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Week 11 - Journal Entry 10

Social cybersecurity is an emerging discipline that examines the impact of cyber-mediated changes on human behavior and societal outcomes. It highlights the manipulation of information by state and nonstate actors to undermine trust in institutions and disrupt societal cohesion. Two significant changes in communication technology enabling influence without physical proximity and the decentralization of information flows have facilitated social cyber threats. The BEND model categorizes various forms of social cyber maneuver, including positive actions like engaging discussions and negative actions such as disinformation and group dismantling. Bots play a crucial role in this landscape, automating social media tasks to influence public opinion, either positively or maliciously. Understanding social cybersecurity is vital for military leaders and policymakers to defend national security and maintain influence in an increasingly complex information warfare environment. This discipline emphasizes the need for strategic responses to counteract the destabilizing effects of manipulated information in cyberspace.