Module 11 Journal Entry Part 2: Write a summary reaction to the use of policies in your journal. Focus primarily on the literature review and the discussion of the findings.

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The article talks about a type of ethical hacking known as bounty hacking, where companies will allow hackers to submit vulnerabilities for reward without the risk of punishment, and depending on the company may receive a reward. This is all in efforts for companies to create safer programs without having to hire as much manpower to parse code and test functions.

One very interesting point made in the article is that the “Hacker supply is price inelastic” (Sridhar & Ng, 2021). This is interesting and very valuable information for organizations as it shows that hackers are motivated by factors outside of financial gain. Organizations can leverage this for those that would be willing to go after bug bounties as even companies that do not have the budget to offer large rewards for bounties will receive similar levels of benefits for bug bounties, also it helps with budgeting for bug bounties encouraging companies to implement systems that allow people to find and report these vulnerabilities. This also shifts the idea of what motivates cyberfreedoms from a purely financial motive to something more like recognition or entertainment, at least for grey hat actors (Umphlet, Module 5).

Another interesting finding is that the number of reports made may be partially dictated by the industry putting out bug bounty rewards, with companies in financial and retail industries receiving less reports than adjacent industries (Sridhar & Ng, 2021). This may give us insight into motives hackers that are closer to black hat operations as there is a much larger profit incentive for exploiting vulnerabilities in these industries as opposed to opposed to reporting them for bounties, perhaps the possible financial gain is more worthy of the risk in these industries for black hat hackers.

**References**

Sridhar, K., & Ng, M. (2021). Hacking for good: Leveraging HackerOne data to develop an economic model of Bug Bounties. *Journal of Cybersecurity*, *7*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyab007>

Umphlet, M. (n.d.). *CYSE201S Module 5*. Retrieved July 21, 2024, from <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1WJ73ABaJwdvVqEPi4MvnC5uLxsGz-gPv5Ym_AtuytBU/edit#slide=id.p8>