

THE STATE OF ANONYMOUS

REPORT

2014

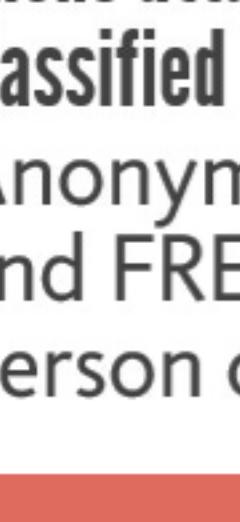
A detailed look at evolution of the ideals and ethics of the online collective known as Anonymous

RISE OF THE COLLECTIVE

FORMATION (2003)

JOKE on 4CHAN

TROLLING GROUP WITH OCCASIONAL ACTIVIST ATTITUDE



Mostly pranks:
Sending UNPAID PIZZAS to houses, DDoS attacks,
Posting humiliating information and pictures, PRANK CALLS



A NEW MINDSET (2008)

PROJECT CHANOLOGY: "enlighten the CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY by ANY means necessary"

CENSORED

The Church takes down a humiliating video of Tom Cruise
annoys many Anons who begin a MASSIVE TROLLING OPERATION

This became organized as a **LEGAL PROTEST** against the Church

POST CHANOLOGY to 2010

The collective resumes usual trolling with the
OCCASIONAL
LEGITIMATE CAUSE

THE BIG BREAK (2010 AND BEYOND)

An increase in **POLITICAL CAUSES** moves
Anonymous toward more **ACTIVIST ACTIONS**

Anons attack companies who drop support for WikiLeaks after WikiLeaks leaks classified US government information.

Anonymous officially sets out to PROMOTE FREE SPEECH and FREEDOM OF INFORMATION by attacking any person or group they believe to be denying it



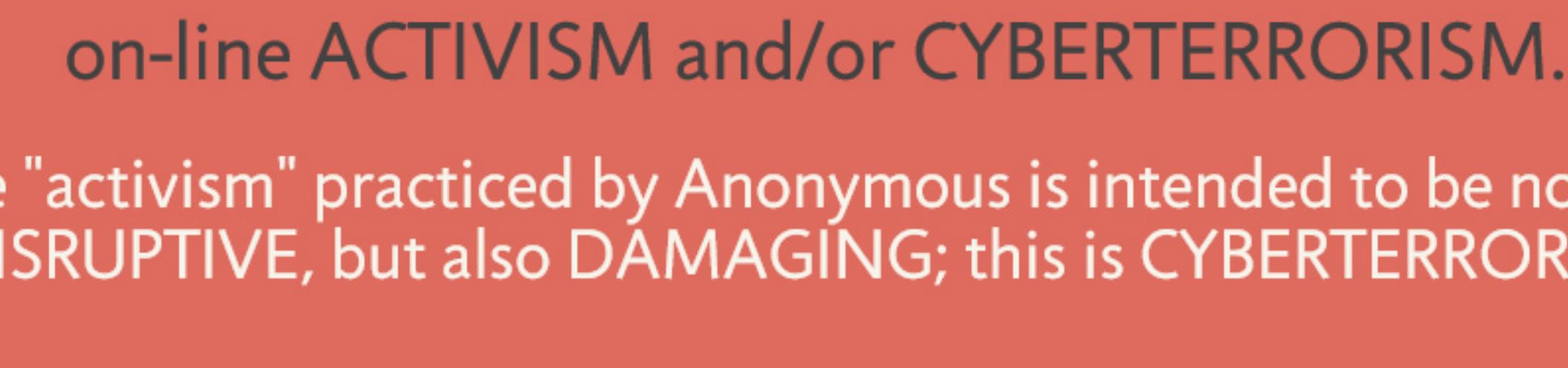
"Anonymous is tired of corporate interests controlling the internet and silencing the people's rights to spread information, but more importantly, the right to SHARE with one another."

YEARLY ATTACK OPERATIONS ATTRIBUTED TO ANONS



Anonymous has greatly increased the number of operations they have undertaken annually in recent years.

