

RSA® Conference 2019

San Francisco | March 4–8 | Moscone Center



BETTER.

SESSION ID: HUM-W10

Your Ideal Victim Is My Hero

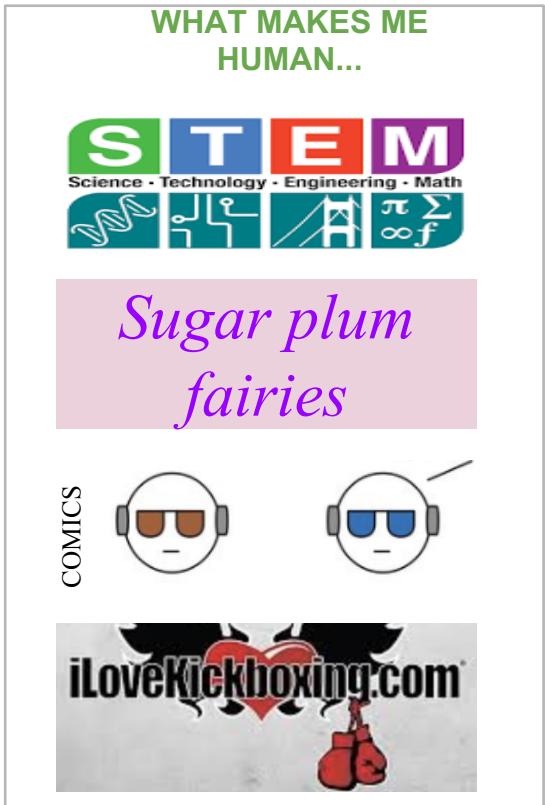
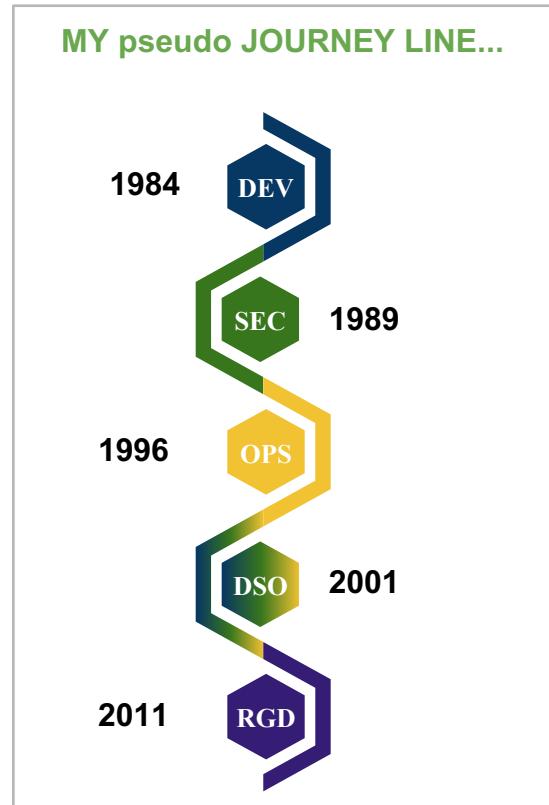
Shannon Lietz

Director, DevSecOps Leader
Intuit

Myoki Spencer

Manager, Security Automation
Intuit

<me />



myoki

- 10 PRINT “Coding since 1981!”
- ~~Joined the DARK SIDE~~ Became passionate about security ~ 10 years ago

