



BC Society of
Transition Houses



Technology-Facilitated Violence:

BC Anti-Violence Worker Survey Results Report

February 2020



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Background

The BC Society of Transition House's (BCSTH) Technology Safety Project provides anti-violence workers across British Columbia with information, resources and training about technology safety and technology-facilitated violence. The Project received funding from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Law Foundation of BC to research and develop materials for anti-violence workers and the women they support regarding how to document and preserve the evidence of the technology-facilitated violence they experience.

Technology-facilitated violence is when technology is misused by perpetrators to commit violent abusive acts that can include domestic violence, criminal harassment (stalking), sexual assault, impersonation and harassment.

Digital evidence is the overarching term that includes devices, messages, pictures or videos, account logs or billing statements, apps, location information, and "metadata" or the information embedded in emails. It is worthwhile to note that in the Canada Evidence Act, digital evidence is referred to as "electronic documents¹." Within this report, we will use the term digital evidence as it is more commonly used when describing evidence of technology-facilitated violence.

As technology evolves and becomes more prevalent in our daily lives, it is important to understand the impact of technology-facilitated violence in violence against women cases. For anti-violence workers, technology-facilitated violence may be disclosed during support and safety planning sessions with women. It can also be disclosed as part of a police investigation, a criminal prosecution, a family court matter, a divorce, a civil or criminal court case.

There are very few statistics related to technology-facilitated violence in Canada. In November 2019, BCSTH surveyed British Columbia's anti-violence workers to get a better understanding of:

- What women who have been impacted by technology-facilitated violence have disclosed to anti-violence workers?
- Which devices (e.g. smartphones, laptops, and computers) do women report are most commonly misused to perpetrate this violence?
- What anti-violence workers have experienced when interacting with the BC justice system in response to women's experiences of technology-facilitated violence?



- What resources and training would support the anti-violence workers and the women who are experiencing technology-facilitated violence and in particular as it relates to evidence preservation and possible court matters?

Anti-violence organizations provide a continuum of services, which share a common mission: to support women, children and youth who experience domestic and/or sexual violence.

The anti-violence organization respondents to the 2019 BCSTH survey were: Residential programs (Transition House, Second or Third Stage Housing or Safe Home) (28.12%), Police Based Victim Service Programs (27.42%), Children and Youth who Experience Violence Program/PEACE Programs (19.35%), Community Based Counselling (7.26%), Community Based Victim Services (4.03%), Women’s Drop In Centre (2.42%), Legal Advocate/Court Support (2.42%), Other (4.84%), N/A (1.61%).

This report summarizes the findings from the November 2019 BCSTH’s “Technology Facilitated Violence: BC Anti-Violence Workers” online survey. The survey results summarize the scope and method of technology-facilitated violence experienced by women accessing anti-violence programs in BC and the justice system’s response to technology-facilitated violence in violence against women matters.

The findings of the BCSTH survey will support our project to:

- Research best practices to preserve digital evidence of technology-facilitated violence, and
- Develop resources and training about preserving digital evidence for anti-violence workers and women experiencing technology-facilitated violence.

All BCSTH Technology Safety Project resources are published on the BCSTH website at www.bcsth.ca



TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED VIOLENCE: BC Anti-Violence Worker Online Survey Summary Report

Survey Respondent Information

150 anti-violence workers responded to BCSTH’s Technology-Facilitated Violence: BC Anti-Violence Worker online survey.

Survey respondents worked in anti-violence organizations across British Columbia (figure 1). Most commonly, respondents worked in Region 2: Lower Mainland (26.61%), followed by Region 5: Okanagan (14.52%), Region 3: Fraser Valley (13.71%) and 13.71% worked in Region 4: Kootenays.

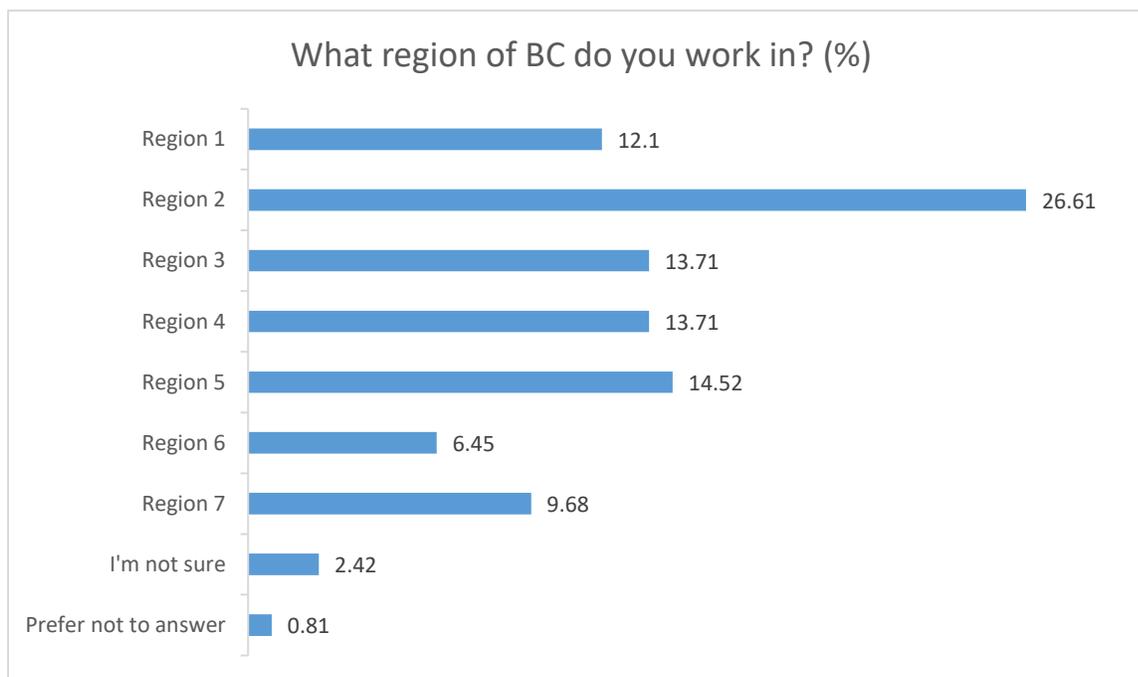


Figure 1: What region of BC do you work in? (n = 124)

Figure 2 displays the type of anti-violence program respondents were employed in at the time of the survey. Most commonly, respondents worked within a Residential program (Transition House, Second or Third Stage Housing or Safe Home) (28.12%), followed by Police Based Victim Service Programs (27.42%), and Children and Youth who Experience Violence Program/PEACE programs (19.35%).

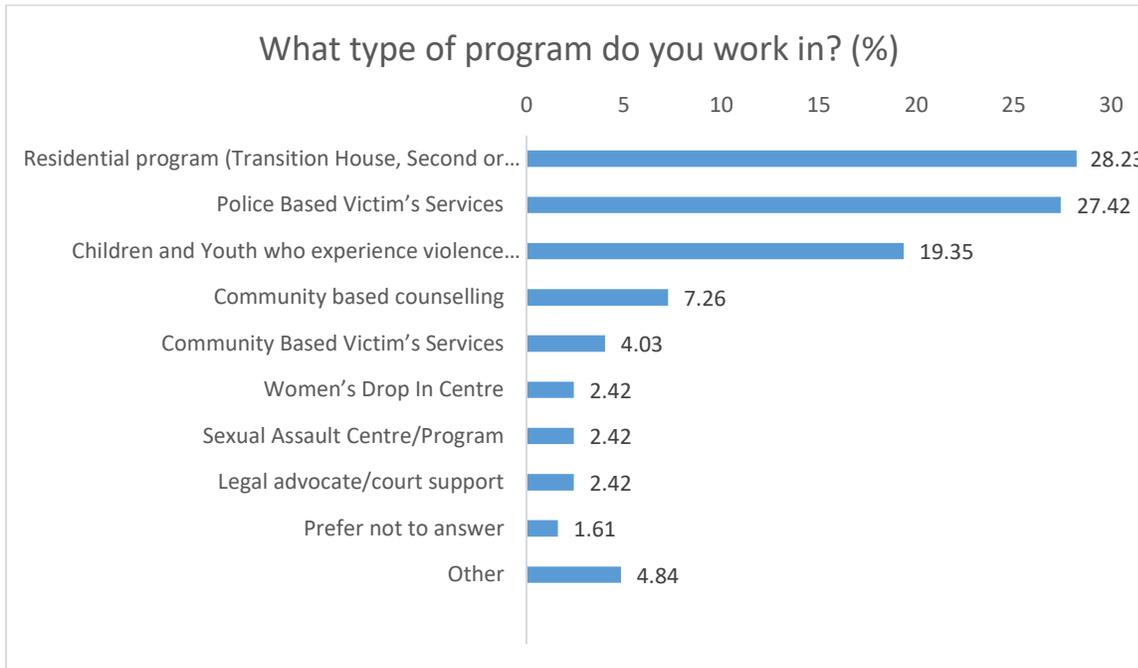


Figure 2: What type of program do you work in? (n = 124)



Technology-Facilitated Violence against Women in BC

106 of 121 respondents (87.6%) said, “Yes,” women have disclosed that they have experienced technology-facilitated violence (figure 3).

