

Records of police "stalking" occurrences in Brasília (DF) and administrative regions, 2021

Registros de ocorrências policiais de "stalking" em Brasília (DF) e regiões administrativas, 2021

Registros de casos policial de "stalking" en Brasília (DF) y regiones administrativas, 2021

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REVISA

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RESUMO

Objetivo: Desenvolver uma reflexão no que se refere ao crime do "Stalking", registrado por meio de ocorrências policiais na cidade de Brasília, Distrito Federal (DF) e regiões administrativas no ano de 2021. **Método:** Os dados foram adquiridos junto a Divisão de Análise Técnica e Estatística (DATE), pertencente ao Departamento de Inteligência e Gestão da Informação (DIGI) da Polícia Civil do Distrito Federal (PCDF). Foi implementada análise estatística do tipo descritiva e os resultados foram expostos utilizando uma figura e uma tabela. **Resultados:** Foi identificado o universo de 1.673 casos, com média e desvio-padrão (167,3±61,0). Os meses de agosto e setembro registraram as maiores preponderâncias, cada um com 12,6% (n=210) e março a menor com 0,4% (n=06). **Conclusão:** Por meio da presente pesquisa foi possível verificar a importância da Lei Federal de número 14.132/2021, objetivando tipificar o fenômeno do "Stalking". Também foi possível perceber que o referido dispositivo legislativo, incentivou o registro de ocorrências policiais, além de contribuir para o combate, mitigação e controle deste crime. **Descritores:** Stalking, Violência, Violência contra a Mulher.

ABSTRACT

Objective: To develop a reflection regarding the crime of "Stalking", recorded through police occurrences in the city of Brasília, Federal District (DF) and administrative regions in the year 2021. **Method:** Data were acquired from the Division of Technical and Statistical Analysis (DATE), belonging to the Department of Intelligence and Information Management (DIGI) of the Civil Police of the Federal District (PCDF). Descriptive statistical analysis was implemented and the results were exposed using a figure and a table. **Results:** The universe of 1,673 cases was identified, with mean and standard deviation (167.3±61.0). The months of August and September registered the highest preponderances, each with 12.6% (n=210) and March the lowest with 0.4% (n=06). **Conclusion:** Through the present research, it was possible to verify the importance of the Federal Law number 14.132/2021, aiming to typify the phenomenon of "Stalking". It was also possible to perceive that the aforementioned legislative device encouraged the registration of police occurrences, in addition to contributing to the fight, mitigation and control of this crime. **Descriptors:** Stalking, Violence, Violence against Women.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: Desarrollar una reflexión sobre el delito de "Acoso", registrado a través de incidentes policiales en la ciudad de Brasilia, Distrito Federal (DF) y regiones administrativas en el año 2021. **Método:** Los datos fueron adquiridos de la División de Técnico y Análisis Estadístico (DATE), perteneciente a la Dirección de Inteligencia y Manejo de la Información (DIGI) de la Policía Civil del Distrito Federal (PCDF). Se aplicó el análisis estadístico descriptivo y se expusieron los resultados mediante una figura y una tabla. **Resultados:** Se identificó el universo de 1.673 casos, con media y desviación estándar (167,3±61,0). Los meses de agosto y septiembre registraron las mayores preponderancias, cada uno con 12,6% (n=210) y marzo la menor con 0,4% (n=06). **Conclusión:** A través de la presente investigación, fue posible verificar la importancia de la Ley Federal número 14.132/2021, con el objetivo de tipificar el fenómeno del "Stalking". También se pudo percibir que el mencionado dispositivo legislativo incentivó el registro de las ocorrências policiales, además de contribuir al combate, mitigación y control de este delito. **Descritores:** Acoso, Violencia, Violencia contra la Mujer.