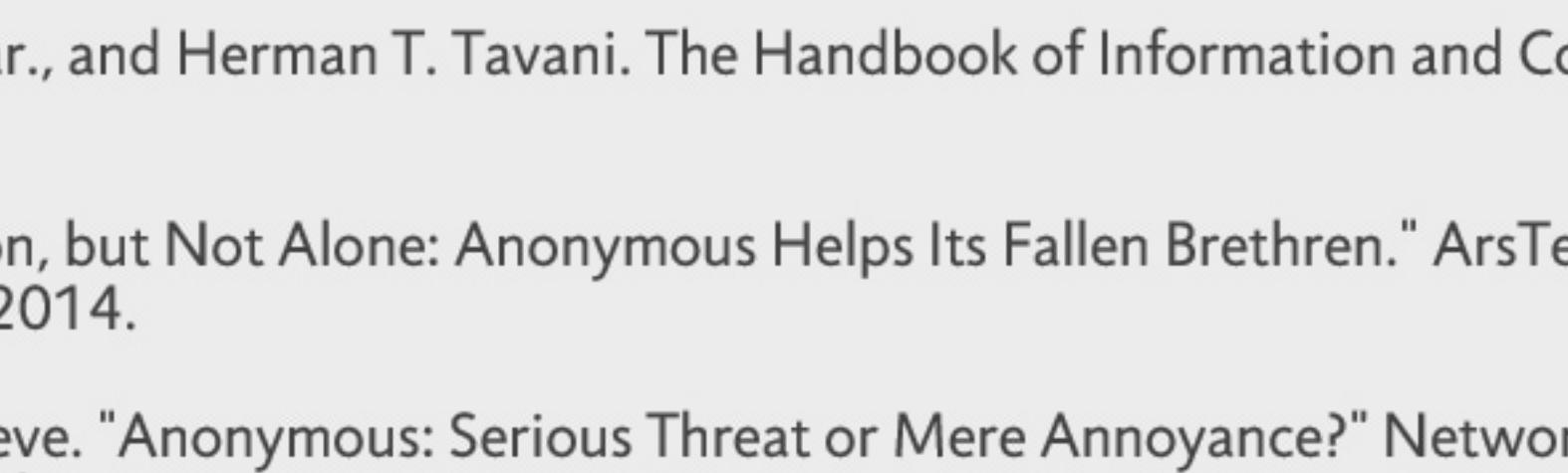
THE ANATOMY OF AN ANONYMOUS ATTACK Distributed Denial of Service



Anonymous releases MALWARE to infect many common computers. The infected PC is known as a "zombie," and it will infect many additional PCs. In this regard, an Anon is able to have the power of many computers to rapidly spam a site or server causing it to fail and crash.

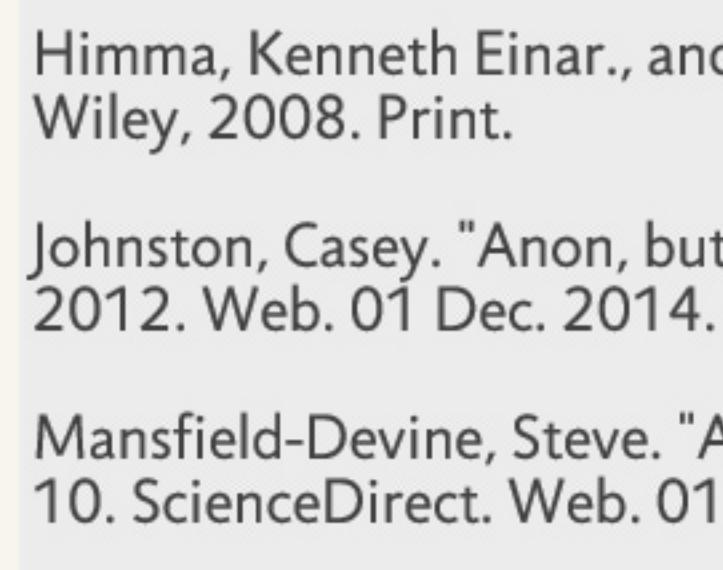
Anons INFECT and USE people's computers without permission and knowledge of that their computer is partaking in an attack.

Internet Crime Complaints (2000-2012)



Illegal DDoS attacks have increased greatly since Anonymous began using them. In this time, it can be seen crime complaints on the Internet have increased significantly.

THE ANON IDENTITY



A key aspect of Anonymous is that members are anonymous

Online identities can easily be formed within the collective by anyone, anywhere easily, and anonymously.

The persons who participate in the group also conceal their identities to avoid the potential legal consequences of the illegal attacks.

Despite the anonymity, Anonymous is a strong community, and Anons will attack groups or people pursuing legal action against other Anons.

HIGH PROFILE ATTACKS

Destructive attack on VISA, MASTERCARD, and PAYPAL deliberately damaging the systems and costing each company several million dollars.

Severe vandalizing of Aaron Barr's personal accounts as well as destructive attacks on his business, HBGary Federal.

Attacks on the US Department of Justice site, the White House site, and other US Patent related sites.

Continual attacks and threats to the Westboro Baptist Church to force them to stop vocalizing their views.

These large attacks for which Anonymous is mostly known all been **INTENTIONALLY DAMAGING** and even **BLOCK** the **FREE SPEECH** of certain groups!

This type of behavior is largely contradictory to the collective's claim to be online activists

EVERY PERSON who uses a computer connected to the internet IS IMPACTED by the actions of Anonymous.

The general agenda of Anonymous seems to be to promote FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, but occasionally at the COST OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

All online communities are affected by this because the INFORMATION available to them has been LIMITED by Anons crashing certain sites.

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