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Threat Modeling

First

- **Consider your intangible assets. Who/what do you want to protect?**
 - *Write down any assets from the list below and/or others, in order of priority*
 - Yourself, your spouse, children, family, friends, colleagues
 - Personal privacy
 - Personal control over identity
 - Access to free flow of information
 - Separation of online personas
 - Integrity and trust you or organization has built
- **Then consider your tangible assets. What do you want to protect?**
 - *Write down any assets from the list below and/or others, in order of priority*
 - Physical assets like car, laptop, phone
 - Photographs or video - on phone, laptop, in the cloud
 - Private documents, like financial statements and client reports
 - Online accounts
 - Contact lists of sources, partners, clients
 - Communication with editors, activists, and/or colleagues
 - Time-sensitive research and data
 - Draft documents and articles, sometimes involving collaborators
- **Who do you want to protect it from?**
 - *List these individuals next to listed assets*
 - Abusive partner or ex-partner
 - Criminals (burglars)
 - Cybercriminals (hackers)
 - Online abusers (trolls)
 - Other abusers (in the workplace, at home, etc)
 - Government agencies
 - Individuals looking to discredit you (partner's ex-spouse, online adversary, etc)
 - Individuals looking to get access to information you have
 - Roommates or guests in your home

Then

- ☐ **Determine how likely it is that you will need to protect the assets you listed**
 - Consider and write down:
 - ☐ Severity of threat to assets you listed (high, moderate, low)
 - ☐ Capabilities of adversaries (highly capable of carrying out threat, etc)
 - ☐ Trustworthiness of individuals (highly trustworthy, less trustworthy, etc)
- ☐ **Determine how bad the consequences will be if you fail**
 - Answer the following questions to determine consequences:
 - ☐ Do you have any intangible assets that are at risk? At home? At work?
 - ☐ Do you have any tangible assets that are irreplaceable?
 - ☐ Do you have time and/or money to replace assets?
 - ☐ Do you have insurance to cover stolen goods?
 - ☐ Do you have protection and/or support from your employer in the face of threat?

Next

- ❑ **What are you willing to do to prevent or reduce these consequences?**
 - Consider: Amount of money you are willing to spend on the following:
 - ❑ Physical security (lock, security box, security system, safes, etc.)
 - ❑ Digital security (subscriptions to info-scrubbing services, etc.)
 - ❑ Emotional and mental health (counseling sessions, yoga classes, etc.)
 - ❑ Legal (hiring a lawyer, getting consultations, going to court, etc.)

 - Consider: Amount of time you are willing to spend on the following:
 - ❑ Physical security (installing locks or security systems, etc.)
 - ❑ Digital security (installing password managers, 2FA, etc.)
 - ❑ Emotional and mental health (attending counseling, break from internet)

 - Consider: Risks you are willing to take on the following:
 - ❑ Your health/wellbeing (mental, physical, emotional)
 - ❑ Your relationships (partner, parents, friends/acquaintances)
 - ❑ Physical possessions (laptop, car, phone)
 - ❑ Employment
 - ❑ Clients
 - ❑ Other forms of credibility (audience/readers, company reputation)

What are the outcomes you want, based on measures you are willing to take? *May include: Security of digital devices and passwords, job security, physical safety, legal recourse against online abuser(s)*

Consider

- If you have been harassed online, start by identifying the type of harassment you are facing
- To help determine who is threatening you and/or your assets, answer these questions:
 - Would anyone want to stop you in your activities? If so, who?
 - Does anyone want to know what you do? If so, who?
 - Have you had any reasons to worry about your online activities or your devices?
- To assess specific, active risks, answer the following questions:
 - What is the specific text/content of abuse (threat made in email, etc)?
 - What is the volume of the abuse (multiple messages, tweets, emails)?
 - What is/are the sources of the abuse? (Twitter account, email account)?
 - What is the timeline of the abuse? (How long has it lasted, is it ongoing, etc?)