ORIGINAL

Introduction

The term “stalking”, originated from the English language and used in the practice of “hunting”, has as a translation into Portuguese, according to some authors, the act of “insistent pursuit”, or “incessant pursuit” and, by extension, the violence developed by one or several people, in relation to a victim, in the invasion(s) of privacy, intimacy, intimate life or even in private life.^{1,2} For some researchers, the crime of stalking represents a form of misdemeanor, or even a complex pattern of behaviors, related to the phenomenon of harassment, characterized by persistence and which involves various mechanisms of contact, communication, monitoring and surveillance, directed at a “target person”, on the part of another, that is, the “stalker”, the persecutor.^{2,7,11}

Due to the advent of technology as one of the main characteristics of industrialized and post-industrialized societies in contemporary times, stalking can also be identified, through the development of publication(s) of fact(s) together with social and communicational media on the internet, usually with the sending of messages by the “Short Message Service” (SMS), that is, by the “short message service”, by electronic mail, by making telephone calls, among many other ways.^{1,2,11} Stalking comes being researched and analyzed, as a social problem in several nations, being verified as a *modus operandi* of the persecutor, the use of various strategies and complex tactics related to this crime, using various technological means to implement this form of violence, classified by some researchers as “cyberstalking”, “cyberstalking” or even “cyberharassment”.^{2,4,7,11,12}

According to some experts on the subject, in 1980, as a result of the murder of British peace activist, singer and songwriter John Lennon, the practice of stalking began to receive greater attention in the media and communication media.³ Another fact related to the stalking phenomenon, which took place in 1981, was the assassination attempt on the American head of state Ronald Reagan by John Hinckley Jr, who declared that he had committed this crime, aiming to draw the attention of Jodie Foster, an American actress and internationally known, by whom he was, in his own words, “obsessed.”³

As identified in the scientific literature, the first research and systematic studies implemented in this complex crime were developed mainly in Anglo-Saxon nations, such as Germany, Australia, the United States of America (USA), England and Wales, being methodologically organized, in relation to the prevalences and quantities identified.^{2,7} In a study carried out in England, it was proposed that the main people who are in conditions of vulnerability in relation to the crime of stalking, females and young people, and those with a lower age group are the most affected, due to a greater use and exposure to communication and informational media for recreational purposes, presenting a greater risk factor and also,

expanding the possibility of being victimized by this crime, when compared to older people.^{4,7,12}

In Brazil, Law number 14,132 of March 31, 2021 was enacted, which added article 147-A to the Brazilian Penal Code (CP), that is, Decree-Law number 2,848, of December 7, 1940, having as a goal, to predict the crime of stalking and, aiming to develop the combat and control of the stalking crime in all its modalities.^{5,6,7} In this sense, the “Brazilian Law against Stalking”, as it is more popularly known, defines this crime as the act of “persecuting someone, repeatedly and by any means, threatening their physical or psychological integrity and restricting their ability to move around or, in any way, invading or disturbing their sphere of freedom or privacy”.^{5,7}

In this way, and according to this important national legislation, for people who commit this crime of persecution, the stipulated penalty can generate imprisonment ranging from six (06) months to two (02) years, in addition to a fine and, in cases where the victim is a child, an adolescent or an elderly person, the penalty is increased.^{5,7} The penalty for the crime of stalking is also increased, in cases where the victim is constituted as a woman, for reasons of female status, under the terms of § 2-A of article 121 of the CP, by means of a contest of two (02) or more people, or with the use of a weapon.^{5,7}

As identified in the 2022 Brazilian Public Security Yearbook, produced by the Brazilian Public Security Forum (FBSP), a universe of 27,772 stalking cases were identified throughout Brazil in 2021, according to a survey implemented in twenty-two (22) units Federations (UFs), being recorded every hour, approximately three (03) cases.⁸ In this context of typification of the crime of stalking and, as a result of the sanction of Law 14.132/2021, as a way of combating violence directed at women, this constitutes an important indicator, related to the risk of death emanating from the victim.^{5,6,8,10,11}

In this sense, it was constituted as an objective of the present research, to develop a very brief reflection regarding the crime of "Stalking", registered through police occurrences in the city of Brasília, Federal District (DF) and administrative regions, in the year 2021.

