**Andrew Dykman - Web Security and Ethics - Homework 2 - 7/3/2012**

**Writing Assignment 2.1.)**

There are many problems created for companies and individuals by the act of Spamming since its beginning. The main problem with spam is the fact that not only is it unwanted, unsolicited e-mail, it is also highly obnoxious and comes in large volumes that will effectively "drown out" other legitimate communications between companies or individuals happening via e-mail.

The results of the problem are numerous. It makes it very hard to find legitimate e-mail in your inbox, whether at home or work. Many extra minutes (or in some cases, hours and hours regarding how much e-mail there is to look through) have resulted that could have been easily shaved off had nobody thought up the horrible concept known as spamming. In companies, employee morale drops as they spend their valuable company time, or personal time seeking legitimate communications through the vast sums of unwanted unsolicited e-mail abominations known as spam flood their inboxes. During this time work is slowed, or stopped as everyone is caught in the process of simply struggling to use their e-mail, and morale is also dropping as individuals or employees become increasingly frustrated with this ongoing problem. Because of this lost time, at companies response time grows as it takes much time to even go through this hectic process. Mail servers can fill to capacity, rejecting new e-mails creating additional outage time as no new e-mail can be received.

Possible solutions to the negative online epidemic known as spamming exist, such as applying spam filters to e-mail servers (At the risk of legitimate e-mail being marked incorrectly as spam), although what I see as better solutions exist, such as jail time for spammers. Because spamming is a behavior, or an act, it can be punished if laws exist to make the spammers not want to send spam in the first place. Though it may be seen as an extreme measure, the truth is no spam filter is perfect or going to stop all spammers. Since there is no reason for the spammers to want stop as long as they are making monetary gains and there are also no real punishments in place for what they do, they are going to continue doing it. I also propose that spammers who turn a profit by marketing something via their spam should also have their illegitimate assets seized when they are caught in addition to serving jail time. Putting the fear of God into spammers is really the only way to correct this behavior from happening, because nothing else is stopping them.

The implementation is simple, once legislation has been passed against spamming simply run ad campaigns and inform everyone everywhere via media that spamming has been outlawed. Once the potential spammers have seen this, and seen people being made examples of and their money taken from them, they are likely to stop. Though it may put undue pressure on the correctional system, they can use their assets to build additional facilities. Eventually the pressure will level out once people stop spamming after seeing what happens to other spammers.