

Article Review #1 – Exploring the Psychological Profile of Cybercriminals

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## Article Review #1 – Exploring the Psychological Profile of Cybercriminals

### **Intro**

In the International Journal of Cybercriminology, D.T. Trinh's article 'Exploring the Psychological Profile of Cybercriminals' (2025) explains the psychological characteristics and behavior of cybercriminals. The topic pertains to the social sciences because it examines how human behavior, decision-making, and personality affect deviant behavior in cyberspace.

### **How the Article Relates to Principles of Social Sciences**

Social science fields like psychology, criminology, and sociology are all impacted by this study. The study sheds light on the human elements of deviant behavior using the cognitive, emotional, and psychological characteristics of cybercriminals. This information is required for comprehending social norms, law enforcement, and cybercrime prevention.

### **Research Question, Hypothesis, and Variables (IV) (DV)**

After reading the article, the main research question at hand would be "What psychological traits and behaviors are prevalent among cybercriminals?" (Trinh 2025). A hypothesis that could be evaluated from the reading is, "Compared to non-offenders, cybercriminals have greater levels of Machiavellianism and narcissism." Another hypothesis that could be evaluated and goes well with the study is, "Certain personality disorders significantly correlate with the likelihood of engaging in cybercrime" (Trinh 2025). The independent variable in these tests would be the person's personality disorder and psychological characteristics. The dependent variable would be human engagement in cybercrime.

### **Research Methods Used**

Using a quantitative research approach, the study in this article gathers data using questionnaires and standardized psychological assessments. Purposive sampling is used when

recruiting members to participate based on people who have experience of engaging in cybercrime. Reliability is secured, and the validity of findings is assured with the use of accredited psychological instruments. (Trinh 2025)

### **Types of Data and Analysis Done**

Trinh uses a qualitative methodology in his study, examining case studies and literature to determine common psychological characteristics of cybercriminals. The study identifies recurring patterns of impulsiveness, poor empathy, and narcissism as defining characteristics that could be linked to cybercrime. The research presents informative data on the psychological characteristics of cybercrime practitioners without statistical evidence. (Trinh 2025)

### **How concepts from the PowerPoint presentations relate to the article: Personality**

#### **Theory (Module 5)**

Personality theory, which explains the impact of enduring personal qualities on behavior, is highly justified by this study. From Trinh's research, some personality characteristics that are predictive of cybercrime include impulsiveness, low empathy, and narcissism. As reviewed in module five of the course readings, personality theory asserts that these characteristics influence people's perception of risk, decision-making, and justification of abnormal behavior. The research provides a theoretical foundation for understanding and potentially mitigating cybercrime by demonstrating that certain personality profiles are at a higher risk of engaging in cybercrimes.

### **How Marginalized Groups are Affected and Contributions**

The study in the article highlights how individuals of socioeconomically or historically disempowered groups would have fewer options for earning a living or interacting with other people, and in so doing would be exposed more to victimization by cybercrime. Working with

populations at risk using even-handed prevention strategies and interventions can be facilitated by knowledge of these psychological and social factors.

However, Enhanced prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation strategies are made possible by the study of cybercriminals' psychological characteristics. Such findings can be applied by governments and law enforcement agencies to screen for potential threats, create moral cybercrime awareness initiatives, and customize rehabilitation programs. In the end, this article's study supports public endeavors to decrease cybercrime and ensure safe online environments.

### **Conclusion**

In summary, Trinh's research offers important new insights into the psychological dynamics of cybercrime. The study identifies the relevance of taking human factors into account in cybersecurity through the connection of personality characteristics to cybercrimes. The social and practical significance of the study is highlighted by the promise to draw effective treatments and interventions for suppressing cybercrime through the illumination of these traits based on personality theory.

## References

Trinh, D.T. (2025). Exploring the psychological profile of cybercriminals. *International Journal of Cybercriminology*, 19(1), 1-15.

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

Module 5 PowerPoint.