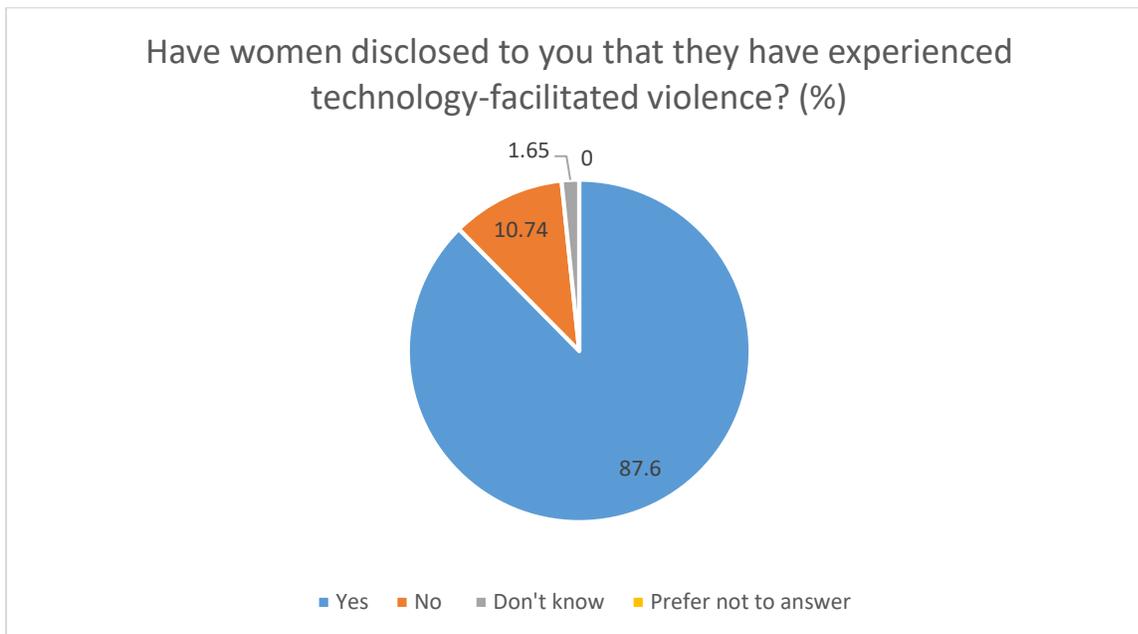


Figure 3: Have women disclosed to you that they have experienced technology-facilitated violence? (n = 121)



Respondents indicated that some women were aware of some of the ways technology can be used to facilitate violence (figure 4).

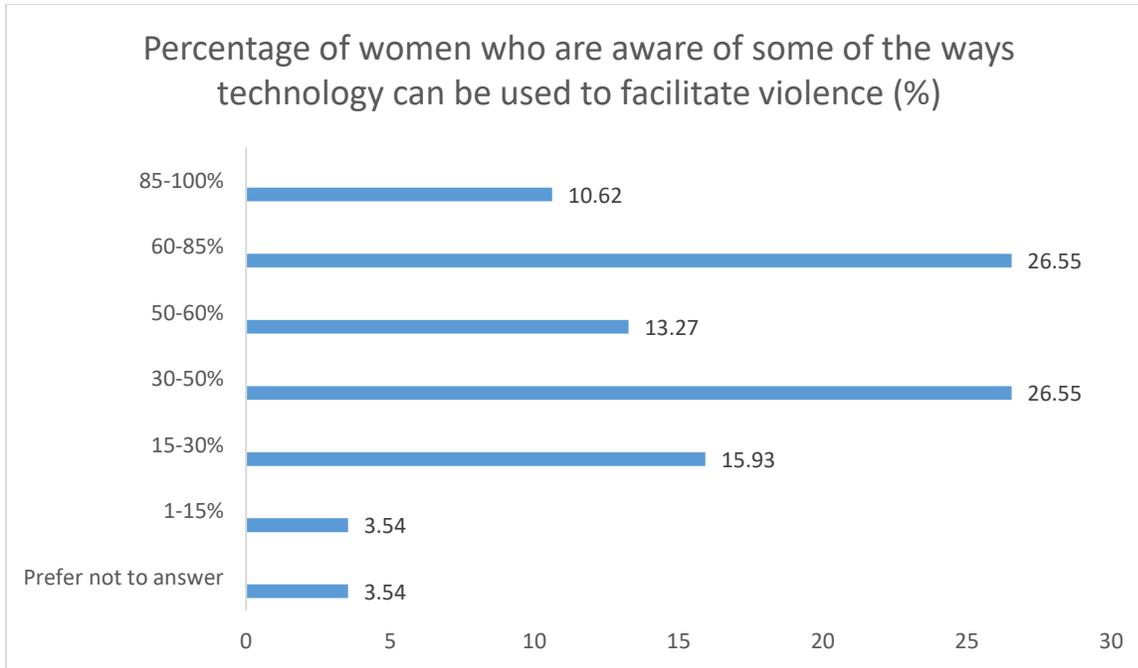


Figure 4: In your experience, what percentage of the women you serve are aware of some of the ways technology can be used to facilitate violence? (n = 113)



Devices and Methods

Respondents report that smartphones (99.06%), followed by laptops (48.11%), tablets (39.62%) and GPS enabled location tracking devices (39.62%) were the devices most commonly misused in women’s experiences of technology-facilitated violence (figure 5).

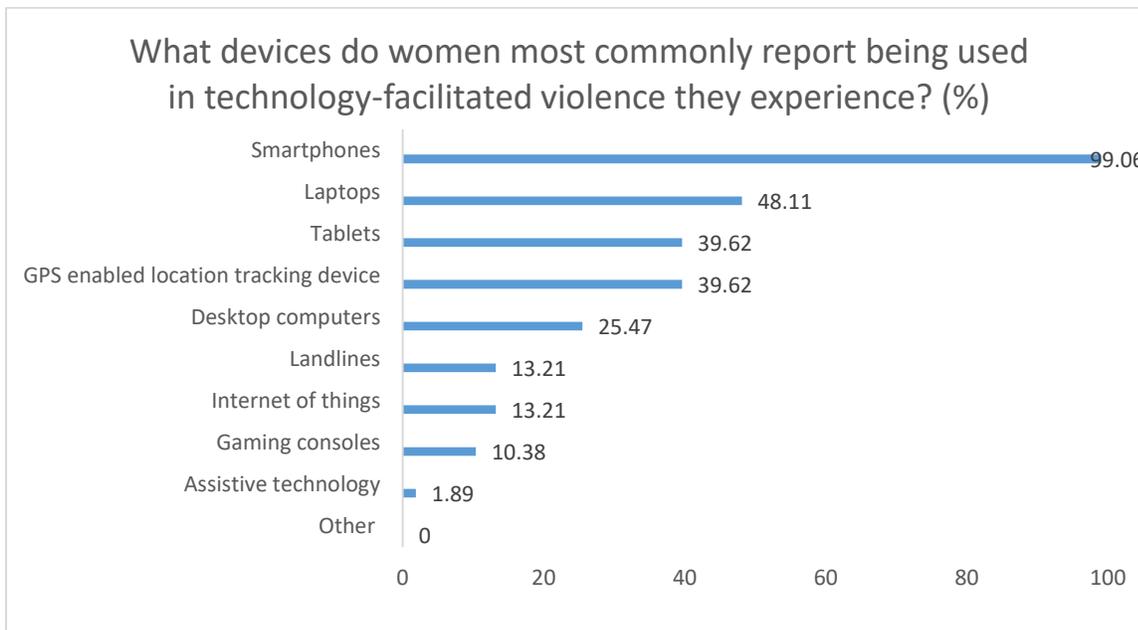


Figure 5: What devices do women most commonly report being used in the technology-facilitated violence they experience? (n = 106).



Survey respondents said that texting (91.51%), social media (84.91%) and email (65.15%) were the most common methods that women report being used in the technology-facilitated violence they experience (figure 6).

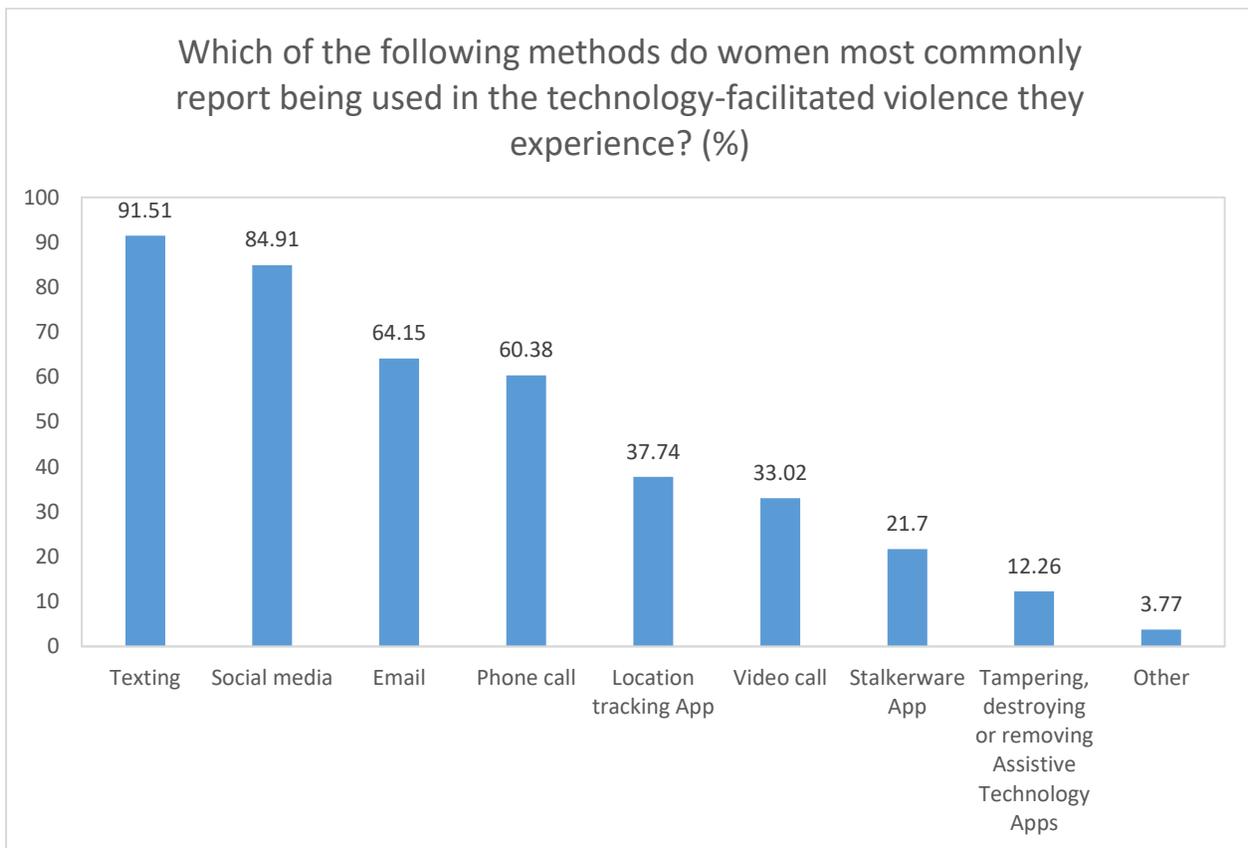


Figure 6: Which of the following methods do women most commonly report being used in the technology-facilitated violence they experience? (n = 106)

Of those that reported “other,” respondents identified the following additional methods used in technology-facilitated violence:

1. Surveillance cameras for secret videotaping/stalking
2. Remote video cameras
3. I don't believe the women would know the extend of what is being used
4. I am not sure exactly what is being used



Forms of Technology-Facilitated Violence

Respondents were given a list of 11 forms of technology-facilitated violence and asked to rank each form based on what women tell them they most commonly experience. A definition of each form of technology-facilitated violence was included in the question. A list of the definitions is provided in the text box below.

