

Isain Cortes, Jr.

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CYSE 201S

Article Review #1 and Considering the Human Factors Working from Home in Cybersecurity

Introduction:

Covid-19 changed the world as we knew it when the world ended up going into lockdown and we were forced to stay inside suggesting that we keep our social distance. The realm of cybersecurity changed alongside as industries had to resort to new working strategies. In Monica T. Whitty's article, "[Cybersecurity when working from home during COVID-19: considering the human factors](#)," it dives into psychological and sociological factors of employees ability to engage in effective cybersecurity practices.

How the topic relates to the principles of the social sciences:

In readings of the work from home article, the topic relates to the principles of social sciences through determinism, relativism, and objectivity. All three are highlighted from the impact of the pandemic and how it left individuals' cyber posture.

The study's research questions or hypotheses:

What were participants' lived experiences when transitioning from the office to home, and how did these impact cybersecurity learning and behaviors?

What did cybersecurity mean for participants when working from home? How did participants learn about cybersecurity when working from home?

What recommendations might we give to organizations based on our findings?

The types of research methods used:

The study employed an interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) in which participants make sense of their world and what that experience means for them. This takes a survey approach, providing information to the interest of the researcher.

Types of data and analysis done:

According to Whitty (2024), the IPA analysis is structured as follows; “Thorough rereading of interview texts and making notes on the left-hand margin of the paper, noting the emerging themes in the right-hand margin of the paper, recognizing how the themes cluster together, and production of a table of themes highlighting both the subordinate and emergent themes.”

How concepts from the PowerPoint presentations relate to the article:

Modules Two, Four, and Five contain concepts from the PowerPoints that relate to Whitty’s Working from Home in Cybersecurity article. Module Two relates as it explores the concepts of social research studies to grasp an understanding of social behavior, processes, and related phenomena. Later giving an understanding of recommendations for societal improvement. Modules Four and Five relate as they dive into the psychology of the individuals being observed who transitioned to working from home due to the pandemic. Factors of stress led to increased victimization. In the case of Participant 19, when he accidentally downloaded a virus on his computer, because he felt isolated and preoccupied with other stressors, he did little to deal with the threat (Whitty 2024). The idea of common sense foretells the nature of bad things won’t happen, keeping them secure. As uttered by Participant 22 (Whitty 2024) mentions “Just

common sense, I suppose. Don't open anything, I mean, any emails you get that you don't know or any link or anything like that, don't open them."

How the topic relates to the challenges, concerns, and contributions of marginalized groups:

The study of working from home presents the advantages and disadvantages of groups through their knowledge of cybersecurity, experience, equipment, psychological state, and readiness of employees. Each group raised the effectiveness of remote work after the pandemic.

Overall contributions of the studies to society:

The study of working from home raises a more holistic view that organizations should adopt in cybersecurity.

Conclusion:

Monica T. Whitty's study underscores the significance of understanding the human factors influencing cybersecurity practices amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. By delving into the individuals' experiences and perceptions, the study highlights the need for organizations to adopt nuanced approaches that consider diverse contexts and challenges. Prioritizing employee well-being and fostering a culture of cybersecurity are essential for enhancing organizational resilience in the face of evolving remote work dynamics.

Works Cited

- Whitty, M. T., Moustafa, N., & Grobler, M. (2024). Cybersecurity when working from home during COVID-19: considering the human factors. *Journal of Cybersecurity*, 10(1).
<https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyae001>