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CYSE 201 - 7:25

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*After watching the video, write a journal entry about how you think the media influences our understanding about cybersecurity. Has this understanding changed over time? What is different in the older pieces of media vs more current media?*

I think the media tends to inflate and sensationalize a lot of things, and cybersecurity is not exempt from that. There are a lot of tv shows and movies that have aspects of cybersecurity or “hacking” that may seem completely possible to the uneducated eye. This can lead to misconceptions of what hacking actually is and looks like which would make it incredibly hard for people to understand when they are getting hacked, much less how to counter an attack. Then there is also the media that seems to get it fairly spot on, which leads me to ask the question: if we know about a particular hacking style to the point where we are making tv shows about, how do these hacks still occur?

The understanding of hacking has changed over time as technology has changed over time. In one of the videos, it is pointed out that they were speaking about a system that no longer existed at the time the movie came out, which shows that not only is old data being used, but there isn't a deep enough understanding in what modern day hacks look like for the producers to accurately write them into that movie. Once again, there are tv shows and movies that do it right and keep up with the times in how hacking is actually done, and they show that it doesn't have to be this huge “hacking into the mainframe” sequence, but instead a hacking into a television using the local wifi, or something similar.

I think older pieces of media had more of a futuristic mindset that never really came true, but newer media either focuses on the already sensationalized outlook on what hacking is or

has a relatively accurate depiction of what modern day hacking really looks like. Newer media makes hacking look more simplistic and most of the hacks that actually happen aren't huge or elaborate, they are usually a phishing scheme or gaining access to information from someone who may be using a public network. While there are hacks that are huge, I think it is more likely they start small and grow into a bigger problem.

### References

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