JOURNAL ENTRY 5

After reading each article, I ranked the seven motives from the most sensible to the least. While some articles were not what I expected for the specific motive, they were very insightful. I believe two major factors drive an individual to commit a criminal act: psychological and socioeconomic. Understanding what drives an individual gives insight into their decision-making processes, which in turn helps implement proactive measures.

- For Money

Money is ranked first because of its universal appeal and the immediate benefit it provides, as evident across all articles. It is the primary motivation behind criminal behavior. In the entertainment, even though the act was done for fun, the information was still sold to the highest bidder. Based on an individual's specific needs, a rational choice is made to commit a crime. Some seek to enhance their skills, purchase sophisticated tools, or acquire more technical expertise from experienced hackers. Others simply aim to achieve personal goals.

- Multiple Reason

Multiple Reasons is ranked second because, unlike money, it focuses on human psychology, which I believe plays a significant role in criminal behavior. Cybercriminals often share similar personality traits and characteristics such as a lack of empathy, narcissism and ego, sensation-seeking, and low-risk aversion. These traits, backed up by personal vendettas and emotional triggers, contribute to engaging in criminal activities.

- Political

Political is ranked third because of the ideological basis. Individuals engage in illegal activities as a result of their perceptions or beliefs about political issues. Hacktivists hack to either promote or oppose certain political agendas that align with their views. The ideology an individual holds greatly influences their actions, showing that this motive is rooted in both psychological and socioeconomic factors.

- Recognition

Recognition is ranked fourth because of its deep psychological need for validation and acceptance. Individuals who commit crimes seek recognition for their skills. According to the article, the intent behind some hacking activities was to gain attention or fame. This intent is driven by low self-esteem and a desire for acknowledgment.

- Revenge

Revenge is ranked fifth because it is driven by a perception of injustice or personal grievance. This motive is a common reason that drives individuals to commit crimes due to intense

emotions. For example, in the case of image-based sexual abuse, offenders are driven by their personal vendettas for a perceived wrong or financial gain. They let their emotions get the best of them, not thinking their actions through.

- Entertainment

Entertainment is ranked sixth because it is less significant compared to other motives. While the thrilling excitement might drive an individual to commit a crime, it lacks emotional intensity which fuels motives such as money or revenge.

- Boredom

Boredom is ranked seventh because, like entertainment, it lacks the emotional intensity that drives other motives. It is a state of mind where an individual lacks any form of engagement and resorts to behaviors that are often impulsive and lack thorough consideration. Also this motive shares factors referenced for multiple reasons.

In conclusion, these various motives reveal the interplay of psychological and socioeconomic factors that drive individuals into committing crime. My ranking from most to least sensible, shows that drivers such monetary gain, psychological implusives and ideological beliefs shape criminals' decision-making processes. Understanding the behaviors of offenders is essential to implement proactive measures.

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