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In chapter 7 “Cyber Crime and Cyber Related Crimes” the Author has explained the crimes that take place in cyberspace and what pattern cyber criminals follow and how we can identify them. Tavani has mentioned three very important terms, hacking, cracking, and counter hacking. Hacking means someone who is an enthusiast of computer programming. Cracking means breaking into someone’s computer without authority. Counter hacking means defensive hacking in this case individuals or organizations hack the system in defense. Morally counter hacking cannot be justified and from a legal perspective, it is not clear whether “hacking back” can be viewed in a way that is not criminal. Law enforcement agencies use the counter hacking strategies, whether it is legal or illegal, courts have not given any verdict, so it is undecided right now.

Tavani explained that the criteria used for defining what kind of crimes should be characterized as “computer crimes” or “cybercrimes” have been neither clear nor consistent. It is often said that any crime in which a computer is used falls under cybercrime, but some argue that the use of a computer in any crime doesn’t make them special, so they fall under regular crimes. We don’t have a separate law for cars, or any other tools involved in a crime like (car crime) so what makes cybercrime so special is that we need a separate category of law for it, well lawmakers yet have to decide about it.  Strikwerda (2013) defines cybercrime as “any new or different human activities that is carried out through the use of computers or computer networks and is prohibited by the enactment of . . . law.”

The author states that there are three categories of cybercrime, cyber piracy means using cyber technology to produce and distribute the copies of proprietary information in any digital form on the computer networks. Cyber trespass is gaining unauthorized access to any computer system, or any password-protected website. Cybervandalism means altering or destroying unauthorized data by using the technology. To catch the cyber criminal's government is adapting different tools and the most important among them is computer record matching. This tool is used since 1970 to catch the fraudulent welfare recipients. Law enforcement agencies track suspected criminals, by using different technologies and tools—including biometrics, and keystroke monitoring software, that are controversial with regard to civil liberties.

At the end of this chapter, Tavani has shed light on the jurisdiction issue of cybercrime, it is hard to prosecute the cyber criminals because most of the time they are operating from different countries. Some countries have strict cybercrime laws, but some still don’t have strict laws and it’s hard to extradite the criminal from the country of his residence to the country where that person is wanted. Tavani also mentions the Wikileaks controversy and claims that it is unethical because they were indiscriminate in nature, and the purpose of leaks was to cause embarrassment rather than to fix it. So according to Tavani, some experts believe that WikiLeaks is ethically wrong and criminal in nature. Some experts believe that Wikileaks fall under investigative journalism. Personally, both arguments seem compelling to me. It’s hard to take any side.

            This chapter has some great information and the most interesting for me was the jurisdiction issue to prosecute cybercrime. We are in the 21st century and cybercrime has been happening for the last four decades still it's not easy to prosecute the cybercriminals. In 2021 colonial pipeline incident happened and it hurt the citizens and the government still those hackers have not been arrested or brought to justice. In the same way, even if the government finds out who the criminals are they cant be arrested because they are the residents of some other country and they can’t be extradited.

References

Tavani, H. T. (n.d.). Ethics and Technology: Controversies, Questions, and Strategies for Ethical Computing (5th ed.).