Criminal Harassment (Stalking): perpetrator REPEATEDLY communicates with a woman or engages in threatening behavior that makes a woman fear for her safety and/or the safety of a family member.

Harassment: perpetrator intentionally targets a woman with behavior that is meant to alarm, annoy, torment.

Impersonation: perpetrator fraudulently impersonates another person either to gain advantage or cause disadvantage to a woman.

Monitoring/Surveillance (voyeurism): perpetrator monitoring and/or watching a woman via technology.

Threats: perpetrator makes threats via phone call, video call, email, text message and/or social media platforms.

Non-consensual distribution of images: perpetrator sharing or posting intimate photos or videos of a woman without her consent.

Grooming: perpetrator builds an online relationship with a woman over time to gain her trust for the purposes of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, soliciting of images and videos and/or trafficking.

Doxing: when someone posts personally identifying information (e.g. name, address, phone number, email address, passport/SIN numbers) on social networks or websites without a woman's consent.

Hate speech: speech that expresses prejudice against a particular group, especially on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or disability via phone call, text, email, or social media platforms.

Abuse of Assistive Technology: perpetrator destroying, breaking, taking away assistive technology devices such as hearing aid, screen reader, Teletypewriter (TTY) machine.



Figure 7 displays the most common forms of technology-facilitated violence as ranked from 1 (being the most common from) to 11 (being the least common form) by 109 survey respondents. Harassment followed by threats and criminal harassment were ranked the top three forms of technology-facilitated violence that women have told respondents they experienced.

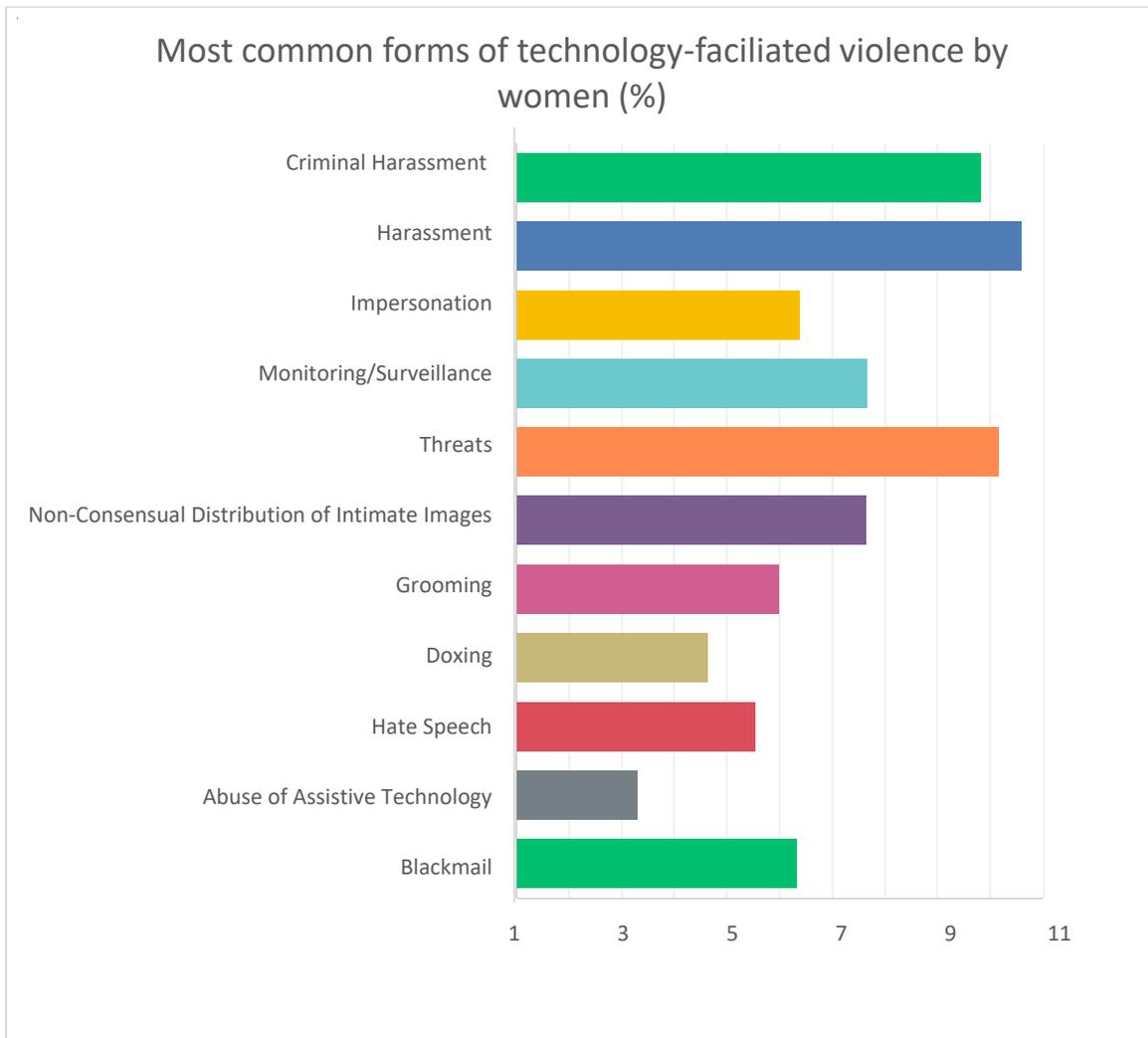


Figure 7: Please rank the following forms of technology-facilitated violence, based on what women tell you they most commonly experience: 1 being the most common form of technology-facilitated violence women tell you they have experienced and 11 being the least common (n = 109)



Harassment

110 of 120 survey respondents (91.67%) report that women have disclosed experiences of technology-facilitated harassment. By selecting as many examples of harassment that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the following are the most common ways perpetrators intentionally target a woman with behaviour that is meant to annoy, upset, or bother (figure 8):

- Receiving unwanted text messages (98.18%),
- Receiving unwanted phone calls (93.64%),
- Receiving unwelcome messages and/or comments from someone they know on social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) (85.45%) and,
- Having negative information posted about them by someone else on social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, and Instagram) (85.45%).

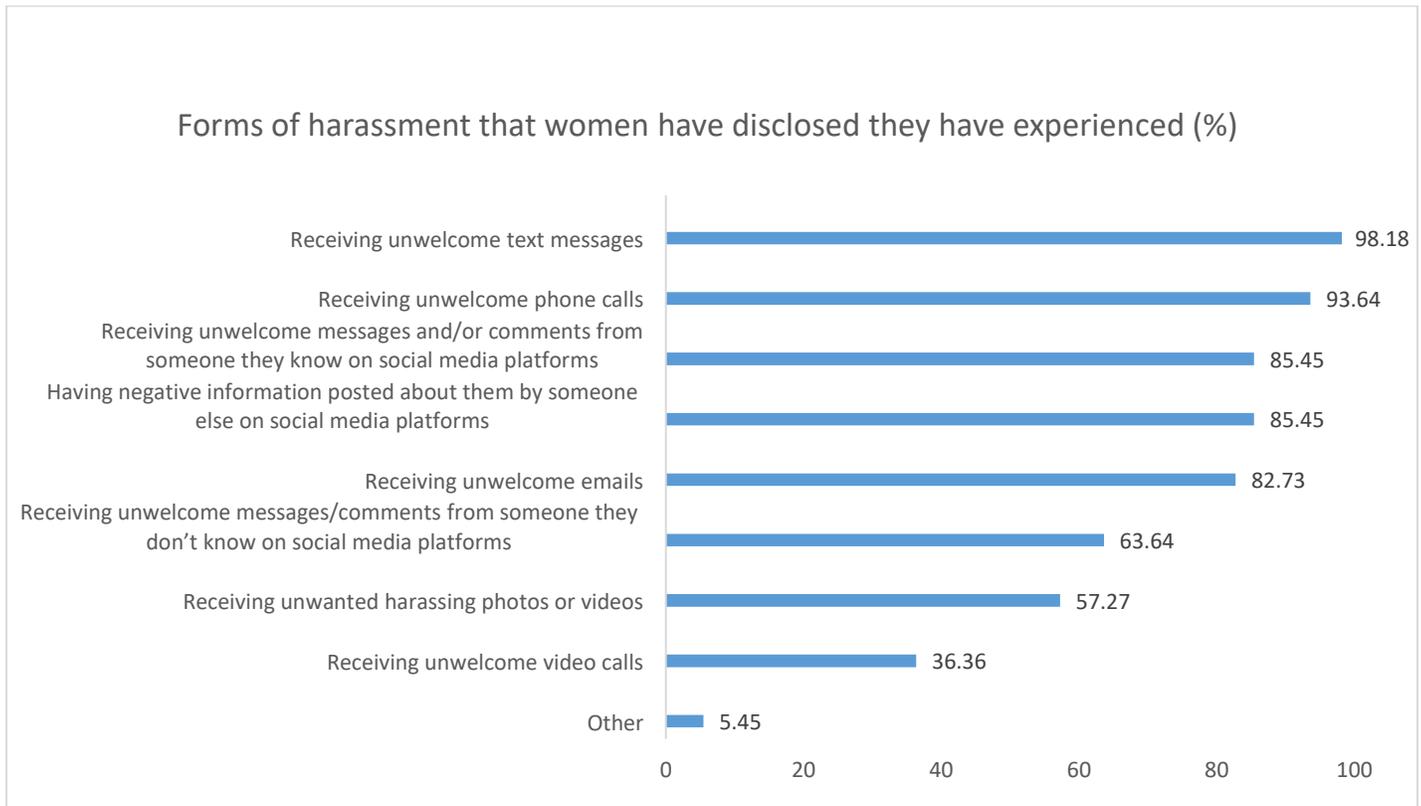


Figure 8: Please check all forms of harassment that women have told you that have experienced (n = 110)



Of those who said 'other,' the following responses were provided:

1. *Someone sharing unwanted pictures of the women*
2. *Tracking devices*
3. *Having images of themselves distributed on social media without their consent*
4. *Regular mail & finding tracking devices or recording devices*
5. *A woman thought her phone and computer was bugged and that there were cameras outside monitoring her*
6. *Revealing photos of them posted on social media*

Threats

108 of 118 survey respondents (91.53%) report that women have disclosed experiences of technology-facilitated threats. By selecting as many examples of threats that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the most common types of threats received by women that they support are (figure 9):

- A perpetrator threatening via phone calls, video calls, text messages, emails and social media platforms to post personal information, photos and/or videos of a woman online (94.17%),
- A perpetrator threatening via phone calls, text messages, emails and social media platforms that he will lock a woman out of social networks, email or online financial accounts such as banking (59.22%) and,
- A perpetrator blackmailing women via phone calls, text messages, emails and social media platforms (59.22%).