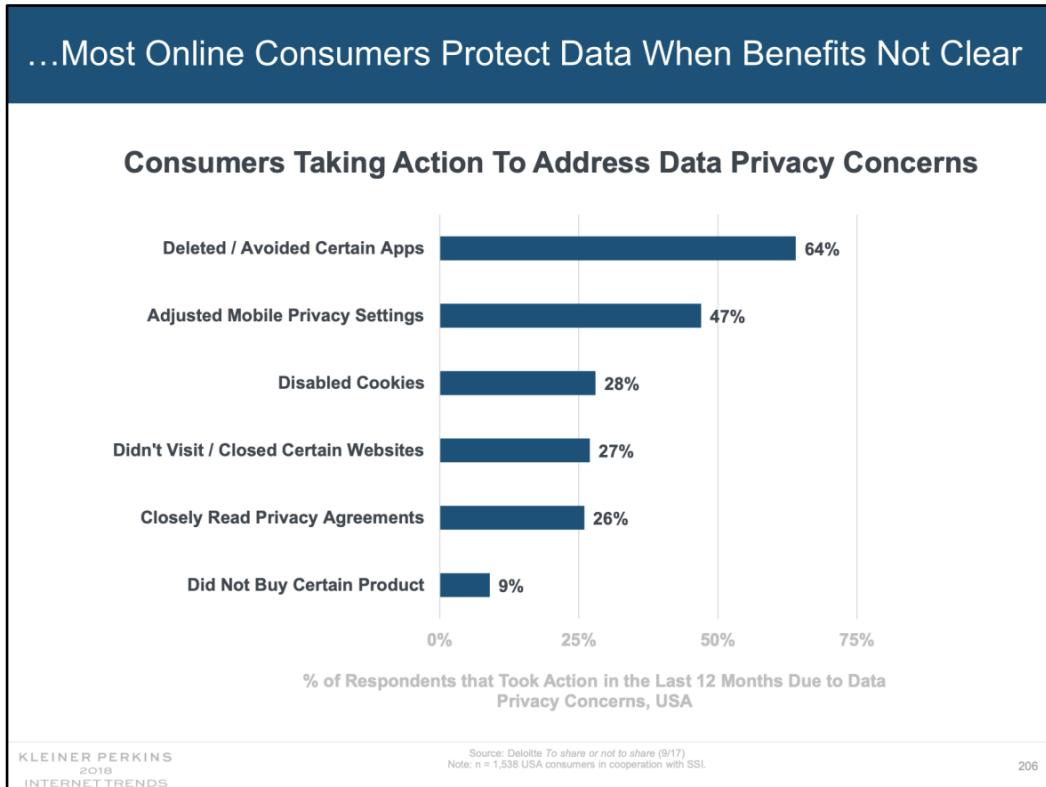


intuit[®]
HACKERGIRL



60 million.

People are becoming more paranoid...



Money is being made in Cyber Crime...

Cybersecurity =
Threats Increasingly Sophisticated...Targeting Data

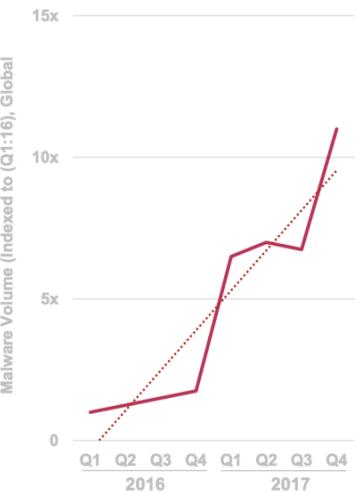
Adversaries are taking malware to unprecedented levels of sophistication & impact...

Weaponizing cloud services & other technology used for legitimate purposes...

And for some adversaries, the prize isn't ransom, but obliteration of systems & data.

