RELATIONWATCH RESEARCH BRIEF #09

RW-RB-009

Published September 4, 2026

Red Flags Before Discovery of an Extramarital Affair

A 374-case affair-during-marriage population, with conservative pre-discovery findings drawn from the evidence-rich cases whose chronology could be established.

Supported affair population: 374 cases

High-confidence pre-discovery subset: 11

Suspicion-only cases excluded from findings

374

Supported affair cases

Affair during an ongoing marriage

293

Confirmed affairs

Text-supported confirmation or discovery

81

Strongly reported/alleged

Supported above suspicion-only

11

High-confidence chronology

2.9% of the supported population

Executive Summary

This Brief screened 2154 verified public cases and identified 374 cases with an affair supported as occurring during an ongoing marriage: **293 confirmed** and **81 strongly reported/alleged**. Another 152 cases were suspicion-only and 21 were unsupported or unclear; neither group contributes to the findings. Because 363 supported-affair cases did not document a sufficiently reliable before/discovery/after sequence, the ranked red flags use a nested 11-case high-confidence subset. Within that subset, **Phone or message secrecy** was observed in 8 cases (72.7%).

How to Read the Two Cohorts

374 · Supported affair population

293 confirmed plus 81 strongly reported/alleged affairs during an ongoing marriage.

363 · Chronology not sufficient

Affair evidence was supported, but available text did not place a searched warning sign reliably before discovery.

11 · High-confidence subset

At least one red flag was explicitly pre-discovery or occurred earlier in an ordered event/pathway record.

The 374-case population defines the broader context. The 11-case subset—not all 374 cases—is the denominator for ranked pre-discovery behaviors. This prevents discovery actions and post-discovery consequences from being mislabeled as warning signs.

Research Question

What behavioral or situational warning signs appeared before discovery of extramarital affairs in ongoing marriages represented in RelationWatch?

1 · Before discovery

Only explicitly timed narrative evidence or earlier ordered events contribute to the ranked red flags.

2 · Discovery event

Messages, observation, admission, disclosure, financial evidence, or another documented discovery mechanism.

3 · After discovery

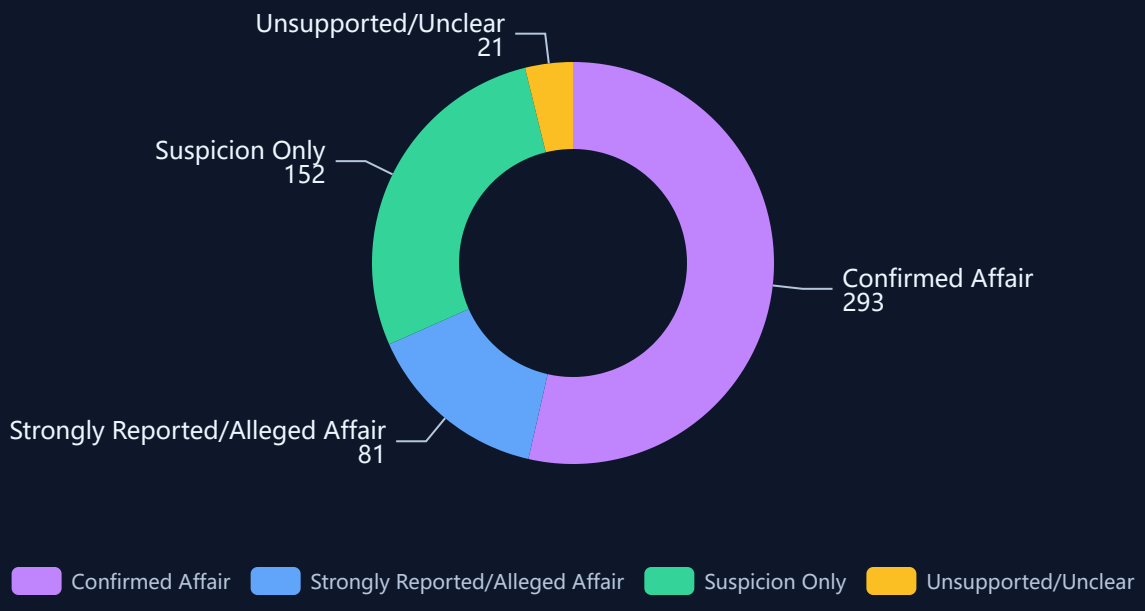
Confrontation, separation, threats, violence, and other consequences are excluded from the warning-sign count.

