

Rank

1. Multiple reasons
2. Political
3. Recognition
4. Revenge
5. For Money
6. Entertainment
7. Boredom

I put multiple reasons as the number one motive as it is the most logical answer. Whenever someone decides to commit a crime, it would seem most rational that they would have multiple motives to decide to do something so rash, as such it makes the most sense to take into account multiple key factors, such as need for money and revenge as motivating factors to commit a cybercrime.

Political was my second most logical reason, as it can in certain cases seem somewhat moral. For instance, say a whistleblowing illegally released sensitive information on immoral acts the company may be conducting. Although this would technically be a cybercrime, it would arguably morally correct.

Recognition seems to be third logical and marks the decline in the possibility of cybercrimes being able to be seen as moral. In the example the article gave, although the attack launched was illegal, and have its consequences, it did land the attacker a job, and the chance to use their talents for good.

Revenge is one of the more malicious motives for committing a cybercrime. The example in the article relating to “revenge porn” is an extremely harmful and menacing motive for cybercrime. Although this motive is completely immoral and unable to justify, it still gives the attacker more of a reason to commit a cybercrime as opposed to the bottom three motives.

Although one would think that committing crimes for money would be higher on the list, since it is often one of the leading motivations for committing crimes, it is low on my list because of one question, why? Why would one spend this time and energy committing crimes when there are so many opportunities in the world for those who are efficient with technology. While it would be a faster way to make more money, your average person could make a very good living working in a technologically related field.

Entertainment is close to the bottom of the list because of how illogical it sounds. Although it can lead to other motives such as money and recognition, that would cause this to fall in the “multiple reasons” motive. To commit a cybercrime and risk punishment for

fun when there are more positive ways to use one's talents (such as getting a degree or certification) is simply illogical.

Boredom is easily the most illogical motive for committing a cybercrime. The same reasons that make entertainment an illogical motive applies for boredom. One could do almost anything else to combat boredom and would be considered far more logical than to outright commit a crime. As with the previous example, one could use the time they spent bored to do something positive to improve their lives to combat boredom rather than to commit a crime, it is simply irrational and illogical.