Module 8 Journal Entry: After watching the video, write a journal entry about how you think the media influences our under understanding about cybersecurity. Has this understanding changed over time? What is different in the older pieces of media vs more current media.

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Over the years hacking and security breaches have become widely known to the public. With big organizations losing customer information, personal identifiers being more commonly used in everyday life, and increased risks of identity theft, people have become acutely aware of how the technological landscape has changed over the years and how the media has changed in portraying it both accurately and inaccurately.

Something portrayed in the media that is still a common security concern is phishing attacks, more commonly portrayed in modern media. In older media regular mass produced phishing attacks are usually portrayed but now with the advent of social media, it has created a new category of “spear phishing” attacks were attackers can use publicly available information about someone that they posted on their social media to create a phishing attack tailored around their areas of interest, concerns, and things they are more likely to interact with (Wolf, 2022).

A common misconception portrayed in media that is still prevalent today is that cyberattacks are committed by cyber criminals in real time with hackers battling against firewalls and antivirus software (Wallace, 2019). The reality is that most hackers try not to interact with security features as to be untraceable until they gain access to needed parts of the system to execute a denial-of-service attack or mine data.

Lastly, a way that has been portrayed more commonly within modern media is security concerns with IoT devices, particularly smart home devices, phones, and diy home security systems (Wolf, 2022). It is difficult for the common consumer to fully understand what devices are properly tested and secured so it is concerning to the level that even everyday level hackers can gain access to these devices and systems. Some of these devices, such as phones, have a great deal of personal information on them and are used by authentication services because of their ties to the user that allows them to act as a secondary authentication device.

**References**

Wallace, F. (2019, September 10). *Cybercriminals in Movies and TV Shows*. United States Cybersecurity Magazine. <https://www.uscybersecurity.net/cybercriminals-in-movies/>

Wolf, A. (2022, August 11). *The Mind of a Hacker: How Hacking Has Evolved Over Time*. Arctic Wolf. <https://arcticwolf.com/resources/blog/how-hacking-has-evolved-over-time/>