Dataset and screening

TOTAL VERIFIED PUBLIC CASES SEARCHED	2154
INITIAL STRUCTURED/FULL-TEXT MATCHES	1667
NOT AN ONGOING MARRIAGE / LATER RELATIONSHIP	1120
ONGOING-MARRIAGE CANDIDATES	547
UNSUPPORTED/UNCLEAR AFFAIR EVIDENCE	21
SUSPICION-ONLY CASES (EXCLUDED)	152
SUPPORTED AFFAIR, INSUFFICIENT CHRONOLOGY	363
QUALIFYING CASES	11
DISTINCT SOURCE URLS IN QUALIFYING AUDIT	11
INCIDENT-DATE COVERAGE	2020-01-01 – 2026-02-09

Affair-evidence classification

The chart describes all 547 ongoing-marriage candidates. Confirmed and strongly reported/alleged cases form the 374-case population; suspicion-only and unsupported records are excluded.



Key Findings

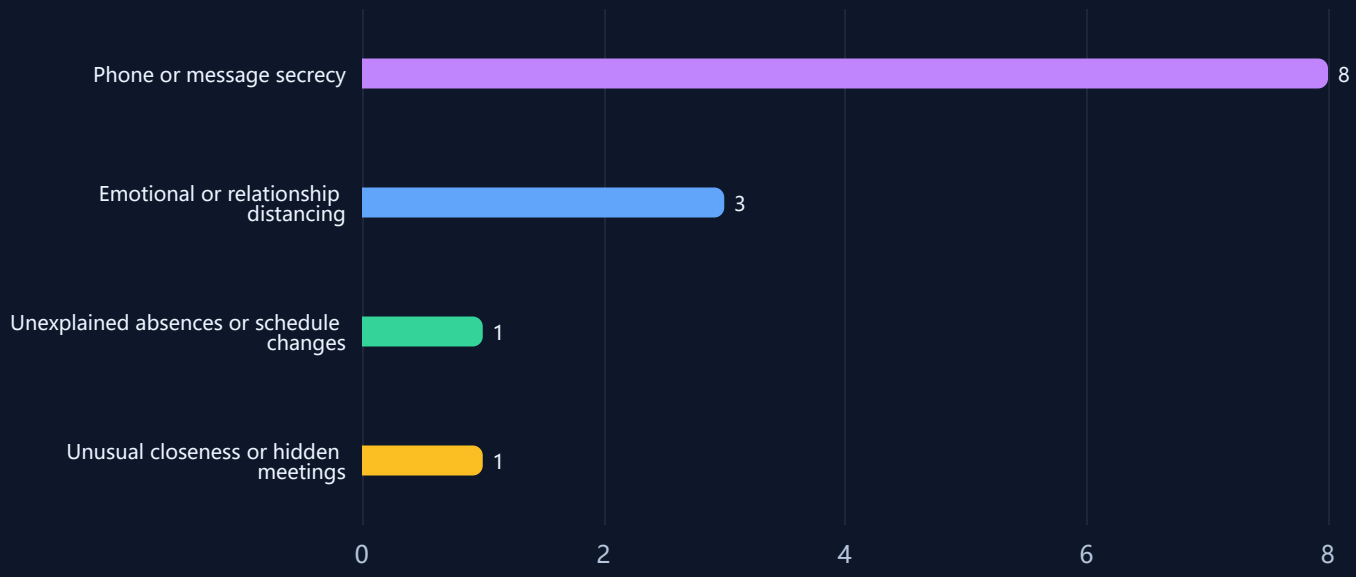
Phone or message secrecy appeared before discovery in 8 of 11 qualifying cases (72.7%).

Emotional or relationship distancing appeared before discovery in 3 of 11 qualifying cases (27.3%).

Unexplained absences or schedule changes appeared before discovery in 1 of 11 qualifying cases (9.1%).

