

Understanding  
Cybercriminal Behavior:  
Psychological, Social, and  
Criminological Perspectives

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The article Exploring Cybercriminal Activities, Behaviors, and Profiles by Maria Bada and Jason R. C. Nurse shows an in-depth look at the behavior by cybercriminals using methods from psychology sociology and criminology. Their study's goal was to look and see what influences the motivations behind cybercriminals and to establish their behavior patterns and how they form networks. The research shows great insight for officers and policy makers addressing cyber threats. Link to article: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2308.15948>

This study connects with many of the social science principles by exploring through criminology why individuals participate in cybercrimes and how they justify their actions. Through psychology it'd be examined through their personality traits and with this they can see what motivates them to commit these actions and what influences their behavior. Sociology analyzed how the criminals form social structures and how they interact with one and another through forums and how they can feed off each other or influence other actions and behaviors.

Questions this study aims to tackle is what psychological factors as well as influence drives these people to act on these crimes, How do these cybercriminals start and form these networks and how do they work on maintaining the networks and How can

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understanding these types of criminals help the law prevent these criminals from acting under the radar. This research hypothesis is that criminals operate in a network that is well structured affected by psychological and social factors and with this makes behavioral profiling an important tool in cybersecurity.

The study conducted uses case study analysis, behavioral profiling and comparative analysis. Real world scenarios of cybercriminals are looked into and researched to help identify patterns and motivations behind the event. The study utilizes psychological analysis to understand their thought processes. Comparative analysis is good for identifying different types of cybercriminals as there are a range of them being hackers, fraudsters and cyberterrorists and among them comparisons are made to gauge their behaviors.

Data collected from researchers were from Case studies involving known criminals, Law enforcement reports documenting the activities of cybercrime, and online forums where discussions among cybercriminals were posted. The analysis includes thematic categorizations of personality traits and operational methods, and this provides an in-depth profile of the behavior performed by criminals.

The concepts discussed in class relate to this article as cybercrime theories digital forensic, cybersecurity policies and effects of cybercrime on society are talked about.

Routine activity theory explains how criminals' function and operate showing how they find the right moments and learn their behaviors from others. The role of digital forensics

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techniques helps law enforcement identify suspects. And lastly the study examines the widespread impact of online fraud, identity theft and hacking showing how individuals and businesses suffer from the impact of cyber threats.

Cyber crime tends to hit marginalized communities the hardest, especially minorities and the elderly, who are more vulnerable to scams and identity theft due to gaps in the digital world. Cyberbullying also disproportionately affects minorities and others which in turn impacts mental health. Low-income communities often lack the money and resources to protect themselves from cyber threats. This study helps law enforcement better understand cybercriminals behavior and supports policy improvements and cybersecurity awareness programs to keep people safer online. It highlights the importance and need for better protection and education to reduce the risk online, especially for this who are vulnerable.

References:

Bada, M., & Nurse, J. R. C. (2023). Exploring Cybercriminal Activities, Behaviors, and Profiles. Journal of Cybersecurity. Retrieved from <https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.15948>