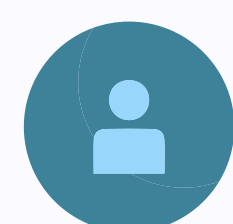


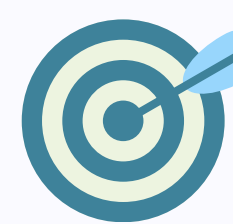
# Digital Security in the Academy



**Most harassment happens on social media.**



**Researchers often change their research topics after being harassed.**



**Women, LGBTQ+ and racially minoritized researchers are frequent targets of harassment.**



**Women receive less institutional support after harassment.**



**Researchers post less on social media after being harassed.**



**Harassment causes sleep problems, anxiety, depression, job loss and threats to physical safety.**

## Before You Start



- **Tell your institution that you are doing 'risky' research.**
- **Separate professional and personal accounts.**
- **Use encrypted communication methods.**
- **Set up a Google alert for your name.**
- **State on social media accounts that views are your own.**
- **Know your ombudsman and union representative.**


## What Universities & Academics Can Do



### Actions for Academics



### Advice for Universities

- Set up two-factor authentication.**
- Use a password manager & unique passwords.**
- Review & update your privacy settings.**
- Search data aggregators to find and remove information.**
- Delete old posts / inactive accounts.**
- Remove your address from your website's domain name.**
- Install software updates on all devices and scan for malware.**
- Hide property purchases using an LLC/Trust.**
-  **Not sure where to start? Use [this guide](#).**

- **Create a prevention and response plan ([like this](#)).**
- **Clarify that funding & enrollment will not be jeopardized by public reactions to research.**
- **Provide cell phones and laptops for research purposes.**
- **Provide free subscriptions to digital privacy services.**
- **Provide mental health counselling, legal advice and security services.**
- **Train a point-person to coordinate responses, document evidence, etc.**
- **Ensure identifying information can be easily removed from websites.**
- **Undertake "harassment" drills and stress tests.**