POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DARK WEB INTERACTION

While the Dark Web is often cited in unethical situations, it is not all bad. Politicians, journalists and even law enforcement agencies who use the Dark Web to protect themselves from government censorship can use it to hide their activities. However, the Dark Web can also be used for illegal activities such as the sale of weapons, drugs, forged documents, stolen credit cards and personal data.

What can we access on the Dark Web?

A list of content that can be accessed on the Dark Web:

- 1. Access to censored or banned information
- 2. Illegal sales platforms
- 3. Hacker forums and tools
- 4. Publicly available personal databases
- 5. Drugs and prescription medications
- 6. Cryptocurrency transactions
- 7. Security vulnerabilities and malicious software
- 8. Illegal services (e.g., hire a hitman)
- 9. Child abuse

As the list above shows, the potential consequences of someone accessing the content listed above on the Dark Web can be quite serious. The potential consequences could be the following:

- Accessing censored or prohibited information on the Dark Web or participating in illegal sales platforms may bring legal problems. If such activities are monitored and detected, users may face legal consequences.
- Access to narcotics and prescription drugs on the Dark Web may result in users developing addictions or encountering health problems. In particular, drugs obtained from unknown sources are at high risk of being counterfeit and dangerous.
- Participating in illegal sales platforms or cryptocurrency transactions on the Dark Web can result in financial losses.
- Accessing illegal services on the Dark Web may increase the risk of associating users with crime. They may face legal and security issues, especially if they are associated with dodgy services such as hit men.
- Much of the content on the Dark Web is violent or immoral. Exposure to such content may adversely affect users' mental and psychological health and lead to traumatic experiences.

The Dark Web is monitored by relevant government agencies and cybersecurity experts, and if detected, offenders can face serious legal consequences.

As a result, accessing content on the Dark Web can have serious consequences and it is important that users stay away from such platforms and adhere to legal, ethical and security principles.

REFERENCES

Davis, M. (2014, April 23). Ethical pros and cons of the darknet. Digital Ethics. [https://digitalethics.org/essays/ethical-pros-and-cons-darknet]

IPSpecialist. (2023, July 21). Dark web: Exploring the dangers and risks. Medium. [https://ipspecialist.medium.com/dark-web-exploring-the-dangers-and-risks-3a1c9783791e]

Zaharia, A. (2023, September 7). The dark web explained: How it works & why it's so dangerous. Aura. [https://www.aura.com/learn/dark-web]