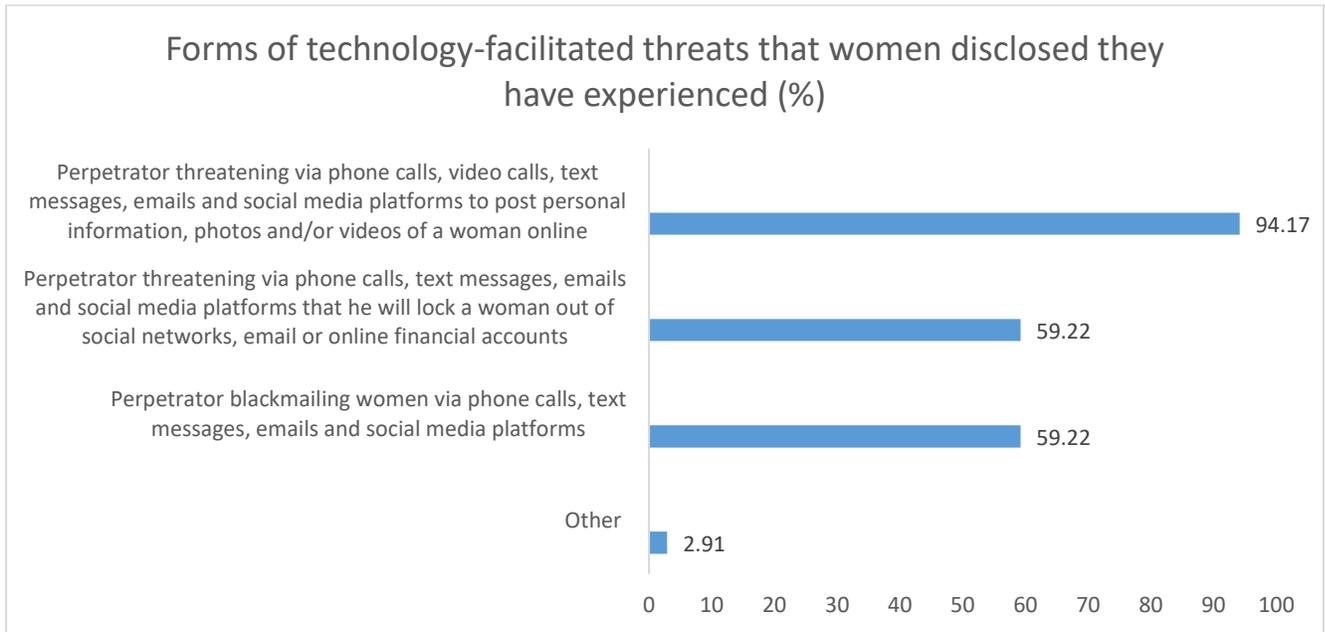


Figure 9: Please check all forms of technology-facilitated threats that women have disclosed that they have experienced (n = 103)

Of those who said 'other,' the following responses were provided:

1. Pictures of other women on social media
2. Intimidation-constant annoyance
3. Perpetrator using social media and phone calls and text messages to use misogynistic slurs
4. Perpetrator threatening to harm or kill the woman, her pets, or people she knows

Criminal harassment (Stalking)

97 of 120 survey respondents (80.83%) report that women disclosed they have experienced technology-facilitated criminal harassment. By selecting as many examples of criminal harassment that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the most common ways that perpetrators have repeatedly communicated with a woman or engaged in threatening behavior that makes a woman fear for her safety or the safety of someone they know are (figure 10):

- Repeatedly receiving abusive, threatening or unwelcome text messages (96.91%),
- Repeatedly receiving abusive, threatening or unwelcome phone calls (86.60%) and,



- Repeatedly receiving abusive, threatening or unwelcome messages and/or comments from someone they know on social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) (78.35%).

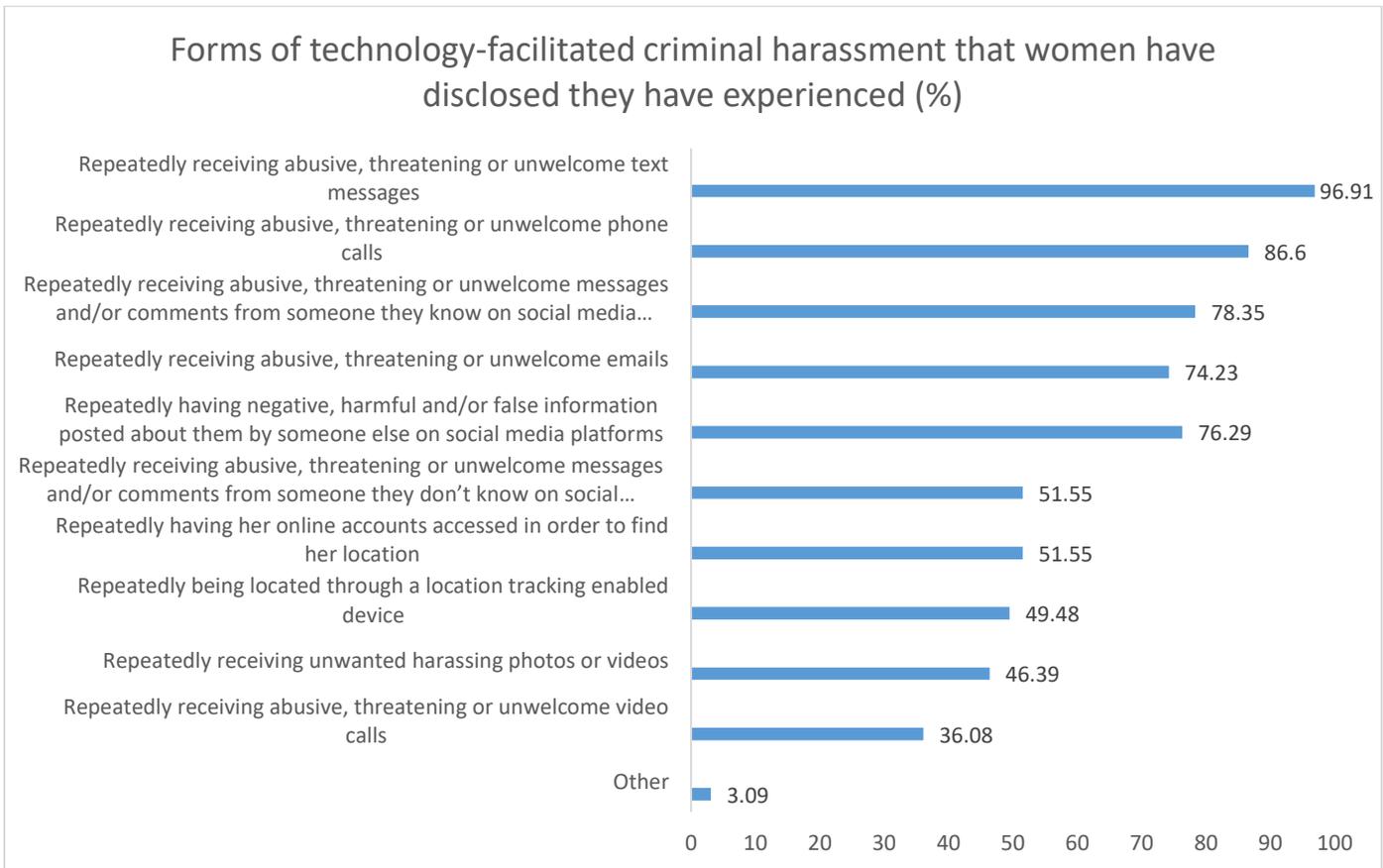


Figure 10: If yes, please check all forms of technology-facilitated criminal harassment that women have disclosed that they have experienced (n = 97)

Of those who said 'other', the following responses were provided:

1. Ex-partner's family and friends harassing via text/phone messages and Facebook comments
2. Creating email and social media accounts in the woman's name and posting pictures and negative comments about her friends and family. Perpetrator sending themselves emails from a fake email account they have created in the woman's name
3. Repeatedly being filmed/recorded for the perpetrator's "pleasure" and used as blackmail
4. Not sure if online accounts like email are accessed in order to find location as I did not know you could do that, but definitely having them hacked



Non-consensual distribution of images and/or videos

77 of 116 survey respondents (66.38%) report that women disclosed they have experienced technology-facilitated distribution of non-consensual images and/or videos. By selecting as many examples that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the most common forms of electronic distribution of non-consensual images and/or videos experienced by women accessing their program are (figure 11):

- Intimate and/or private photos or videos of a woman posted online with the intention to embarrass, humiliate, harass, degrade and/or harm (82.89%),
- Intimate and/or private photos or videos of woman forwarded electronically to a woman’s friends, family members, employers/coworkers, and/or strangers (67.11%) and,
- Unwanted soliciting/asking for sexual photos or videos (67.11%).

