

TERRORISM VS CYBERTERRORISM

TERRORISM

Often acknowledged as the use of violence and brutality to promote a certain political, religious, or personal agenda. The actions often occur in real life and immediate and severe consequences.



CYBERTERRORISM

Often times being confused for terrorism, cyberterrorism involves the use of computer attacks or weaponizing cyber space to enact harm that affects those beyond the immediate victims. Motivations can be for political, religious, and personal beliefs and agendas.

MOTIVATION

Both terrorism and cyberterrorism share the same root motivations which involve the want to push a belief or idea using fear and violence against often innocent people. The purpose of the attacks is meant to instill fear BEYOND those immediately effected.

WEAPONIZATION

Cyberterrorism is different than simply using computers and cyberspace as a weapon. It is important to realize the difference between when a malicious actor is using the computer as a weapon to promote their terrorism, or their actions on the computer are directly considered cyberterrorism.

DAMAGES

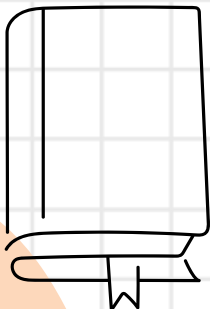
The damages from these distinct acts can be varying in severity but both strive to achieve the same thing. The maximum amount of effect and result from their actions. Whether that takes shape in the form of a violent attack using a bomb, or hacking critical life supporting infrastructure.

CYBER ATTACKS V.S. CYBERTERRORISM

Cyber attacks are common place in our society today. These attacks are not always terroristic in nature however. If a disgruntled employee decides to hack into a dam and cause a malfunction not intended to hurt anyone, but does so in the process, that can be considered a cyber attack but does not meet the qualifications of cyberterrorism.



KEY SIGNS OF CYBERTERRORISM



- Several key actions associated with cyberterrorism include,
- Radicalization in online forums
 - Violent Hate speech online
 - Associating with groups known for violent actions
 - Hacking to harm or “*Hacking with a body count*”
 - Acquiring funding via illegal means to fund terrorism