

The Unintended Consequences of a Digitized World: Different Tactics, Same Abuse

Authors : Ashley Andrew

Abstract : Over the years, there have been drastic developments in technology that have altered the ways we interact with and utilize technology. Social media platforms have expanded, access to information is easily accessible on cellular devices, ways of banking have changed, and virtual meetings/work have become the norm. The COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted the importance of pivoting and adapting to the benefits that technology provides, including Accessibility (services are more available to people living in remote areas and/or with mobility concerns), Convenience (technology has allowed easier options for booking appointments and connecting with loved ones), Availability (People can attend services that best meet their availability/schedule). Although there have been large improvements in accessibility to services and resources with the evolution of technology, there are also some major concerns that are not being addressed when it comes to technology and intimate partner violence. This study explores how the growth in technology has changed the way people are being abused and harmed and the sad reality that regulations and laws have not caught up with the advances in technology. The study will also explore cyberstalking, social media triggers, and location-tracking devices and applications. By exploring how technology impacts intimate partner violence, clinicians will learn how to better assess and safety plan for these risk factors.

Keywords : abuse, intimate partner violence, safety planning, technology

Conference Title : ICDV 2025 : International Conference on Domestic Violence

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan

Conference Dates : February 25-26, 2025