The journal article known as "Passwords protect my stuff"—a study of children's password practices" provides resourceful data on how children think about passwords and password hygiene. It explains how children see the purpose of passwords, how frequently they use them, and what they use them for. This article also gives insight into how children should think about the topic of cybersecurity.

The article relates to three primary social sciences. Those three are sociology, psychology, and anthropology. The article relates to sociology with the social behaviors of children. With their passwords, the children had used them for having access to things like games and social media to interact with their friends. Another way this article relates to social science is through psychology. It relates to psychology because of how the children used their passwords. According to the article, children used their passwords more in school compared to at home or for the devices that they had. Finally, this article relates to anthropology because of the children's developed password hygiene due to being digital natives. With the children that were part of the article, they had gained an understanding of caring about passwords due to growing up with technology.

The article's research questions were focused on children's passwords and computer behavior. The questions were about how children use computers and passwords, they're understanding of them, and how they acted when it came to passwords.
The research method developed for this article was a self-report survey. This survey was for understanding the hardships children face when dealing with passwords. While the survey had questions on password behavior and knowledge, there were also questions about the grade level and gender of the children.

The data gathered from the survey was used for determining the mentality of the children when it came to password behavior. Further analysis of the data was done for increasing generalizability and the goal of the research was to understand children's knowledge of passwords.

This article relates to multiple concepts from class. Some of them include determinism, psychodynamic theory, cognitive psychology, and Maslow's hierarchy of needs. According to the article, children had a sense of fear when it came to the internet because of stories and articles about people who weren't safe on it, creating a sense of determinism. Psychodynamic theory can also explain children's knowledge of passwords and security compared to adults because they're digital natives that grew up with technology. Furthermore, an important factor of this article was cognitive psychology. This is because of how the article was on how children remembered and thought about passwords. Finally, Maslow's hierarchy of needs took place in this article due to how children perceived the necessity of passwords and knowledge about them. The children had considered the purpose of passwords to be a large form of safety and protection from something malicious or someone trying to access information.

Some of the concerns of the article are from how the children felt about passwords and their privacy as a whole. According to the article, children felt that "the world they live in has never felt safe." This was because of the media surrounding them, making them feel unsafe and want passwords as a form of safety. Furthermore, the history of how information stays on the internet made children cautious when it came to their privacy, making that reasoning another large factor in the article.

A contribution from this article is research to help on informing future children about password knowledge. As generations get introduced to different kinds of technology, instilling

cybersecurity knowledge of passwords at an early age will help with overall better cyber hygiene. Another contribution is showing how beneficial cybersecurity education is as a whole. With children having a basic understanding of passwords, it will also benefit to pave the way for general cybersecurity education for children as well.

As stated previously, this article provides crucial data about how children interact and think about passwords. Being digital natives, children, have learned about the importance of passwords and see them as a form of security to protect the information they see as important. Furthermore, while their passwords are used mainly for school, they also have and use passwords for games, social media, and much more. With children already having an idea about cyber hygiene, this article creates a great next step in informing the new generation about cybersecurity and other age groups as well.

References

Yee-Yin Choong, Mary F Theofanos, Karen Renaud, Suzanne Prior, "Passwords protect my stuff"— a study of children's password practices, Journal of Cybersecurity, Volume 5, Issue 1, 2019, tyz015, https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyz015