGHT INDICATE ITS LOCATION.**

**For example, do not post pictures showing a house number or an identifying landmark in the background.**

1. **USE CAUTION WHEN JOINING ONLINE ORGANIZATIONS, GROUPS, OR FAN PAGES.**

**Never publicly RSVP to events shown online.**

1. **USE CAUTION WHEN CONNECTING YOUR CELL PHONE TO YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKING ACOUNT.**

**If you decide to connect your cell phone to your online account, use extreme caution in providing live updates on your location or updates.**

1. **AVOID POSTING INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CURRENT OR FUTURE LOCATIONS.**

**Also avoid providing information a stalker may later use to hone in on your location, such as a review of a restaurant close to your house.**

1. **ALWAYS USE A STRONG, UNIQUE PASSWORD FOR EVERY SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE.**
2. **REMEMBER, YOU MOST LIKELY WILL NOT KNOW IF YOUR STALKER HAS ACCESSED YOUR ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKING ACCOUNT.**

**Only post information that would not expose you to harm if your stalker should read it.**

***Information on Stalking Awareness Month, including these tips, can be found at www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org.***

**For more information on stalking, please visit us at Abby’s House:**

**WUC 108A**

**(503) 838-8219**

**abbyshouse@wou.edu**