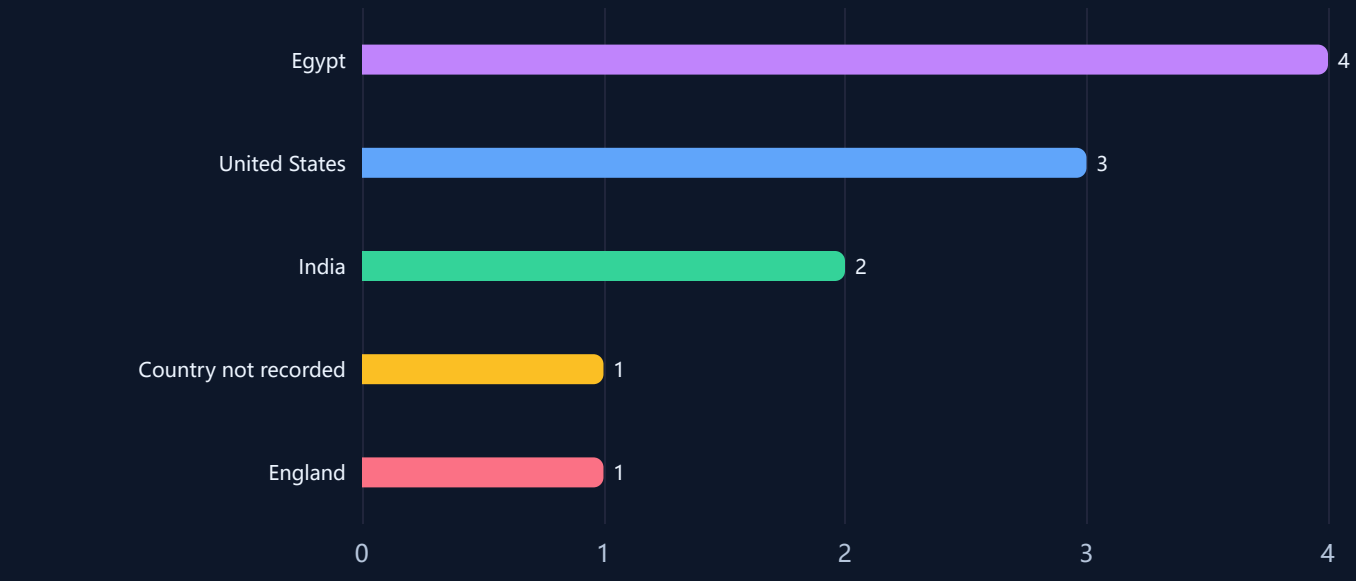
Ranked pre-discovery red flags

Categories can overlap; percentages use all qualifying cases as the denominator.



Countries represented

Composition of the fixed cohort, not a country comparison.



Ranked Red Flags

RANK	PRE-DISCOVERY RED FLAG	CASES	% OF QUALIFYING CASES
1	Phone or message secrecy	8	72.7%
2	Emotional or relationship distancing	3	27.3%
3	Unexplained absences or schedule changes	1	9.1%
4	Unusual closeness or hidden meetings	1	9.1%

Phone and Digital Communication Patterns

Subpatterns are shown only when supported by the pre-discovery evidence retained in the audit.

MESSAGING OR SOCIAL-MEDIA SECRECY	1 (9.1%)

Changes in Routine and Absence

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES OR SCHEDULE CHANGES	1 (9.1%)

Emotional and Relationship Changes

EMOTIONAL OR RELATIONSHIP DISTANCING	3 (27.3%)
UNUSUAL CLOSENESS OR HIDDEN MEETINGS	1 (9.1%)

