

# Problem Statement

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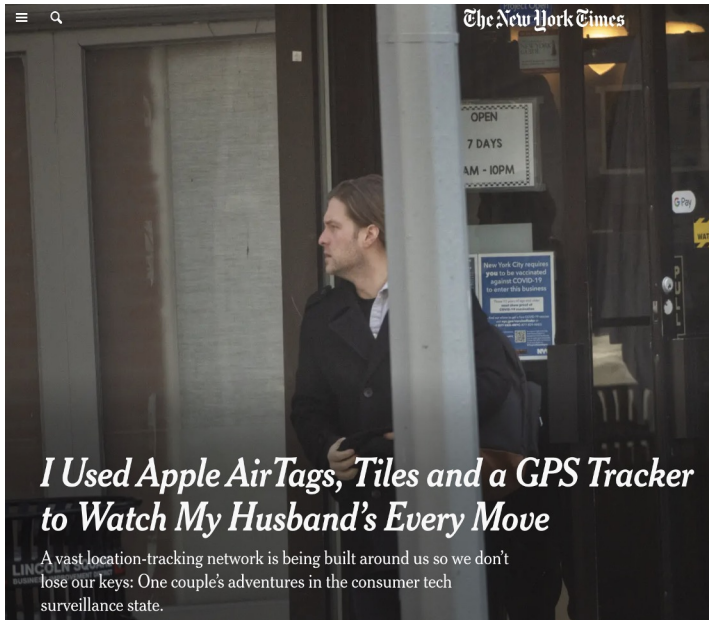
- Bluetooth trackers are being misused as a tactic of abuse to perpetrate harassment, stalking, theft, domestic violence, and sexual assault.
- The ability for us to control our location privacy is deeply connected to our safety and well-being.
- The lack of standardized design and implementation of these devices allows for wide misuse and significant safety risks.

# Location Tracking as a Tactic of Abuse

- Common tactic of abuse, long before Bluetooth tracking devices.
- Bluetooth devices increase the accuracy and ease, creating significant and urgent safety concerns.
- Location and safety are critically linked for survivors. Leaving an abusive partner is the most dangerous time.



# Media Coverage (Helpful?)



The image shows the website of the New York State Attorney General, Letitia James. The header includes the state seal and the text "Office of the New York State Attorney General" and "Letitia James New York State Attorney General". There is a search bar and a navigation menu with links for "About", "Resources", "Libraries & Documents", "News & Media", and "Contact". A "CONSUMER ALERT" banner is visible, with the text: "CONSUMER ALERT: Attorney General James Warns New Yorkers of Tracking Threat From Malicious Apple AirTag Users".

February 16, 2022

TECHNOLOGY

## Consumers beware: Personal tracking devices can track you, too

February 20, 2022 · 5:19 PM ET

Heard on [All Things Considered](#)

An audio player interface with a blue background. It features a play button icon, the text "8-Minute Listen", and several control icons: a plus sign for a playlist, a download icon, a double arrow for previous track, and a hamburger menu icon.

NPR's Michel Martin talks to Eva Galperin, Electronic Frontier Foundation Director of Cybersecurity, about recent controversies surrounding Apple AirTags and unwanted tracking.

# Reports of Abuse

- Victim service providers and survivors have reported the misuse of trackers as a method of stalking and surveillance.
- Trackers of all kinds have been found in the belongings of survivors or their children.
- Dec 2022: Two women filed a class action lawsuit against Apple after discovering their exes were stalking them using AirTags.

# Challenges for Survivors

- There are MANY ways that location can be tracked. How do you begin to narrow down the options to identify what is happening?
- Current design places a significant burden on the person being stalked/tracked.
- Shelters are struggling with how to respond.
- Concern over tracking is often minimized.