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Article Review #2 on Cybersecurity when working from home during COVID-19

## **Introduction**

When COVID-19 struck and the world was sent into lockdown, many adjustments had to be made and a new norm was established. Online school and telecommuting were the only ways to continue work and learning. However, this new increased reliance on technology posed some concerns, especially when our pre-COVID cybersecurity practices still needed work (Whitty et al., 2024). The move of employees from company-networks to private at-home networks opened up companies to more cyber threats and risk of losing sensitive data.

## **Principles of Social Sciences 3 or more**

We can relate this study to several principles of social science. First, determinism. COVID-19 was a huge event that caused numerous outcomes including increased cyber threats. Ethical neutrality is also important to consider when it comes to studies because of an ethical collection of data and valuing a person's privacy. Lastly, parsimony because it's important to focus a study, and in this case, focus solely on the participants' cybersecurity experiences when working from home.

## **Research here**

The main research questions involved in this study were what were the participants' experiences with office to home transition and how did that affect cybersecurity behaviors, what did cybersecurity mean to the participants when working from home, how did the participants

learn cybersecurity at home, and what recommendations can be made to organizations (Whitty et al., 2024). This study collected data from participants in a survey-style and analyzed their responses to the questions. An interpretive phenomenological analysis was used to understand the participants 'lived experience' and how they made sense of it (Whitty et al., 2024).

### **Relating to the Real World**

As discussed in class, human factors have an immense impact on cybersecurity. Especially when it comes to this study, the lack of education in an already vulnerable state can lead to threatening cyber attacks. COVID-19 was an incredibly isolating time and technology was that link that kept us all connected. However, some saw the opportunity to exploit it and succeeded. The importance of this study cannot be understated because of the implications of working from home and keeping company networks safe.

### **Conclusion**

In a vulnerable time when people were forced to operate on at-home networks instead of company networks, cyber threats were prevalent and employee cybersecurity training failed to prevent them. This is increasingly important as telecommuting has become more popular since COVID-19 and continues to be a prevalent problem. By analyzing the data collected in this study, improvements can be made to at-home cybersecurity protocols.

## References

- Whitty, M. T., Moustafa, N., & Grobler, M. (2024, January 24). *Cybersecurity when working from home during COVID-19: Considering the human factors*. OUP Academic.  
<https://academic.oup.com/cybersecurity/article/10/1/tyae001/7588826?searchresult=1>