

The Herd Hack

Cybersecurity can't read minds. But it
can map vulnerabilities. Discover
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**What if your team's
instinct to follow the
crowd is the very
thing a hacker is
counting on?**

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Social Proof

(Cialdini, 2007)

The psychological tendency to assume the actions of others reflect correct behavior for a given situation.

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The Flaw

It's like seeing a crowded restaurant and assuming it must be good, so you go in—without knowing if the crowd was just a bus tour or a clever marketing stunt.

Primary Attack Vector: Social Engineering & Phishing

Attackers weaponize this by creating fake internal messages or comments that make it seem "everyone" is clicking a link or approving a request, triggering your instinct to conform.

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The Attack

Organization: Twitter

Year: 2020

Consequence: Hijack of high-profile accounts to run a Bitcoin scam.

Search: Twitter Bitcoin scam 2020

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The Solution

Awareness fails because this is a pre-conscious, automatic bias.

The structural solution is to build systems that break the "echo chamber."

CPF Indicators: **3.3** (Social Proof Manipulation), **6.1** (Groupthink)

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The Cybersecurity Psychology Framework (CPF).

Open Source on GitHub.

**Professional
certifications & audits
available.**

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