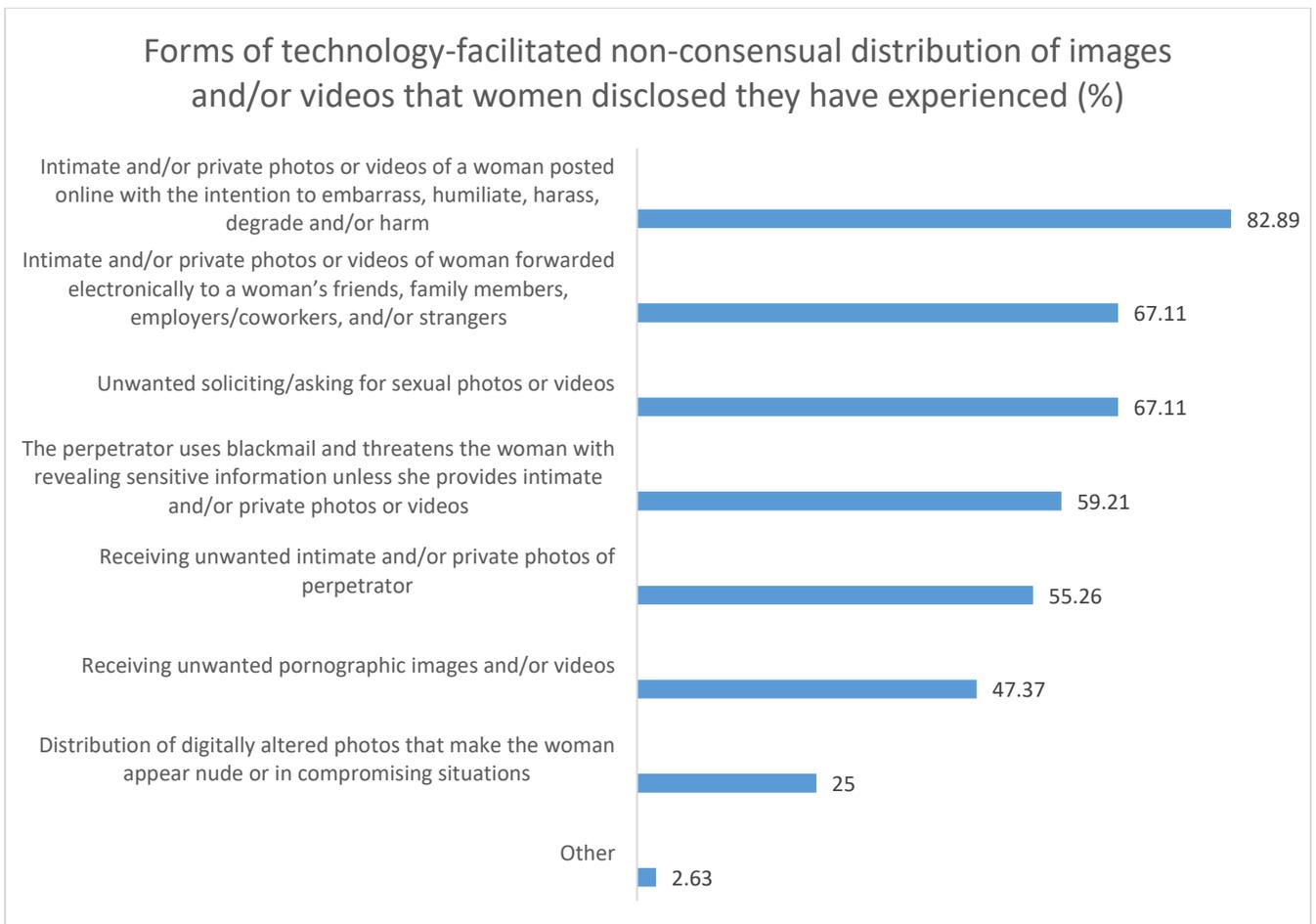




Figure 11: Please select all forms of technology-facilitated non-consensual distribution of images and/or videos that women disclosed that they have experienced (n = 77)

Of those who said 'other,' the following responses were provided:

- 1. Intimate and/or private photos of a woman posted online on porn and/or nudity sites for the purpose of making money.*
- 2. Distributing pornographic images without consent, knowledge they were even being filmed*



Monitoring and/or surveillance (Voyeurism)

69 of 119 survey respondents (57.98%) report that women have disclosed that they have experienced technology-facilitated monitoring and/or surveillance. By selecting as many examples that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report the following as the most common forms of monitoring and surveillance of a woman by a perpetrator (figure 12):

- Having their social media platform (Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) accounts hacked and monitored (85.29%),
- Having their Smartphone hacked (intercepted by another person) and monitored (79.41%) and,
- Having their email hacked and monitored (76.47%).

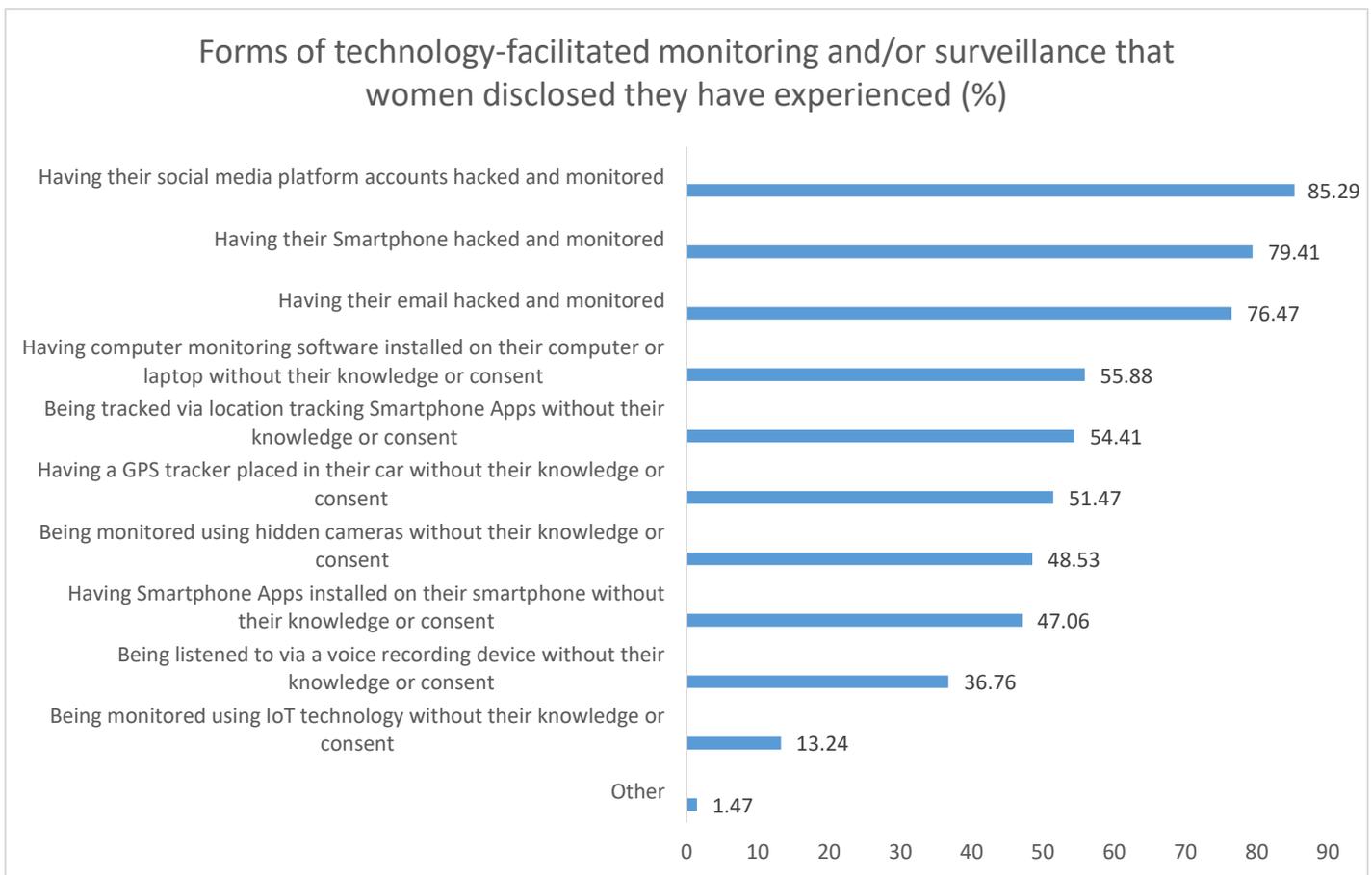


Figure 12: Please check all forms of technology-facilitated monitoring and/or surveillance that women have disclosed that they have experienced (n = 69)



Of those who said 'other,' the following response was provided:

1. *Apple watch*

Impersonation

62 of 119 survey respondents (52.10%) report that women disclosed they have experienced technology-facilitated impersonation. By selecting as many examples that applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the most common ways perpetrators fraudulently impersonate another person either to gain advantage or cause disadvantage are (figure 13):

- the perpetrator changes their caller ID (also known as “spoofing”) to send harassing or threatening messages or phone calls (72.58%),
- the perpetrator impersonates the woman via social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) (66.13%) and,
- the perpetrator impersonates the woman via text message (50%).

