Andre Beckwith, Jr.

Dr. Trinity Woodbury

CYSE 201s

06 October 2026

Article Review #2: Unmasking the Silent Threat: Understanding Cybercrimes Targeting Female Students of Kashmir University

The following review discusses the research paper "Unmasking the Silent Threat: Understanding Cybercrimes Committed Against Female Students of Kashmir University - A Mixed-Method Study" by Syed Shubeena Yaqoob and Aasif Hussain Sheikh from the year 2025 that was published in the Journal of Cybersecurity. This paper studies cybercrimes committed against female students of Kashmir University. This research is relevant to a course on cybersecurity in relation to social sciences. Furthermore, the study is also related to culture and gender, which are also part of the social sciences.

This research is related to social sciences in multiple ways. Gender roles and their impact on internet vulnerability can be studied. Also, post-cyberattack shame, mental health, and fear can be studied. In addition to this, the impact of cultural values and patriarchy on non-reporting of cybercrimes by women can also be studied. Lastly, the power differential between men and women can also be studied. All of these can be studied by social scientists as well. The research aims to evaluate the reasons why women in this study were susceptible to cybercrimes. They also wanted to find the barriers that stop women from speaking up. In addition, the research aims to study the patterns, impact, and causes of cybercrimes committed against these women. Additionally, barriers impeding women from reporting such crimes are to be studied as well. Both the extent to which cybercrimes have been committed and also the reasons for the silence

are to be identified. A major barrier identified in this research is fear of being judged. This allows the research to be focused on a specific area.

The research has adopted a mixed-methods approach. This research involves both surveys and interviews. A questionnaire was administered to 250 female students via Google Forms and social media. Additionally, 15 female students were personally interviewed. This approach allowed for both quantitative data as well as qualitative data. This approach also allows for enhanced validity and completeness of data. Both the survey data and interview data were processed and analyzed. It was found that 84% of the students had experienced some form of cybercrime. The majority of the cybercrimes were experienced through social media. The most common forms were online harassment and cyber flirting. 53% of the students were silent about the cybercrime they experienced due to fear of being judged. In addition, 72% of students experienced an effect on their mental health due to the cybercrime.

This research is also related to materials studied in class. This research provides an example of the impact of anonymity on the power of an attacker over a victim on the internet. Additionally, this research also provides an example of how low self-control can contribute to continuous cyber harassment. Fear and stress that were discussed in class can be observed in the reactions of the victims as well. Another topic discussed in class is the impact of cultural values on silence regarding cybercrimes. Lastly, social learning can be applied, as bad behavior on the internet can be contagious and repeated. Minority populations were also relevant to this issue. The women in this research were at risk based on their gender. They were also subject to a social stigma that prevented them from receiving assistance. These two factors create a double jeopardy faced by these women in both the online and offline communities. In addition, a lack of

knowledge regarding cyber laws created a lack of choices for many of these individuals as well. This renders them particularly vulnerable in this type of issue.

This research allows society to become more aware of the severity of this problem. For schools, this research identifies the need for education regarding cyber laws. Additionally, this research calls for support programs that will decrease the stigma associated with reporting. This research may also aid in shaping future campus safety policies. This research provides significant value to online safety for women.

Article link: https://academic.oup.com/cybersecurity/article/11/1/tyaf026/8275824