

Isaiah Seaborn

Article Review 1

10/2/25

Introduction

Trinh, D. T., & Tran, T. N. K. (2025). Exploring the Psychological Profile of Cybercriminals. *Cybercrime Journal*.

This article looks at what kind of people commit cybercrimes and what drives them to do it. Because online crime is growing, learning about the people who could be behind it can help police, lawmakers, and schools stop it from happening.

Connection to Social Science Principles

The article fits social science because it studies how people think and act in society. It mixes psychology with criminology. It shows that cybercriminals are not just “bad guys,” but people with certain traits living in certain conditions.

Research Question, Hypotheses, IV and DV

Main question: What kinds of personality traits and motivations do cybercriminals have?

The authors believe that people who do cybercrimes would score higher on traits like impulsiveness or thrill-seeking.

- Independent Variables (IVs): personality traits like impulsivity, sensation-seeking, moral beliefs.
- Dependent Variable (DV): how often people commit or admit to cybercrimes.

Research Methods Used

The researchers used surveys. They asked both known offenders and normal civilians questions about their personalities and online behaviors. This wasn't a long-term study just a snapshot at one point in time.

Data and Analysis

They collected numbers from the surveys which were the scores on personality scales and how often someone did cybercrimes. They used statistics to see which traits were most linked to an online crime, mainly correlations and regressions.

Connection to Course Concepts

This study clearly shows the difference between an independent variable (personality traits) and a dependent variable (cybercrime behavior). It also shows how motivations can act as a “middle step” between traits and crime. From class PowerPoints, it also relates to ideas of validity (measuring what you mean to measure) and agency vs. structure (people’s choices vs. their environment).

Marginalized Groups: Challenges, Concerns, and Contributions

The article does not go very deep into how race, gender, or class affect cybercrime. It would be more helpful if it looked at whether people from disadvantaged groups are more at risk of becoming cybercriminals or being treated unfairly by the system.

Contributions to Society

This study can help create better prevention and education programs. By knowing what traits put someone at risk for cybercrime, schools, parents, and governments can design programs to stop it before it starts.

Conclusion

This article uses social science to explain why some people commit cybercrimes. It does a good job of showing links between traits, motives, and behavior, but could say more about marginalized groups. I learned that motivation is often the “missing link” between personality and cybercrime.

Sources:

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

133