Method

This was an exploratory and descriptive research, using data classified as secondary, acquired from the Division of Technical Analysis and Statistics (DATE), belonging to the Department of Intelligence and Information Management (DIGI) of the Civil Police of the Federal District (PCDF). Aiming to substantiate and contextualize the acquired data, articles from scientific journals, official reports and related legislation were also used, acquired after an electronic bibliographic survey with computerized databases.

The databases used were Google Scholar (Google Scholar), the Virtual Health Library (VHL), Bibliographic Database on Health Care in Iberoamérica (Cuiden), Saber-USP, Minerva-UFRJ and Theses-FIOCRUZ. The Descriptors in Health Sciences (DeCS)/MeSH of the VHL were used, and they are shown next to Table 1.

Table 1 – Presentation of the DeCS/BVS used in the acquisition of the references used:

Descriptor	Identifier DeCS	Writer ID
Sexual harassment	30511	D017406
Sexual offenses	13122	D012742
Exposure to violence	56165	D000069581
Persecution	53260	D055807
Violence	15158	D014754
Violence against women	50239	DDCS050239
Gender violence	56876	D000074386
Domestic violence	31499	D017579
Ethnic violence	55429	D064868
Violence at work	55427	D064450
Intimate partner violence	56155	D000066511

Source: violence against women, 2022.

As inclusion criteria, references in the language in “Portuguese” and “English” were used. As exclusion criteria, references that were in the format of “summary of scientific congresses and events” and “references that were found in duplicate” were removed.

Descriptive statistical analysis was implemented, with percentage calculations (%), mean (Me) and standard deviation (SD).

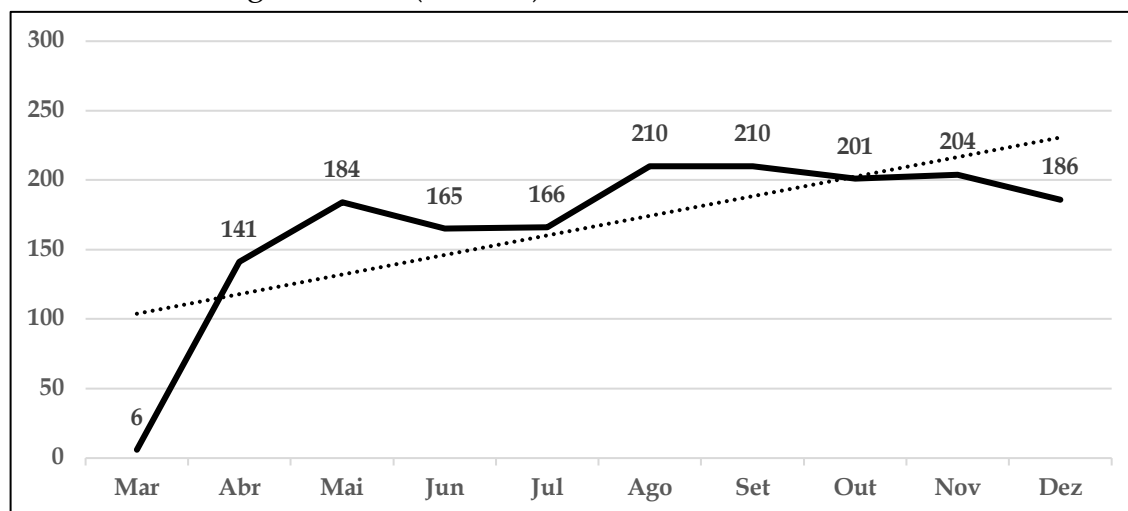
The generated results were exposed using one (01) figure and one (01) table. The authors of this research declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

Results and Discussion

According to data acquired from the Civil Police of the Federal District (PCDF), in the city of Brasília (DF) and in its administrative regions in 2021, a

universe of 1,673 stalking reports registered through police occurrences was identified, with an average of 167.3 and standard deviation (SD) of 61, and these data are shown together with Figure 1.⁹

Figure 1 – Presentation of stalking reports in the city of Brasília (DF) and administrative regions, 2021 (n=1.673):*,**



Source: Adapted from DATE/DIGI/PCDF, 2022.

