<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nVq7f26-Uo> – Ted talks, cybersecurity

This Ted Talk, presented by Nick Espinosa, talks about how fast internet culture has grown with roughly 7.6 billion humans on Earth and around 3.6 billion of us are online. He states that while social media platforms tie us together, our internet culture tends to lack a common understanding about cybersecurity and real threats online. He continues by stating he himself, for those who are mostly unaware about the in-depth sequences that goes in the background, has made 5 Laws.

Law number 1 is: If there is a vulnerability, it will be exploited. He adds onto this stating in the modern era, since the first computer bug was discovered, hackers both good and bad have been looking for ways to get around the laws and framework that govern a system.

The second Law reaffirms the first: Everything is vulnerable in some way. We can’t assume that anything is safe, nor is anything off the table for hacking. There have been numerous amounts of massive breaches by corporations that literally spend millions annually on cyber defence.

Law number 3: Humans trust even when they shouldn’t. He states we all need trust in our lives, we expect a mechanic we pay to fix our car and actually fix it and not rip us off, but we have to question the technological infrastructure and people around us, making it the greatest vulnerability. Now, because of trust, people fall for phishing scams. They believe that an anti-virus they bought will protect them from everything online, it won’t, however.

Law number 4: With innovation comes opportunity for exploitation. While the world is full of brilliant people that are advancing technology as the years go on, these also come with certain exploits. In 2016, a virus known as ‘Mirai’ infected millions of IoT devices worldwide and then weaponized them against targets, creating some of the largest bandwidth attacks the Internet has ever seen. The final law, number 5,’ when in doubt, see number 5.’ If there is a vulnerability, it will be exploited, no exceptions. If we ever forget this, we are doing nothing but ask for trouble.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLlv2o6UfTU> – Crash course, digital information

This video is presented by John Green. He starts right off by stating that the average American spends 24 hours per week online also additionally adding 1 in 4 U.S citizens are online almost constantly. Although this information has been tested and by credible sources, the internet is also littered with misleading and downright false information. He then continues by talking about the growth of use and finding information online.

Long ago, Libraries and newspapers were the only source to information, making them incredibly valuable resources, now however is a different story. These days, anyone can hop online and produce information via their personal website, social media or YouTube channel. Access to digital devices and high-speed internet is still a real barrier to entry for many people, which means unequal access to information. We can connect across geographical and political boundaries, we can create organisations and communities, find people with similar interests, or we can lift people up when they’re alone. But, when information flows this freely, there’s always going to be dangers too. Misinformation, unintentionally incorrect information and disinformation – information that’s wrong on purpose spread quickly, as do hate speech and propaganda. Additionally, we can easily create online worlds where we only see information that we already agree with or lines up with our point of view.

In the end, while information is now easily accessible, you should always be cautious and check up on a few sources before you believe it completely.