**Discussion Question: Cybercrime**

Before you can begin down the road to secure software development, you need to understand the security environment we live in. Read through the Dark Market Report Sept. 2020, located in the Module 1 Reading, and select at least three topics that are of interest to you. For each of those:

1. Provide a brief description of the topic.
2. Why did you select this topic?
3. Does it pertain to secure software development? Why or why not?

     After reading through the Dark Market Report from September 2020, maybe topics intrigued me, but some stood out even more. The first topic that really stood out to me was “Destroy A Business” under the “Cybercrime-as-a-Service” section. The dark web offers users the option to purchase a destroy a business package, which attacks a business with spam emails and calls, sends unwanted items, and uses the business number in illicit advertisements (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 10). When there is an influx of spam, employees are left to weed through it, and less time is spent on real callers (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 10-11). I chose this topic because I deal with many spam callers and emails at work and have always wondered why spammers bother doing that. Knowing that people pay for this service was eye-opening in a way. Creating software and websites that can help weed out spam messages can help defend against cyber attacks like this. This topic feels extremely relevant to secure software development.

     The second topic that stuck out was hackers adding fullz to their repertoire. Customers on the dark web can purchase business personal information, which allows them to commit identity theft against the targeted business (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 12). This can include hits against lines of credit by taking out loans or credit cards (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 12-13).  I chose this topic because it felt relevant to what we learned in our CSSLP textbook about how hackers can access private and confidential information through a system.

     The last topic that felt extra notable to me was “Buy Followers, Likes, and Views For Your Social Media Accounts.” Users can purchase followers, likes, and views on any social media account to make it appear as if they have a larger audience (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 25). Active accounts can also be purchased this way (Armor Resources, 2020, p. 26). I chose this topic because I knew that buying followers, likes, and views was a thing, but I never realized that people also did it through the dark web. However, I am unsure if this pertains to secure software development.

**Resource**

Armor Resources. (2020). Dark Market Report: The New Economy. In *Armor* (pp. 1–37). https://cdn.armor.com/app/uploads/2020/09/DarkMarket\_Report\_Sept\_2020\_FINAL.pdf

***Before you submit your thread, put your name in the subject line.***

**Assignment Requirements and Grading:**

1. An initial post of approximately 250 words is due by **Thursday, 11:59 p.m. CT**.
2. For the initial post to be considered substantive, it should be at least 250 words in length and fully cover the topics being presented. Single-sentence definitions or responses will not be awarded points.
3. Submit your post by clicking on the **Assignment Link** above, then **Create Thread**. You must create a thread in order to view your peers' posts. Tip: Create your post in a Word document and then copy and paste your work into the thread.
4. A minimum of three (3) responses, **to the original threads of other students**, of 100-200 words each are due by **Sunday, 11:59 p.m., CT**.
5. To view the rubric grading criteria, click on the following link: [Discussion Board Grading Rubric](https://content.bellevue.edu/cst/csd/rubricdbv3.pdf).

**(50 points)**