

# Journal Prompt 2 from Module 10

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The article presents cybersecurity as a new critical part of national security explaining how modern warfare progressively relies on persuading people instead of just hacking. Unlike traditional cybersecurity measures that focus on protecting hardware and software, social cybersecurity looks at how online messages, rumors, and social networks are used to manipulate and trick public opinion and broadcast disbelief in society. One big idea we now face is cognitive hacking. This is where attackers try to hack people's minds and not solely systems. This means spreading misinformation stories or using bots and fake accounts to amplify harmful messages which causes these tactics to change how people think, behave, or even vote. The article also stresses that defending against these threats is not only a technical job, but requires deep understanding of human behavior, social networks, and communication patterns. Experts in computational social science, psychology, and network analysis must work together to identify and counter disinformation campaigns and influence operations. It points out that social cybersecurity should be practical at all levels because threats can occur anywhere, anytime, from small unit leaders to national policymakers. If we don't pay attention, our standards and belief in foundations can be eroded by coordinated influence attacks. In summary, the article shows that the most dangerous cyber threats today may not be technical hacks but instead, efforts to manipulate public trust and perception. Protecting society now includes securing how information is spread and how people connect online. This shift means future defense tactics must contain efforts to preserve a healthy, informed, and robust social environment.

## References

Beskow, D. M., & Carley, K. M. (2019). *Social Cybersecurity an emerging national security requirement*. Army University Press. <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/Military-Review/English-Edition-Archives/Mar-Apr-2019/117-Cybersecurity/b/>