

**Article Review #1: Psychology and Profiling Cybercrime to Improve Cybersecurity**

Student Name: Caleb Baines

School of Cybersecurity, Old Dominion University

CYSE 201S: Cybersecurity and the Social Sciences

Instructor Name: Diwakar Yalpi

Due Date: 2/26/26

### **Introduction/BLUF**

The article I chose to review follows the psychology of cybercriminals and traits to look out for that can be investigated and help improve cybersecurity. Some exact psychological traits include personalities, and cognitive theory are candidates to commit cybercrime. Using this kind of study into a cybersecurity framework can help improve the structure.

### **Relation/Connection to Social Science Principles**

As the study relates to the seven social science principles, I have been able to identify at least four of these traits present within the article. Starting with human behavior and cognition, this study shows that psychological factors play a huge part in cybercrime. Social and individual influences like environments and personalities affect this type of behavior. Tying into the frameworks of criminology as this study of behavior inhibits or seems to encourage cybercrime.

### **Research Question /Hypothesis/ Independent Variable/Dependent Variable**

- Research Question: What psychological traits do cybercriminals possess, and how would these traits benefit cybersecurity?
- Hypothesis: People that are considering cybercriminals have traits such as lack of empathy, narcissism, etc. Have a chance of committing a cybercrime.
- Independent Variable: Psychological traits.
- Dependent Variable: Engaging in criminal behavior in cyberspace.

### **Types of Research Methods used**

The article uses a “systematic review methodology” in its findings to provide studies rather than using data from recent cyber-attacks or research. This kind of approach can be defined by mixed-method and qualitative research methods used. The research conducted was made possible using literature searching and screening, and categories that include psychology and cybersecurity.

### **Types of Data Analysis used**

Analytic data techniques used by the authors were done through qualitative data analysis. Some ways in how the qualitative analysis was used included identifying reoccurring psychological patterns and categorizing types of cybercrimes to each of these types of patterns. As well as comparing the cognitive profiles to the study and proposed designs for cybersecurity structure and findings. Another data analysis that can be found could also be quantitative analysis with trait correlation and predictions of cyber risk in the article’s study.

### **Connections to other Course Concepts**

Connections of our learned course concepts, the article goes over behaviors, theories, and factors that go into cybercrime and shaping cybersecurity. Going into cognitive theory and other theories of the sort to craft an effective cybersecurity model. As well as human factors like behaviors, reasonings and logic, and such, being essential to intervention and creating policies.

### **Connections to the Concerns or contributions of Marginalized Groups**

Many people with little to no knowledge of technical education or online use can become victims of cybercrime. Middle-aged or elderly demographics are included in the risk of exploitation of cybercriminals. As well as communities that do not have resources or funding necessary to

counter cyber threats. Highlighting the significance of including diversity in prevention strategies.

### **Overall societal contributions of the study/Conclusion**

The article that I have chosen offers insight into why cybercriminals commit crimes using psychology and developing a policy with the data recorded. Looking into the psychology of cybercriminals and forming counter measures is a core part of what cybersecurity fundamentally is. Without it, dealing with cyber threats would be far more difficult than how we deal with them in the modern day.

## Reference

Trinh, D. T., Dinh, T. C. H., & Tran, T. N. K. (2025). Exploring the psychological profile of cybercriminals: A comprehensive review for improved cybercrime prevention. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 19(1), 1–15.

<https://cybercrimejournal.com/menuscript/index.php/cybercrimejournal/article/view/452/133>