Cybersecurity Career Professional Paper: "Security Analyst"

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Change is the only constant thing in this world. As time goes by, everything changes. Some change can be good, some are not. Ever since time immemorial, humans have always adapted, improved, and changed their quality of life through invention. From the invention of a simple wheel to the invention of the computer, humans invented things both out of necessity and curiosity.

As humankind venture further into the digital age, inventions became more complicated and complex. Computers, gadgets, the internet, are just a few examples of the modern-day inventions and innovations that humans have built and invented throughout the years. However, these technological advancements which were made to benefit humans, also came with negative side effects. Cybercrime and cybercriminals are two examples of the negative biproducts that are direct results of the ever-changing world of the digital age. To combat these threats, Cybersecurity was developed and established. The cybersecurity industry is one of the fastest growing field in the world. As was discussed in class earlier this semester, the demand for Cybersecurity jobs far exceeds the actual number of actual Cybersecurity professional. The zero percent unemployment rate for those graduated with a cyber degree is a testament to how valuable and in demand a career in Cybersecurity really is. The world of Cybersecurity is so vast that there are many career paths one can take to build and start a career in Cybersecurity. It is so broad that the NICE Workforce Framework or National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Workforce Framework was established to categorized different specialty areas that one can focus on in pursuing a career in the cyber world.

One specific Cybersecurity professional job that I would like to focus on is a "Security Analyst". A security analysts monitor, prevent, and stop attacks on private data. These digital

professionals create and implement firewalls and software systems to protect data and network infrastructures. As the world increasingly relies on technology and digital interfaces to store and share information, security analysts enjoy higher demand (Walter, 2021). Security analyst plays a vital role identifying potential breaches and vulnerabilities in a company's security network. A person working as a security analyst for a company, monitors, defends analyzes, and if need be, find a solution against cyberattacks. Security analysts are ultimately responsible for ensuring that the company's digital assets are protected from unauthorized access. This includes securing both online and on-premises infrastructures, weeding through metrics and data to filter out suspicious activity, and finding and mitigating risks before breaches occur (Zhang, 2020). A security analyst's job can be both challenging and rewarding at the same time.

In a lot of ways, a security analyst job requires a lot of the social scientific principles that were discussed in class. A security analyst needs to be relative and show "Relativism" by acknowledging that all things that happen in the cyber world are interconnected. One good example would be as new technology develops; the variety of ways a cybercriminal can use this new technology also increases. "Objectivity" is another social scientific principle that a security analyst needs to display. He needs to be able to remain objective, and not let personal bias dictate the way he does things. A key skill for responders is keeping cool under pressure (Pompom, 2020). He also needs to be parsimonious and show "Parsimony" in explaining things to his co-workers, and other people that he works with. Oftentimes, in a work environment, miscommunication happens because people cannot understand each other. Technical jargon needs to be avoided and explanations should be kept as simple as possible. Perhaps, the most important social scientific principle that a security analyst needs to possess is "Skepticism". It does not matter what your line of work is, a person always needs to be vigilant and not be

complacent. A good rule of thumb is to always have a contingency or a back up plan in the event that everything goes haywire. Just because a security system has not been breached before does not mean it cannot be breached.

A security analyst job relates to the marginalized group in a way that they serve as a first line of defense against hackers who want to steal the identities of individuals that belong in the poor or marginalized group of the society. There have been news reports in the past of hackers that stole information from the poor to illegally accessed welfare services and benefits using stolen identities. Since the victims normally do not have access to technology, the crime has already been committed, before the victims are made aware of the incident. Security analyst can implement ways based on past data of the victims to help prevent these incidents from happening again. While a security analyst contribution to society often goes unnoticed, these unsung heroes work from behind the scenes to keep both public and private data safe from illegal access from hackers and other cyber criminals. It might not be as glamourous as other jobs, but it is a rewarding and a fulfilling one.

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