## Journal Entry #7

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## How does cyber technology impact interactions between offenders and victims?

Cyber technology impacts the interactions of everyone every day. On the terms of offenders and victims, they have created new ways for offenders to harm their targets. Cyber technology has allowed crime to happen virtually instead of physically. According to Hazelwood, "the Internet and related technology have also become new mediums for misconduct, in that communications via the internet can be used to threaten, harass, intimidate, and cause harm to others." For example, before the internet, stalking was done "face to face" where the person would follow their victim wherever they go. Nowadays stalking can be aided by cyber technologies. In 1999, the Department of Justice reported that 20% of stalking cases in Los Angeles and 40% of stalking cases in New York used the internet as a medium for these criminal acts. As we can see, cyber technology has clearly impacted these interactions between offenders and victims in a negative way. These data sets were taken in 1999 so just imagine how much more impact technology has had in today's age. Criminals thrive on the internet for the safety of anonymity. They don't have as much to risk behind a computer screen so those who aren't as knowledgeable as their offenders are easy victims.