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CYSE 201S
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Article Review #1

Behavioral Issues & Cybersecurity

Introduction

In the ever-evolving field of technology, access to the internet is becoming easier by the day. Almost anyone on planet earth can access the internet in one form or another. While this is revolutionary and connects billions of people, the downside is the spike in cybercrime. The article I have chosen to review: *Integrated Model of Cybercrime Dynamics: A Comprehensive Framework for Understanding Offending and Victimization in the Framework for Understanding Offending and Victimization in the Digital Realm*, by Troy Smith. Smith dives into the complex world of cybercrime and victimization, and the factors in which cause both of these.

Review

Relations to Social Science and Powerpoints

This article makes many mentions that relate to the course material of this class and of social science in itself. The premise of this article is the creation of a model which helps researchers link behavioral traits to cybercrime and victimization. Smith talks in depth about social norms, gratification, personalities, and online behaviours, as well as their link to the cyber world. “The gratifications derived from cybercrime activities may be intrinsic, such as the thrill of successfully hacking into a system, or extrinsic, such as the monetary rewards obtained from identity theft.” (Smith) This excerpt from Smith’s article prefaces an in-depth explanation which relates heavily to the Reinforcement Sensitivity Theory which we learned about this week, as well as relativity and empiricism.

Research Methods, Question and Analysis

Smith has collected the research in which he used to formulate this article through countless other articles and robust bodies of research already conducted. Smith gives descriptions of separate, well researched theories, like Routine Activity Theory (RAT) and Social Learning Theory (SLT), and expands upon their shortcomings before introducing a new model of understanding the complex dynamics of cybercrime and victimization; the Integrated Model of Cybercrime Dynamics (ICMD). What Smith has done is that he researched the connections of

behavior and cybercrime/victimization, and put forth a comprehensive model of understanding between the two.

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Relations To Challenges of Marginalized Groups and Contributions to Society

Marginalized groups are disproportionately affected by cybercrime. More often than not, these groups lack the resources to better protect themselves and properly understand cybercrime and victimization. The proposed theoretical framework by Smith, ICMD, could be used to help these groups better understand online behaviors and the possible outcomes of actions. This framework doesn't just benefit marginalized groups, while it offers them a lot, this could be used to benefit all of society when operating in cyberspace. Understanding the sociological aspects of cybercrime and cyber victimization can be a huge benefit to helping people understand how to act accordingly.

Conclusion

This article covers many bases, from social science, research, cybercrime, and victimization, Smith thoroughly navigates the complexities of it all while also putting forth a comprehensive framework so others can do the same. Through this article, Smith explains previous victimization frameworks, their shortfalls, behavioral traits, and his new and improved framework.

References

Smith, T. (2024). Integrated Model of Cybercrime Dynamics: A comprehensive framework for understanding offending and victimization in the digital realm. *International Journal of Cybersecurity Intelligence and Cybercrime*, 7(2).

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