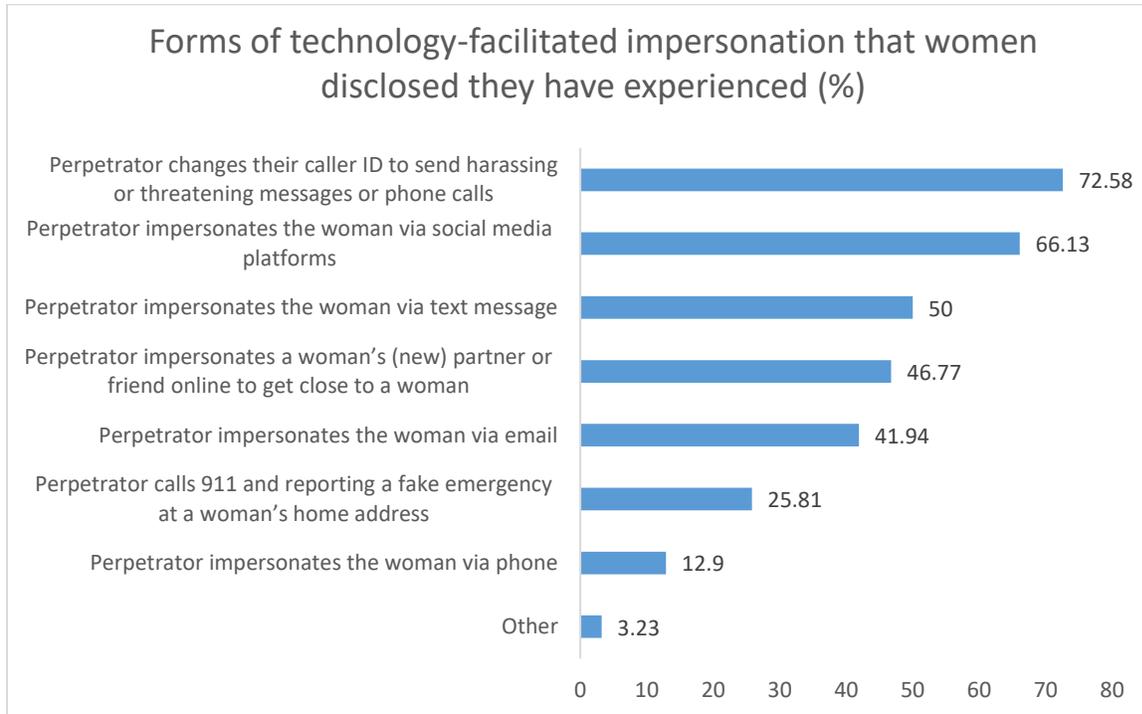


Figure 13: If yes, please check all forms of technology-facilitated impersonation that women have told you they have experienced (n = 62)



Of those who said 'other,' the following responses were provided:

1. *The perpetrator impersonates the woman's employer/landlord*
2. *Social assistance impersonation to continue receiving payments not entitled to*

Hate Speech

49 of 113 survey respondents (43.36%) report that women disclosed being a victim of hate speech, i.e. speech that expresses prejudice against a particular group, especially on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or disability via phone call, text, email, or social media platforms.

Grooming

47 of 116 survey respondents (40.52%) report that women disclosed that they experienced technology-facilitated grooming, i.e. when a perpetrator builds an online relationship with a woman over time to gain her trust for the purposes of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, soliciting of images and videos and/or trafficking.

Doxing

25 of 113 survey respondents (22.12%) report that women disclosed that they experienced technology-facilitated doxing, i.e. perpetrator posts a woman's personally identifiable information (e.g. name, address, phone number, email address, passport/SIN numbers) on social networks or websites without a woman's consent.

Isolation

95 of 119 survey respondents (82.61%) report that women were isolated because the perpetrator had limited her access to or destroyed her technology (e.g. phone, laptop, tablet, etc.).

Assistive Technology

10 of 115 survey respondents (8.7%) report that women disclosed having their Assistive Technology (e.g. hearing aid, screen reader, Teletypewriter (TTY) machine) tampered with or destroyed.

Other forms of Technology-Facilitated Violence

9 of 113 survey respondents (8%) report that women have disclosed that they have experienced other forms of technology-facilitated violence that was not given in the examples within our survey. The following responses were provided:



1. *Damaging the phone*
2. *Teens using technology and imagery for sexual exploitation and harming another via social media/group spamming etc.*
3. *Making fake dating profiles on the women's email account*
4. *Use of FaceTime and other social medias to control children, having children show the Mom or kids*
5. *Withholding of technology in order to control: limiting access to phone/computer/etc. either by destroying the device or taking it away, hiding it*
6. *In the car screen, the person has accessed through the computer in the car*
7. *Abuser will post something on social media that is not true. Also, abuser does not follow no contact orders on social media.*
8. *Stalking via Snapchat and "Find my Friends" Apps; unwanted Facebook/social media posts; making fake Instagram accounts and following them; phone calls; emails; text messages; tracking via iCloud; tracking via GPS in cars.*

Justice System Responses

The following section summarizes the survey findings related to responses to technology-facilitated violence by the justice system (law enforcement, lawyers and judges) in BC. .

Preserving Evidence of Technology-Facilitated Violence

113 survey respondents identified known ways that women they support have used technology to preserve evidence in incidences of technology-facilitated violence. By selecting as many examples as applied from a multiple-choice list, anti-violence workers report that the most common ways that women digitally preserve evidence in cases of technology-facilitated violence are (figure 14):

- Taking screen shots or photos of text messages (93.81%),
- Taking screen shots or photos of emails (87.61%) and,
- Taking screen shots or photos of social media platforms (Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) (84.96%).



Ways anti-violence workers have seen women use technology to preserve evidence in cases of technology-facilitated violence? (%)

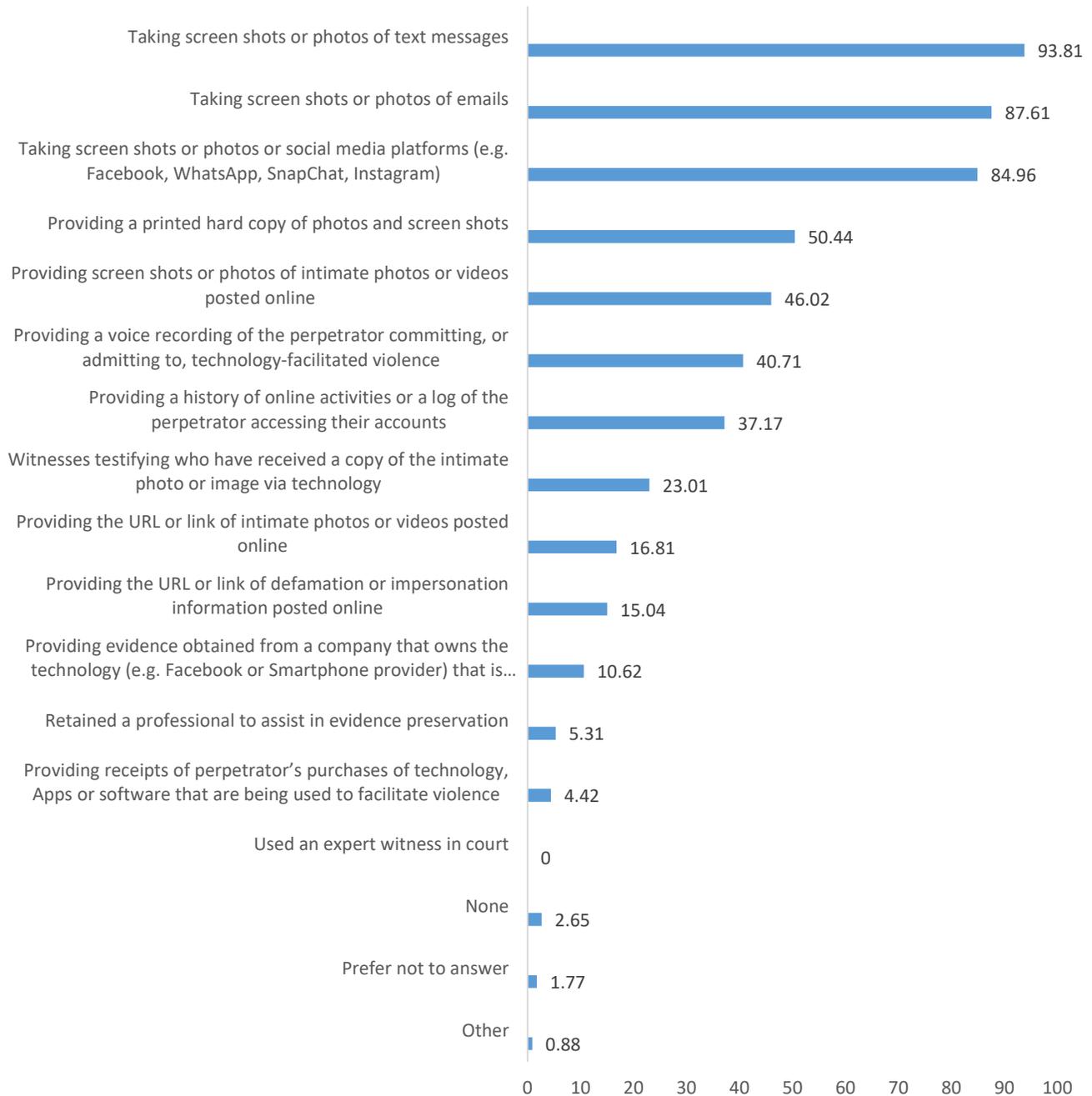




Figure 14: What are some of the ways you have seen women use technology to preserve evidence in cases of technology-facilitated violence? Check all that apply (n = 113)

Figure 15 illustrates anti-violence violence workers knowledge and understanding of the preferred ways that lawyers representing women, law enforcement and judges prefer to receive digital evidence. Of 111 respondents, 15 (13.51%) said that in the context of evidence preservation, they knew how the lawyers representing women they support prefer to receive digital evidence (e.g. Via texts, emails, social media messages/post, photos, hard copies, etc.). 94 respondents (84.69%) said ‘they did not’ or ‘did not know’ how lawyers prefer to receive digital evidence.

26 (23.64%) of 110 respondents said that they knew how law enforcement in their community prefer to receive digital evidence (e.g. via texts, emails, social media messages/post, photos, hard copies, etc.). 82 respondents (74.54%) said they ‘did not’ or ‘did not know’ how law enforcement prefers to receive digital evidence.

Only 4 of 111 respondents (3.6%) said that they knew how judges in their community prefer to receive digital evidence (e.g. via texts, emails, social media messages/posts, photos, hard copies, etc.). 104 respondents (96.69%) said they ‘did not’ or ‘did not know’ how judges prefer to receive digital evidence in their community.

