

Research Methods and Professional Practice January 2022

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« Collaborative Learning Discussion 1



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Case Study: Malware Disruption

Rogue Services is a web hosting provider that hosts knowingly many malicious services and websites. The company resides in a country where legal prosecution for cybercrimes is comparably low. The company was attacked by a coalition of security vendors and government organizations with a worm, that destroyed a lot of client data and shut down their servers, which lead to a significant drop in spam mails being send. ACM (N.D.)

Rogue Services is willingly in violation with many paragraphs of the BSC Code of Conduct. They for example violate public interest by not caring about the privacy, security and well being of the victims of their customers. They also violate their professional competence and integrity by knowingly supporting the malicious actions of their customers. Lastly, they also offend their profession by supporting actions, that creates bad reputation for the IT industry. Whilst they abide by the law of the country they reside; it nonetheless can be argued that they violate their professional ethics significantly by supporting malicious actions of their clients. BCS (2021)

The collusion sending the worm on the other hand might likely have violated laws of some countries by sending out the worm. Their ethics however is noble since they are almost aligned with the BSC Code of Conduct by limiting the attack to the malicious actor with as little as possible collateral damage. BCS (2021)

References

BCS (2021) Code of Conduct for BCS Members. Available from:
<https://www.bcs.org/media/2211/bcs-code-of-conduct.pdf> [Accessed 25 January 2022].

ACM (N.D.) Case: Malware Disruption. Available from: <https://ethics.acm.org/code-of-ethics/using-the-code/case-malware-disruption> [Accessed 25 January 2022].

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