R209 Essay: Usable security

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This essay provides a synthesis of three papers focused on usable security. While being a subfield of human-computer interaction (HCI), usable security may present a very different set of challenges from broader user-centred design principles [1, Abs.]. Two user-facing security systems were studied: user interface for PGP 5.0 [1] and the airline check-in kiosk [2], in addition to a generalised study on the state of usable security [3].

1 Summaries of research

2 Key themes of research

2.1 Sell security to users on incentives, not on endless mandates

2.2 Simplify organisation goals to ease mandates on users

2.3 Provide the user with minimal information required for security

3 Ideas of current context

4 Literature review

References

[1] A. Whitten and J. D. Tygar, "Why johnny can't encrypt: A usability evaluation of pgp 5.0." in *USENIX Security Symposium*, vol. 348, 1999.

[2] B. Glass, G. Jenkinson, Y. Liu, M. A. Sasse, and F. Stajano, "The usability canary in the security coal mine: A cognitive framework for evaluation and design of usable authentication solutions," *arXiv preprint arXiv:1607.03417*, 2016.

[3] C. Herley, "More is not the answer," *IEEE Security & Privacy*, vol. 12, no. 1, pp. 14–19, 2014.