Free write #5

September 27, 2021

Below is the information from the slide related to individual motives and cyber offending. Each item has a link attached to it. Review the articles linked with each individual motive. Rank the motives from 1 to 7 as the motives that you think make the most sense (being 1) to the least sense (being 7). Explain why you rank each motive the way you rank it.

Entertainment, Political, Revenge, Boredom, Recognition, Money, Multiple Reasons.

7. Entertainment

Hacking websites and other software for entertainment or "for fun" is a very vague reason. I believe that a majority of the time when a criminal gets caught hacking, they use this excuse as a default to hide their real motives.

6. Multiple Reasons

The article states that cyber criminal's main motives include socioeconomic factors, revenge and technical skill. While I do see how revenge can be a strong motive, having the technical skill to do something doesn't mean you should do it.

5. Revenge

Cyber criminals commit a huge variety of attacks. There is one in which I think is the worst, revenge porn. This can be a strong motive for those who are sexual offenders. Having access or just deceiving someone to obtain obscene images is the lowest of lows.

4. Recognition

This day in age of the cyber world, recognition is everything. Being known and having a lot of followers on social media is a huge motive. I have seen many cases of websites being hacked and the hackers placing their social media handle all over the website.

3. Political

Cyber crimes for political reasons or "hacktivism" is a powerful motive. Although still done these days, we no longer have to march with signs to get a point across. Hackers can flood political figures websites of social media accounts to get an advantage.

2. Boredom

I believe boredom is one of the strongest motives for hackers. The typical hacker is usually cooped up in their room all day, no social life and just their computer screen. Of course they would be bored and hacking can be their only way to stimulate themselves.

1: Money

Money is the motive. I think money is the most powerful thing in the world, so it has to be the best motive. Hackers selling data or even getting paid to make personal hacks are very common. Until money is no longer a thing there will always be hackers.