

1013 Reading

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1 Topic

Computer Security and Privacy for Refugees in the United States

2 Summary

There are many unique security challenges for refugees. They rely heavily on technology to establish their live, cause a lot of computer potential security issue. However, due to the limited technical expertise, language barriers, cultural knowledge gaps and even pressure to prioritize immediate needs, they either doesn't aware its importance or doesn't have enough ability. Besides, refugees rely heavily on their case managers and teachers, so both of them become crucial too, but they may also either have not so much expert in security or have to make trade-off between security and their main goal, efficiency and so on. Therefore, it is needed to design a solution and education tailor to refugees.

3 Findings of Research Suitable for NPO

1. Security education and training

People in NPO usually doesn't have enough awareness and knowledge about knowledge. Although unlike refugees having the priority for living, NPO often have their own goal and will consider achieve this goal first, leaving the security behind.

2. Password and account management

People in NPO may also share the account due to their workflow of business, besides, they also tend to reuse or use weak password, violating the security "best practice".

4 Findings of Research Unsuitable for NPO

1. Trauma

People in NPO usually doesn't have to face real threat, or fear surveillance and government-perpetrated violence, which cause the problem of trust.

2. Cultural Knowledge

People in NPO usually have been trained or educated and don't have cultural gap about security mechanism. Such as high-entropy distribution of birthdays, the existence of scams and identity theft as a common threat, the importance of keeping social security numbers private.

5 Thoughts

The most important things I learned is that we need to see things from others' perspectives. Just like they don't know some technical issue, we may also don't know their actual situation and what they really need, and sometimes a face to face interview is the best way to understand what they think.