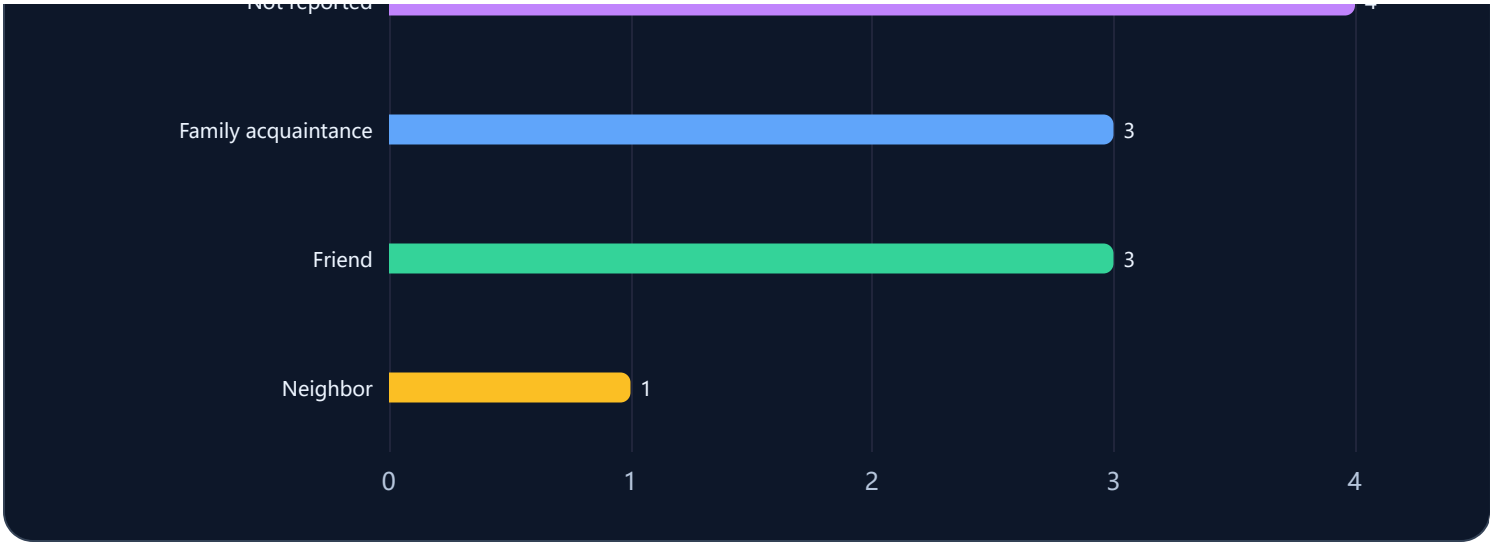
Financial Indicators

No financial category met the conservative chronology rule in this cohort.

Who Was the Third Party?

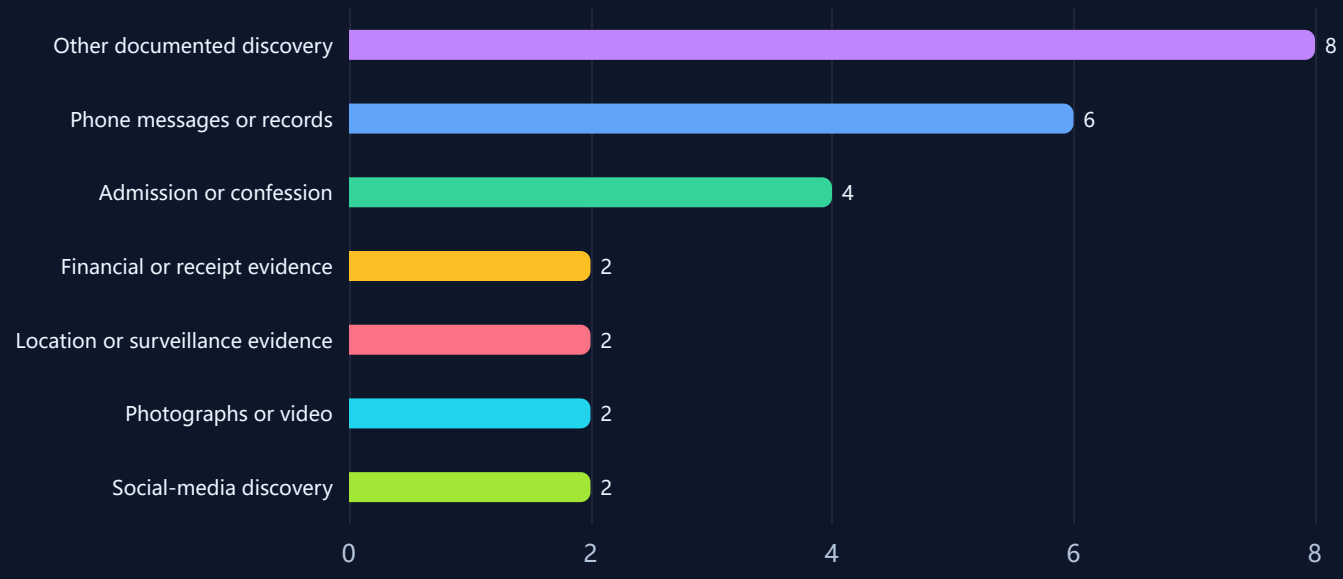
Role is reported only when a structured field or affair-context passage identifies it.





How Affairs Were Eventually Discovered

Discovery mechanisms are separate from pre-discovery warning signs and may overlap.



Representative RelationWatch Cases

Examples are selected to cover the supported categories. The private screening audit retains the matched field, short evidence passage, chronology basis, classification, Case ID, country, and source references for every qualifying case.