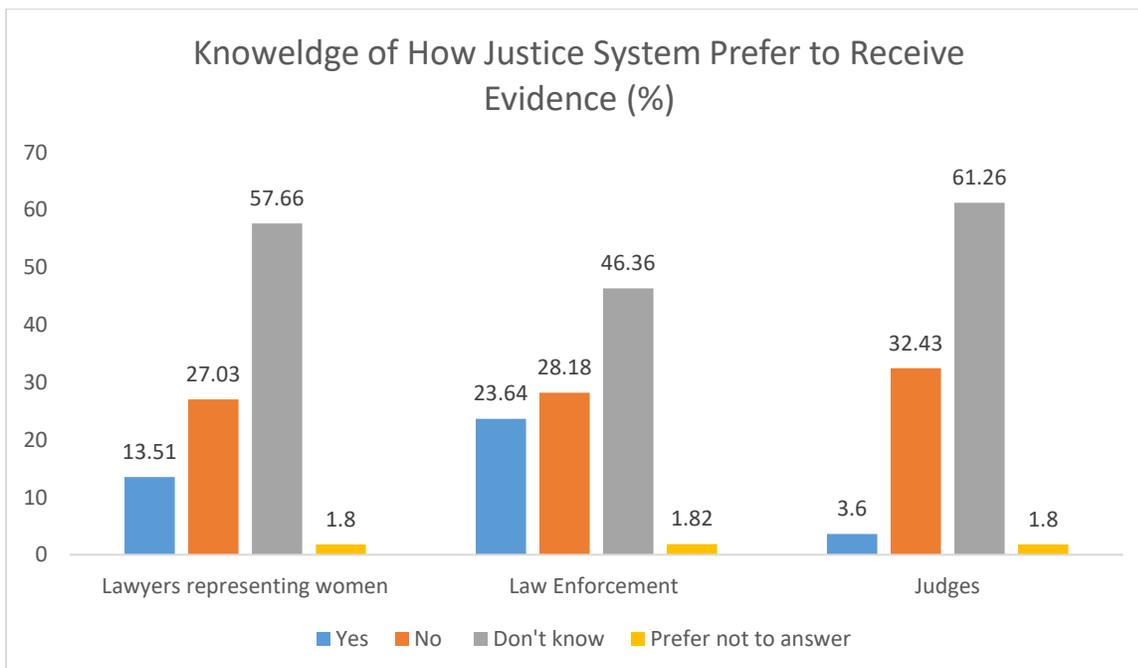


Figure 15: For evidence preservation, do you know how lawyers representing women you support in your community prefer to receive digital evidence (n = 111); For evidence preservation, do you know how law



enforcement in your community prefer to receive digital evidence (n = 110); For evidence preservation, do you know how judges in your community prefer to receive digital evidence (n = 111)

Legal Proceedings

29 of 112 survey respondents (25.89%) said, “women were able to use digital evidence in legal proceedings in their community.” 74 respondents (66.07%) reported that they “did not know” if women were able to use digital evidence in legal proceedings. 7 respondents (6.25%) said women in their community were not able to.

Of those who stated that women were not able to use technology evidence in legal proceedings (6.25%) or who “preferred not to answer (1.79%),” respondents were asked to check all that applied from a multiple-choice list, to identify the most common reasons women in their communities are not able to use digital evidence in legal proceedings. Of 8 respondents, 62.5% selected “women do not have information on how to preserve evidence.” Equally 62.5% selected “evidence was not preserved in an acceptable format,” followed by 50% who indicated that “women do not know how to preserve digital evidence” as the most common reasons.

8 respondents (7.08%) had seen or heard of BC judges disallowing digital evidence of technology-facilitated violence in court. However, 68 of 118 respondents (60.18%) did not know if they had seen or heard of BC judges disallowing evidence of technology-facilitated violence in court. 36 respondents (31.86%) said they had not seen or heard of judges disallowing evidence of technology-facilitated violence in court.

50 of 113 respondents (44.25%) report that they are aware of lawyers or judges asking for technology to be used between perpetrators and women for communication purposes. For example, lawyers or judges in BC have asked for online, text or cell phone communication in family court matters. 49 respondents (43.36%) did not know if lawyers or judges in their community asked for technology to be used between perpetrators and women for communication purposes. 13 respondents (11.5%) said that lawyers and judges in their community did not ask for technology to be used between perpetrators and women for communication purposes.

40 of 107 respondents stated that the most common way technology is being used against women they support in court was that “the perpetrator provided screenshots or photos of partial conversations to misrepresent information” (37.38%). 49 respondents (45.79%) had not supported women where technology is being used as evidence against them in court proceedings.



Law Enforcement

Figure 16 displays how responsive law enforcement were to women’s reports of technology-facilitated violence according to survey respondents. Most commonly, respondents report law enforcement was “somewhat” (32.74%) responsive to women’s reports of technology-facilitated violence, followed by “not very” (20.35%) and “don’t know” (17.7%).

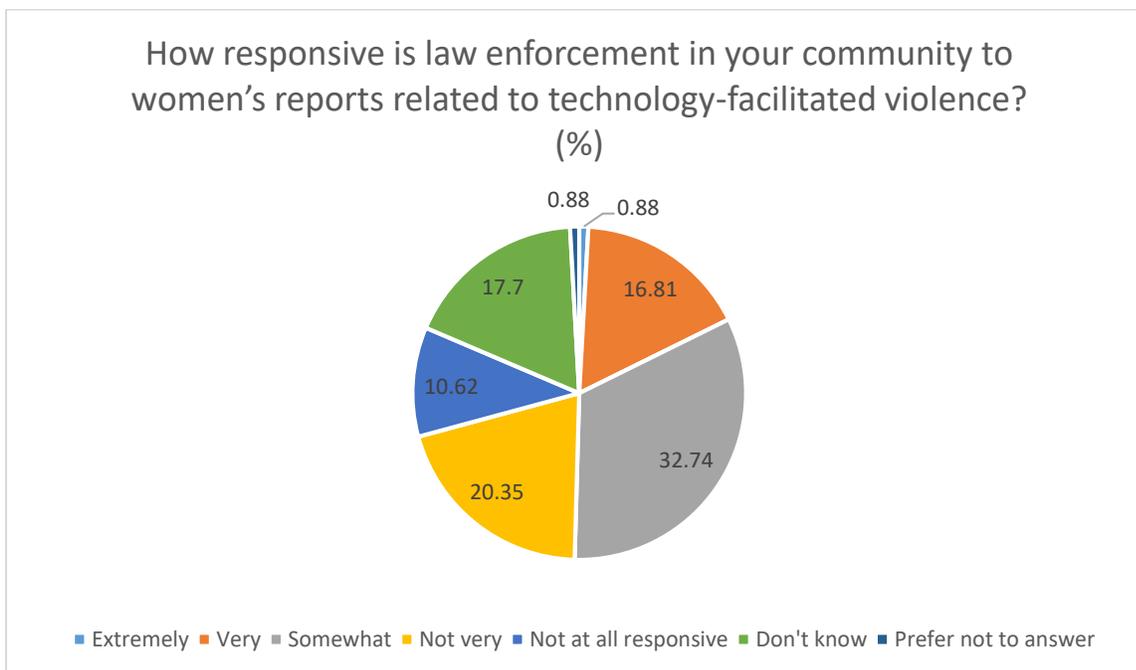


Figure 16: How responsive is law enforcement in your community to women’s reports related to technology-facilitated violence? (n = 113)

Respondents were asked, what they believe are the reasons that law enforcement in their community is not responsive to women’s reports related to technology-facilitated violence. 35 respondents reported that most commonly, they believed that the “minimization of women’s experiences of technology-facilitated violence” (85.71%), followed by “lack of training on how to respond to, investigate and charge, crimes linked to technology-facilitated violence located within Canada” (82.86%) and “lack of understanding of technology-facilitated violence” (80%) contributed to the lack of response to technology-facilitated violence by law enforcement in some BC communities (figure 17).

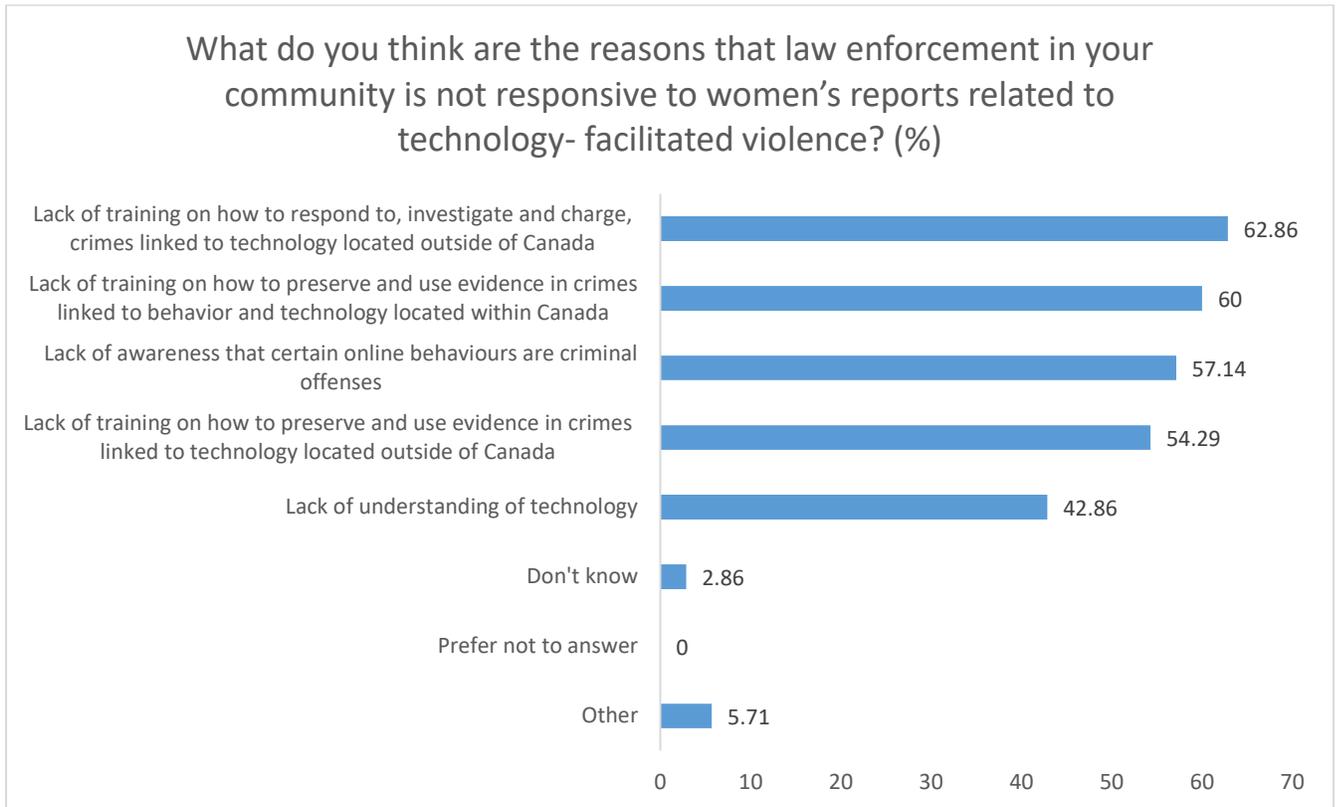


Figure 17: What do you think are the reasons that law enforcement in your community is not responsive to women’s reports related to technology- facilitated violence? (n = 35)

Protection Orders

74 of 113 survey respondents (65.49%) have worked with women who have had conditions related to the use of technology included in their protection orders. 20 respondents (17.7%) did not know and 18 respondents (15.93%) had not worked with women who have had conditions related to the use of technology included in their protection orders. An example of a condition related to the use of technology included in a protection order could be “the perpetrator is not allowed to contact her online or via her cell phone.”