- Cisco 2018 Annual Cybersecurity Report, 2/18

Observed Malware Volume



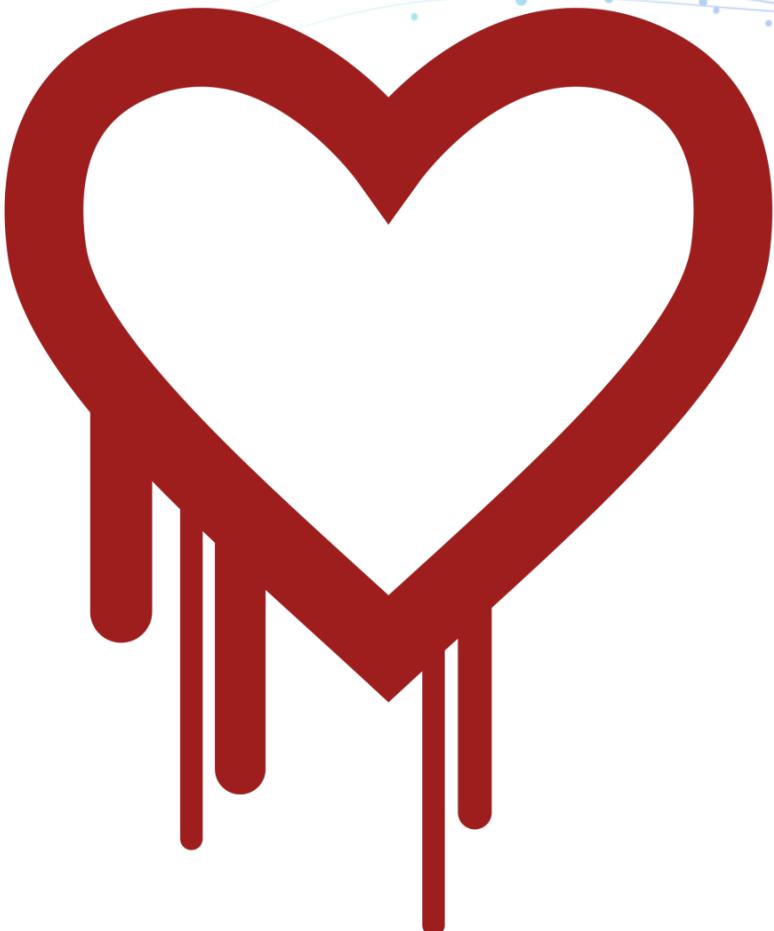


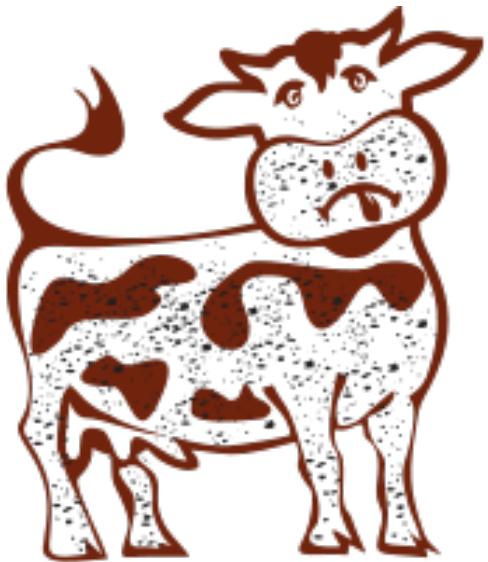
Think like an adversary.





Know every attack.





DIRTY COW





20k+ per year



- Too much focus on ***threat actors*** can be overwhelming.
- Figuring out every ***attack vector*** will make you crazy.
- Picking the “***best defense***” is nothing short of a miracle.



What if it doesn't have to be so difficult?

The Ideal Victim.

What do we know about Adversaries?

- An adversary is a person or group that sets out to take advantage of a ***weakened person*** or ***thing*** for personal gain.
- Adversaries spend most of their time on crafting, trading and sharpening ***weapons***.
- Adversaries have the ***odds*** on their side.
- An adversary is ***nothing*** without a victim.

Why study ideal victims?

Unlike attacks and adversaries:

- the number of victims is bounded
- victims are easier to study
- victims share intuitive commonalities
- victims are easy to synthetically replicate

What is an ideal victim?

- An ideal victim is an ***attractive target*** for an adversary.
- Victims have personal and system ***characteristics*** which identify them as worth pursuing.
- The larger the pool of an ***ideal victim type*** the more pervasive and persistent the adversary.









