

My name is Kelsey Evers and I am here to tell you about my personal experience in regards to the law of Invasion of Personal Privacy. My best friend, Ashley Buckle, was stalked and harassed over the internet by her step-father Bryan. During that time, Bryan also secretly filmed her, and other victims, in several states of undress. These cameras were unknowingly placed in bedrooms and bathrooms of the victims without their consent. Bedrooms and bathrooms are private places where an individual should feel safe and secure, but now, that is not the case. For 14 months, I watched my best friend suffer. For 14 months, I watched my best friend be fearful for her life. I was fearful for my own life. We were lied to, manipulated, and were tricked into believing the person we thought that we knew was someone he was not. Our relationships and emotions were tore apart countless times. We did poorly on tests, missed classes, and had several sleepless nights. I watched Bryan as he comforted Ashley after her terrorized her, time and time again. No one should have to live like that. Bryan tried to break us apart, humiliate us, manipulate us, and caused us to be inaccurately portrayed as people we clearly are not. After finding these videos, we figured that her stepfather would be in prison for a much longer sentence; however, we were wrong. It was unbelievable to find out that such a crime is only a misdemeanor in the state of Oregon. With the current law, an individual can enter a home, place a camera in a desired location, film a victim, and retrieve that camera. With that video, an individual can do as they please. We have no idea where videos could end up or what the individual could do with those videos. They could be roaming around the internet for all eyes to view. Not to mention, the individual does not have to register as a sex offender if he or she gets caught. Although I was not personally video taped, that we are aware of, I feel very strongly that the law needs to be changed. Bryan was extremely close to my family and I considered him a fatherlike figure. If a person I trusted and respected could do something so painful and leave so much fear and devastation, it is clear that this type of crime could happen to anyone. Invasion of Personal Privacy needs to be changed to a felony and the perpetrators should be required to register as a sex offender. Although this law will not affect our situation, we feel strongly that it needs to be changed so that others are not left in the same situation that we face today.