Figure 18 displays the type of protection orders issued to women identified by 71 respondents who chose from a multiple-choice list.

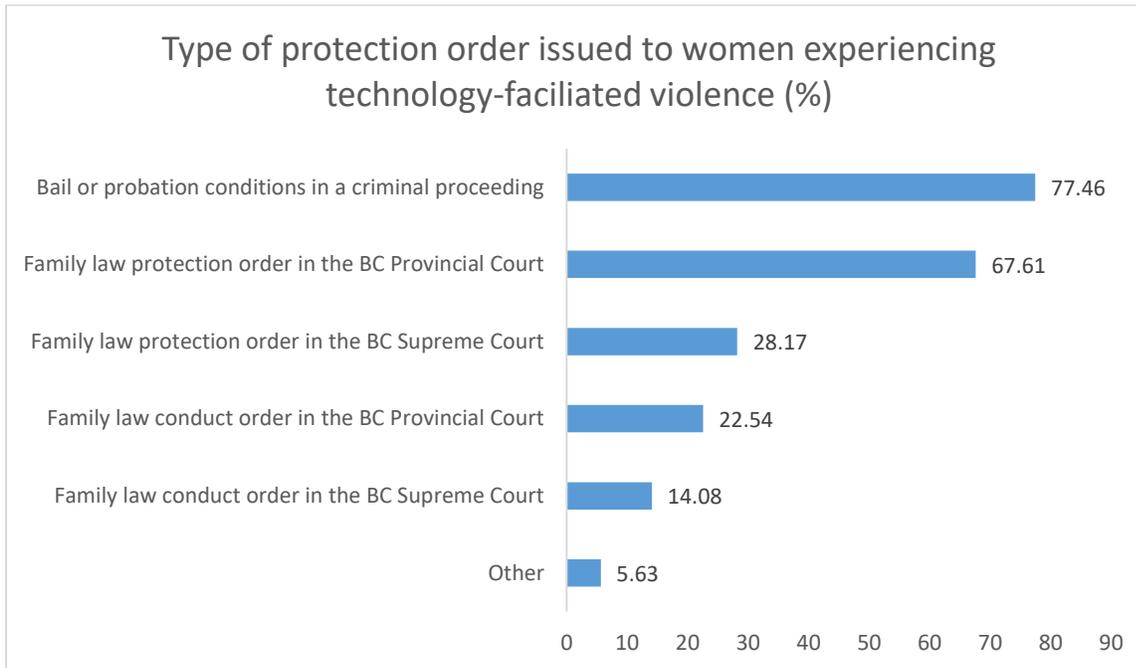


Figure 18: Please indicate the type of protection orders issued: (check all that apply) (n = 71)

Training and Resource Development

Figure 19 displays the type of training anti-violence workers have received to respond to women's experiences of technology-facilitated violence. 54 respondents (43.20%) said 'they have' received training about "how to support women experiencing technology-facilitated violence." 63 respondents (50.40%) 'have not' received this training and six respondents (4.80%) answered, "don't know."

Similarly, 53 respondents (42.74%) said that 'they have' received training about "how to safety plan with women experiencing technology-facilitated violence" and 65 respondents (52.42%) said that they 'have not' received this training. 6 respondents (4.80%) said that they 'did not know' if they had received training about how to safety plan with women and two respondents (1.61%) "preferred not to answer."

In response to "have you received training about how to preserve evidence of technology-facilitated violence?" 13 respondents (10.48%) said "yes" however 107 respondents (86.29%) said they 'had not.'

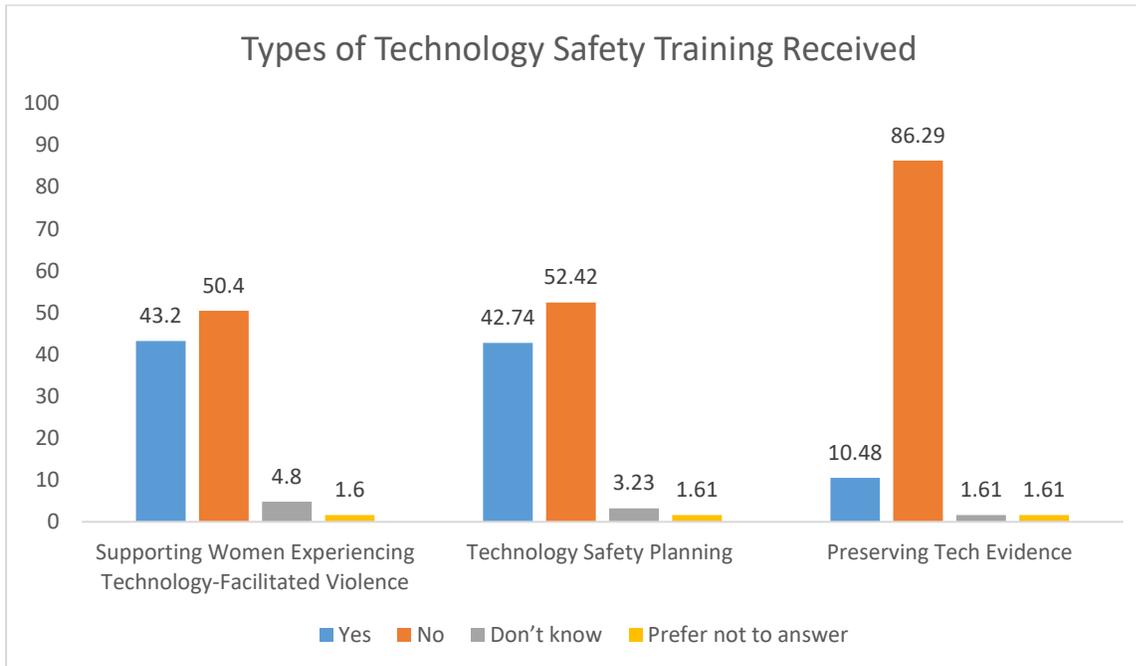


Figure 19: Have you received training about how to support women experiencing technology-facilitated violence? (n = 125) Have you received training about how to safety plan with women experiencing technology-facilitated violence? (n = 124) Have you received training about how to preserve evidence of technology facilitated violence (n = 124).

105 of 113 survey respondents (92.92%) reported “yes” that they would like more resources to help work with women on how to preserve evidence related to technology-facilitated violence.

Of 123 respondents, most commonly, 82 respondents (66.67%) preferred to receive information about technology-facilitated violence via in-person training followed by 78 of respondents (63.41%) preferring online training and 61 respondents (49.59%) would like to receive resources and training via webinar.

Recommendations

87.6% of the BCSTH survey respondents from a multidisciplinary spectrum of BC anti-violence programs report that they supported women who have experienced technology-facilitated violence. Though these programs have varying needs, together, anti-violence workers have identified common devices, methods and modes of technology-facilitated violence perpetrated against women in British Columbia.



Harassment, threats and criminal harassment are most commonly received via text, social media and email on women's smartphones, laptops and tablets. Location tracking through GPS enabled devices was also identified as a common way that perpetrators misuse technology to (criminally) harass and monitor women.

The prevalence of technology-facilitated violence in British Columbia supports the need for an increased awareness of digital violence by BC's justice system to respond to women's experiences of technology-facilitated violence and to hold perpetrators accountable. Anti-violence workers report that women do not know how to preserve evidence of technology-facilitated violence and do not have information about how to safeguard evidence in a format that can be reviewed successfully by law enforcement, judges and lawyers. Other provinces, Ontario and Saskatchewan, have specific statutes governing electronic evidence. BC's Evidence Act is silent on this issue and possibly could be amended to provide clarity for litigants and in particular self-representing women who are trying to preserve and submit digital evidence in court cases.

Survey respondents also expressed a need for resources and training about preserving and safe keeping digital evidence. These resources would also be beneficial for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and lawyers, as anti-violence workers report varying responses in the justice system to technology-facilitated violence across the province. As a first step, BCSTH, with the guidance of our Advisory Committee members and legal research students, will develop in-person and web based trainings to increase the capacity of BC's anti-violence workers to better support women who experience technology-facilitated violence. BCSTH will also develop accessible online resources for both anti-violence workers and women about best practices to preserve the digital evidence of technology-facilitated violence.

It is our hope that the BCSTH survey report findings will encourage BC's justice system to recognize the prevalence of technology-facilitated violence in violence against women cases. There is a need for the justice system to respond to this reality in a coordinated and consistent manner to provide access to justice for women and to hold perpetrators accountable in technology facilitated violence cases.

We thank the anti-violence workers across BC for taking the time out of their busy days to fill out the BCSTH survey. These critical survey findings will guide the evidence preservation work of the BCSTH Technology Safety Project.

For more information about BCSTH's Technology Safety project, <https://bcsth.ca/projects/technology-safety/>