Walid Allegedly Murdered by Randa Ismail and Mohamed El-Sayed, Ismailia, Egypt

Case 2301 · Egypt · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Emotional or relationship distancing, Unusual closeness or hidden meetings

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- قضية راندا التي عاشرت عشيقها بسبب مرض زوجها هزت المجتمع المصري والعالم العربي | قصة جريمة حقيقية — جريمة حقيقية - Egypt

The Murder of Luvkesh Tomar in Lodhai Village, Tajganj, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India

Case 122 · India · 2026 · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Phone or message secrecy, Emotional or relationship distancing

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- The Murder of Luvkesh Tomar in Lodhai Village, Tajganj, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India — Black Ink - India

Sahar Allegedly Murdered by Emad Ramadan, Ain Shams, Egypt

Case 2298 · Egypt · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Unexplained absences or schedule changes

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- رفضت العلاقة معه... فشك في سلوكها انتهى الأمر بجريمة هزت المجتمع المصري | قصة جريمة حقيقية — جريمة حقيقية - Egypt

Mohamed Disappearance Involving Gomaa and Walaa, Mansoura, Egypt

Case 2307 · Egypt · 2020 · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Phone or message secrecy

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- قضية الزوجة التي عاشـ..رت عشيقها 8 سنوات وانتهت بدفن الزوج 55 يوم وهو حي! | قصة جريمة حقيقية — جريمة حقيقية - Egypt

Ahmed and Zahra Allegedly Murdered by Abdullah, Al-Bayda, Libya

Case 2204 · Country not recorded · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Phone or message secrecy

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- 😱 !! خيانة زوجية تنتهي بجريمة هزت ليبيا | إسمع القصة اذا قلبك قوي — قصص دكتور محمد الجنابي 💔 - Iraq

Ali Allegedly Murdered by Amira and Mustafa, Menoufia, Egypt

Case 2182 · Egypt · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Phone or message secrecy

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- دليل الخيانة بالصوت — Nahla Nabil نهلة نبيل - Algeria

Michael Liry Disappearance Involving Andrew Jones, Kamarvin, England

Case 1281 · England · 2020 · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Emotional or relationship distancing

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- Three Word Text Solved Murder Even With No Body | Affair Led To Murder | UK True Crime Documentary — UK True Crime - England

Jon Satoshi Tokuhara Allegedly Murdered by Eric Thompson, Waipahu, Hawaii, United States

Case 785 · United States · 2022 · Confirmed Affair

Pre-discovery patterns: Phone or message secrecy

Chronology support: Ordered event or chronology record

- Affair with the Wrong Man's Wife Results in 48-Second Mystery Murder | Jon Tokuhara Case Analysis — Dr. Grande

Search and Reproducibility

The population was generated from broad case-level full-text screening across narrative, article, transcript, source, event, and behavioral text, supplemented by existing structured fields; it did not rely on the affair drop-down value or the exact phrase "extramarital affair" alone. Search terms included affair, infidelity, cheating, adultery, lover, paramour, another man/woman, secret or illicit relationship, suspected affair, unfaithful, new partner, and third person. The search covered:

- Case summary
- Pattern analysis
- Investigative notes
- Investigation confusion
- Case reconstruction
- Chronological case narration
- Relationship pattern
- Risk assessment
- Key takeaways
- Early-signal analysis
- Clue analysis
- Evidence analysis
- Witness statements
- Follow-up analysis
- Unresolved questions
- Third-party context
- Source title
- Source description
- Intake case title
- Intake case summary
- Intake pattern analysis
- Intake investigative notes

- Intake investigation confusion
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- Intake clue analysis
- Intake evidence analysis
- Intake witness statements
- Intake follow-up analysis
- Intake unresolved questions
- Intake contributing factors
- Intake red flags
- Intake motives
- Intake outcomes
- Intake third-party context
- Full article text
- Source transcript
- Relationship status
- Motives
- Contributing factors
- Red flags
- Relationship outcomes
- People and person notes
- Case-source titles and notes
- Ordered case-simulation events
- Approved behavioral profiles and pathways

A case entered the 374-case supported population only when the record linked affair evidence to an ongoing marriage above suspicion-only. A case entered the narrower ranked-red-flag denominator only when a matching behavior was placed before discovery through explicit timing language or an ordered event/pathway record. The fixed snapshot and private evidence audit preserve the reviewable Case IDs and matching passages.

Limitations

- RelationWatch is an OSINT-derived database of reported relationship-related crime cases, not a representative sample of marriages.
- These percentages are not the probability that a spouse is cheating, and no single behavior proves infidelity.
- Source availability, reporting practices, translation, case selection, and uneven narrative detail create substantial reporting and selection bias.
- Absence of a recorded warning sign may mean that the available source did not document it.
- Observed co-occurrence does not establish causation, and suspicion-only cases are excluded from the confirmed/reported-affair findings.

Use these findings as a description of recurring patterns in this fixed RelationWatch cohort—not as a diagnostic checklist or generic relationship advice.

RelationWatch. (2026). *Red Flags Before Discovery of an Extramarital Affair*. RelationWatch Research Brief No. 09 (RW-RB-009).