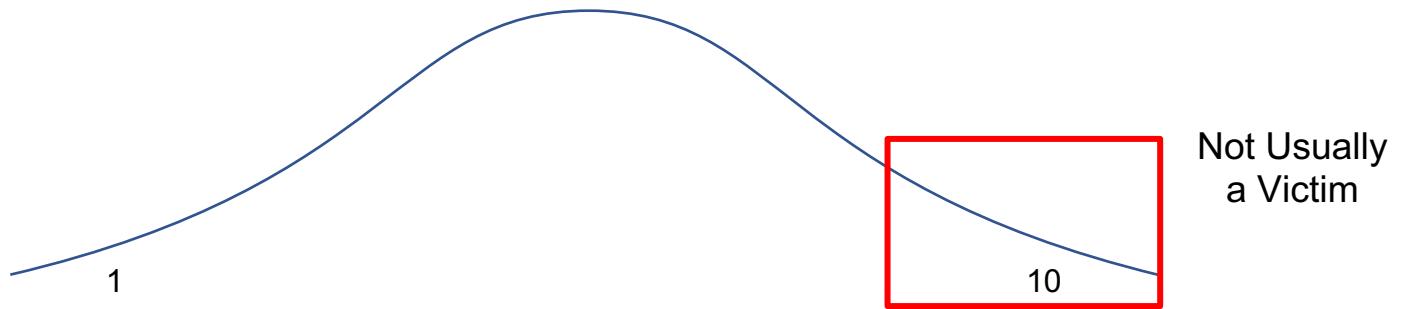


GCI PROTOCOL



You might be a victim if...

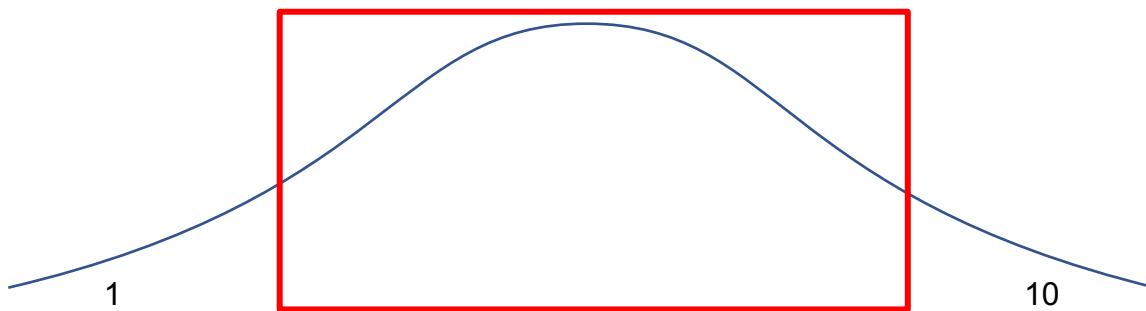
Characteristics of a cyber victim - Skeptics



Busy	☒	Thorough
Risk Taker	☒	Risk Averse
Emerging	☒	Commodity
Willing	☒	Unwilling
Modern	☒	Traditional
Uneducated	☒	Educated

