

Équipe Rouge:

The ethics of prosecuting an offensive security campaign





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What's the point?

To charm, edutain, and argue with each other about the ethics of internal red teaming.



Why are we here?

INTRODUCTION

- Why do we red team? We are trying to keep people safe by pointing out flaws in security before parties unknown do
- What is this talk about and what will you know by the end of it.
- Where we go in the future.

WHY THIS TALK?

- We're technical, not philosophers.
- Plenty laws on what's legal and what's not. Not enough open discussion on what's OK vs not OK
- If we have no clear guidance, bad things can happen.



"A team is not a group of people who work together. A team is a group of people who trust each other."

-Simon Sinek



Red Team Retribution

- Ever leave your laptop unlocked near your team?
- A tale of two victims











Where would you draw the line?

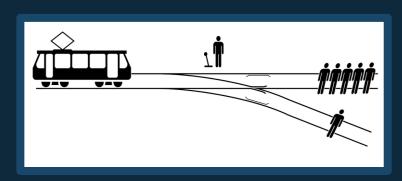
- Phishing user
- Insider threat
- Target the CEO
- Bribery
- Planting incriminating evidence





Crash course in Ethics

- Just because it's legal, doesn't make it OK ("ethical")
- Ethics is complicated and context specific
- Right vs Right or Wrong vs Wrong







Conflicting responsibilities

- You might <u>simultaneously</u> have ethical responsibility to:
 - Demonstrate/prove risk to organization or client
 - Be excellent to your coworkers
 - Build trust in your team and profession





Theory vs Practice

Tabletop Exercise

VS

Seeing is believing





OK now what?

- The ethical boundary is context specific
 - We're not here to give you the answer to what is right or wrong
- Let's discuss where the line should be
 - Help people that are looking for guidance
 - Processes within your companies
- Internal teams vs External Teams





Please visit:

redteamsurvey.com





For the nascent *Red Team Ethical Framework* and poll results (soon), see:

https://redteamethics.com/ - redirects to: https://github.com/redteamethics





Thanks to...

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Research:

- Mouton, Francois & Malan, Mercia & Kimppa, Kai & Venter, H.s. (2015). Necessity for ethics in social engineering research. Computers & Security. 55. 114 - 127. 10.1016/j.cose.2015.09.001.
- Mouton, Francois & Malan, Mercia & Venter, H.s. (2013). Social Engineering from a Normative Ethics Perspective. 10.1109/ISSA.2013.6641064.
- Faily, Shamal & Iacob, Claudia & Field, Sarah. (2016). Ethical Hazards and Safeguards in Penetration Testing.
- "Social Engineering in IT Security: Tools, Tactics, and Techniques: Testing Tools, Tactics & Techniques"
- Mouton, Francois & Malan, Mercia & Leenen, Louise & Venter, H.s. (2014). Social Engineering Attack Framework. 10.1109/ISSA.2014.6950510.

Blog posts

- https://jacobian.org/writing/social-engineering-pentests/
- https://medium.com/starting-up-security/red-teams-6faa8d95f602

General social engineering resources of interest:

https://opendatasecurity.io/the-most-famous-cases-of-social-engineering/





Any questions?

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END OF PRESENTATION

