Social Media Self-Defense
A Guide to Stopping Stalkers
Pseudonymity

★ Choose a public name, and use it!
  ○ Shortened version of your legal name
  ○ Middle names
  ○ Anything you want!
★ Make sure it is something you will respond to.
★ Reserve your legal name for “official” things.
★ Work on NOT responding when someone uses your legal name.
Disinformation & Misdirection

★ More info available means less digging!
★ Consistency is more important than truth.
★ Being mind-numbingly boring helps!
  ○ Endless pictures of your lunch
  ○ Very boring, extremely detailed stories
  ○ Trite memes
  ○ Cat pictures
★ Subtlety is key.
Compartmentalization

★ Consider keeping social media profiles separate
★ Use different handles
★ Use unique email addresses
  ○ elle.fb@gmail.com
  ○ elle.twitter@gmail.com
  ○ armageddon.okc@gmail.com
★ Fabricate unique personally-identifying information
Professional vs. Personal

★ Don’t share profiles with co-workers.
★ Don’t share profiles with your boss.
★ Consider a work-specific profile.
★ Do NOT use your work email for personal accounts.
★ What you say publicly can hurt you professionally.
Choosing Photos

★ Beware reverse image search.
★ Don’t use the same pictures in profiles you want to keep separate.
★ USE reverse image search!
★ Don’t attach your face to profiles you don’t want linked to your public identity.
★ Don’t attach your face to your legal name.
Keeping Secrets

★ Secrets are not secret once they are shared.
★ Good intentions can’t stop thoughtless comments.
★ Once it’s out, you can’t get it back.
★ The internet does not forget.
★ Keep it secret, keep it safe.
“I don’t recall.”
Threat Modeling

★ Nobody knows your threat model better than you do.
★ It’s not about telling you what to do, it’s about helping you decide how to do it.
★ Live safely, but don’t let safety stop you from living.
Communication

★ Your privacy is only as good as your friends’ privacy.
★ Tell people your information-sharing preferences.
★ Talk to your friends about tagging!
★ Don’t stay silent.
What Can You Do?

★ Don’t make assumptions.
★ Talk to your users about their concerns.
★ Keep lines of communication open so users can bring concerns to you.
★ Believe users when they tell you they are worried.
Contact Me!

★ @OaklandElle on Twitter
★ armageddon@riseup.net
★ blog.totallynotmalware.net