Characteristics of a cyber victim - Popular Vote

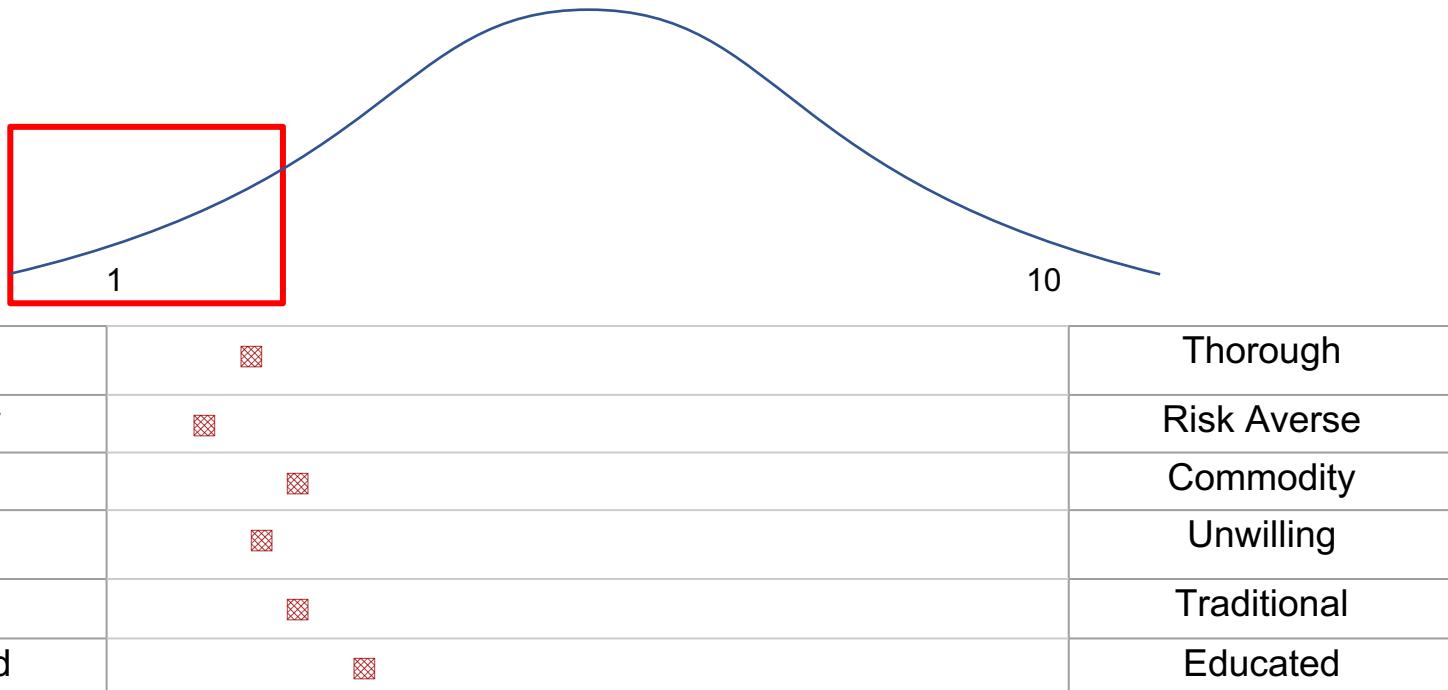
Sometimes a Victim



Busy	☒	Thorough
Risk Taker	☒	Risk Averse
Emerging	☒	Commodity
Willing	☒	Unwilling
Modern	☒	Traditional
Uneducated	☒	Educated

Characteristics of a cyber victim - Leads the Pack

More likely a
Victim



Cyber Victim Model

Cyber Victim Model (CVM)

Send a phishing email to a list of people to gain authentication credentials

{HOW}

{WHY}

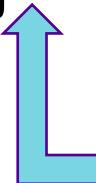
{WHO}

Cyber Victim Model (CVM)

Send a phishing email to a list of people to gain authentication credentials

{HOW}

{WHY}



{WHO}

Unlimited number of combinations and options to test

Cyber Victim Model (CVM)

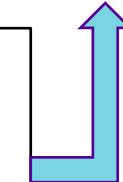
Send a phishing email to a list of people to gain authentication credentials

{HOW}

{WHY}

{WHO}

Very few “why’s” but focus here can
create significant unnecessary friction



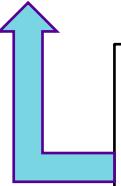
Cyber Victim Model (CVM)

Send a phishing email to a list of people to gain authentication credentials

{HOW}

{WHY}

{WHO}



- Is this a valuable list or cruft?
- Why are these people on this list?
- Who's on this list?
- How could we predict these victims?
- How many phishing emails need to be sent?

Test “Victims”

Why use Deception & Honeypots?

- Creating a sitting duck can be very rewarding
- It's a powerful capability for understanding adversary interest
- Honeypots are commonly deployed and intel can be shared
- There is a high level of fidelity in the results

This technique exists in the Real World

Port 31337

to a list of people

{WHO}

to a list of people
{WHO}

“busy”



#RSAC

to a list of people
{WHO}

“busy”

