**Chapter 5: Harmony, Disharmony, and the Power of Secrets**

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1. Provide a brief motive of WikiLeaks.

The motive and mission of WikiLeaks were to be a virtual hub of secret documents and leaks that can be used in information attacks against the corrupt, the criminal, the states, organizations, and bodies they govern. Wikileaks’ primary targets were Russia, China, and Central Eurasia. However, they expected to be of assistance to those in the west that wanted to reveal illegal or immoral behavior in their own governments and corporations. By doing so, Wikileaks wanted to accomplish its goal of bringing critical information that is based on original source material to the public.

1. What are the blurry lines of morality in WikiLeaks’ manifesto?

The blurry lines of morality in Wikileaks’ manifesto is that even though WikiLeaks wasn’t the press, it provided raw information to all of the press in hopes that someone would get the story aligned by WikiLeaks’ standards. Additionally, it went after the most oppressive regimes and any behavior it deemed illegal or immoral, making itself the judge of morality.

1. Research: Latest leak on WikiLeaks

One of the latest leaks on WikiLeaks was concerning documents that it released regarding the power struggle within the highest offices of the Catholic Church. Among the leaked documents was a letter written by Pope Francis, that addressed the concerns the Sovereign Military Order of Malta or Order of Malta or the Knights of Malta originally founded in Jerusalem during the Crusades in 1099 (“Pope’s private letter…, 2019.).

1. Research: Economics of spam, botnets and cyber-phishing

Economics of spam: An academic paper written by Justin M. Rao and David H. Reiley discusses the flood of spam e-mails in one’s inbox and presents statistical findings such as “ every day about 100 billion emails are sent to email addresses around the world” and “companies spent about $6.5 billion in 2010 on anti-spam technology.” It also details the outcomes of anti-spam technology and spammers’ skills at breaking through anti-spam technology (Plumer, 2012).

Botnets: These are a network of computers that have maliciously been affected by cybercriminals in order to perform automated tasks on the internet without the knowledge of the victim. Botnets are usually used by cybercriminals to cause Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, distribute spam emails, and malware.

Cyber-phishing: is a cyber-attack that uses disgusted email as a weapon in order to trick the email recipient into believing that the message is a needed one. The goal of such attacks is to gather personal information.

1. Research: DOMEX and its applications

DOMEX (document and media exploitation) is the collection and exploitation of captured documents, equipment, and media to generate actionable intelligence. DOMEX is based on the Harmony database, an intelligence community’s central repository for all information gathered during counterterrorism operations. The database served as a single place for bringing together information for the conduct of an emerging field of intelligence. DOMEX’s applications lie in analysis to help officers, special forces, and field operatives on the front lines complete a holistic picture of the intelligence available to them at the time (Peters, 2019).

1. What is crowdsourcing? When can it be used to be find solutions?

Crowdsourcing is a way of collective intelligence mined from the internet. It can be used to make decisions in coordination challenges, cognition calculations, and cooperation networks. In a different manner, Crowdsourcing can be used to find solutions for challenging the underpinning and justifications of the new era of terrorism. Crowdsourcing might also be a way to harness counterterrorism analysis in the same way it had helped terrorists march forward online.

1. What is TOR?

TOR initially, a worldwide network of servers developed with the U.S. Navy that enabled people to browse the internet anonymously, is a free and open-source software for enabling private communication via a browser anonymizing web traffic.

1. What is the role of transparency in your organization? How does it affect business?

The role of transparency in my organization is critical as it allows us to build trust with our clients and among team members. Additionally, it allows all of us to discuss issues openly, collaborate properly, and work with higher ethical standards to approve our mission. Transparency affects business positively by making the organization responsible, honest, and cooperative. Additionally, improved transparency can result in building customer loyalty, a greater sense of employee ownership, greater employee engagement, and excellent alignment.

1. How would you respond to a WikiLeaks hack of your organization?

If WikiLeaks hacks my organization, the primary step we will take is to respond sooner and save any associated financial consequences. This includes leveraging the incident response team and verifying the hack by identifying systems and the means of attack. The next step would then be to quarantine the leak and isolate the ways the systems the hackers had access to. This step would be followed by properly disclosing the breach/attack and plan against further attacks.

References

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