* The authors are faithful to the source consulted.

** Due to several factors, the exposed data may undergo alteration(s) in its composition.

In this sense, it is possible to verify the increase in the frequency of stalking cases records, after the enactment of the Federal Law presented, being verified the efforts developed in the fight, control and mitigation of this crime and also, its direct and indirect impacts on society.⁹ It was also possible to verify in the geographic and historical scope in question, that the months of August and September registered the highest preponderances each with 12.6% (n=210) and March the lowest with 0.4% (n=06), as shown in Table 2.⁹

Among the main problems emanating from the stalkink crime, as a result of the persecution developed incessantly and continuously against the victim, the emergence of psychological disorders, emotional suffering and, therefore, the correlation of this crime with emotional and psychological violence.^{8, 12} In an important systematic review developed in Portugal, complications related to their “psychological health”, in their “physical health” and also consequences in their “lifestyle and economy” were identified as impacts identified in university students victimized by the crime of stalking. of the victim”.¹²

Table 2 - Presentation of stalking reporting records in the city of Brasília (DF) and administrative regions, by months, frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation, 2021 (n=1.673):*,**

Months	f	%	Average	DP
March	6	0,4	-	-
April	141	8,4	-	-
May	184	11,0	-	-
June	165	9,9	-	-
July	166	9,9	-	-

August	210	12,6	-	-
September	210	12,6	-	-
October	201	12,0	-	-
November	204	12,2	-	-
December	186	11,1	-	-
Total	1.673	100	167,3	61

Source: DATE/DIGI/PCDF, 2022.

* The authors are faithful to the source consulted.

** Due to several factors, the exposed data may undergo alteration(s) in its composition.

Regarding psychological health, the emergence of anxiety, depressed mood, fear, anger was pointed out and, in relation to physical health, the presence of headache, muscle weakness and sleep disturbances was identified. Regarding the consequences generated by stalking attacks, in relation to the victim's lifestyle and economy, social isolation, the loss of friends and also the change of identity were identified with the research participants.¹²

When analyzing the impact of cyberstalking on university students, occurrences were identified, in the "economic", "social" and "psychological health" areas of the victim, and in the first one, the existence of modification of the cell phone or residential device number was verified. and also, investment(s) in program(s) and software(s) for greater technological protection to the respective attacks.¹² As for the social area, changes were identified as modifications, social isolation, changes with regard to the professional and/or academic performance, lack with the employing institution or also, in the classes developed with the higher education institution (HEI) developed weekly, in addition to dismissal/dismissal from the job, and also, suspension and/or withdrawal from the university course that was attending.¹²

Regarding the psychological health of university student's victims of cyberstalking, the presence of anxiety, fear, anger and feeling their security threatened was verified and, in terms of physical health, fatigue, headaches and sleep disturbances were verified.¹² In this way, the need to encourage other processes and mechanisms for reporting stalking and cyberstalking cases is easily perceived, as a way of combating this crime of curtailing the right to personal freedom.

Final Considerations

There is a need to implement other policies, public policies and intelligent strategies, aimed at combating, controlling and mitigating the crime of stalking and cyberstalking. harassment. In this way, society, social movements, professional associations and political institutions must redouble their efforts and articulations, in order to encourage the realization of new studies and research, which approach and analyze in depth the crimes of stalking and

cyberstalking. , aiming to allow, in addition to a greater knowledge of this criminal phenomenon, the emergence of other efficient and effective protective measures for the care, treatment and defense of countless victims.

Acknowledgment

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