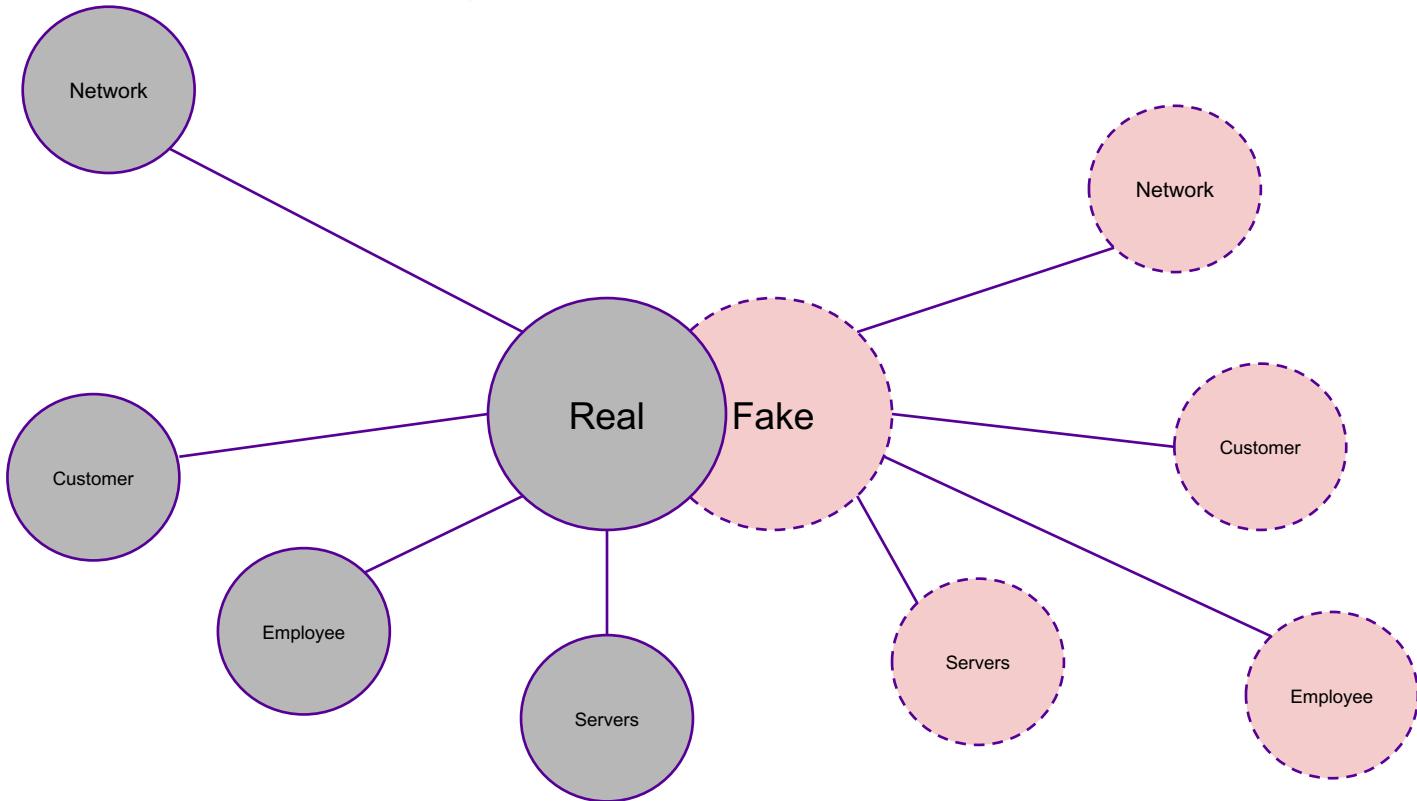
Social Media:

search “busy”



782,403

potential victims



The Results

1 in 531

malware infected emails

1 in 121

malware infected emails

“Apply Slide”

- **This week**
 - Model victims for your environment
 - Find vendors who provide deception technology
- **Next 3 Months**
 - Research the most ideal victims in your environment
 - Build tests to defend your environment
 - Improve software to reduce the number of ideal victims
- **This Year**
 - Use results to further your defenses
 - Participate in community victim modeling

Community Abuse Register @ 50.red

June 2019



What do we need help with?

I'm writing a book along with James Wickett, Ernest Mueller and John Willis on DevSecOps.

We are looking for stories of DevSecOps transformations, journeys, successes and failures.

book@devsecops.org

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Q&A

Let's chat!