Improving Information Security Governance in organisations

When organisations think of Information Security, these are some of the reactions...

COMPLIANCE

Staying out of Jail

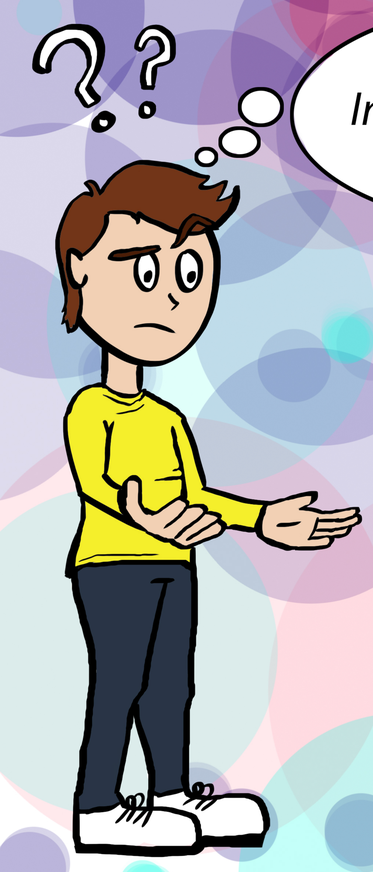
"Information security is a major priority at this company.
We've done a lot of stupid things we don't want anyone to know about"

NECESSITY

SUPERHERO ELEMENT

Protecting our organisation

Regardless the motivation, Information Security Governance is often seen as the solution.



But... What is Information Security Governance?

Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability

Contingency Planning

Evaluate, Direct & Monitor

Decision allocation rights

Mitigating Risks

Compliance with legal requirements

Communications in relation to security

Security development

Governance Frameworks

Information Security Governance is about...

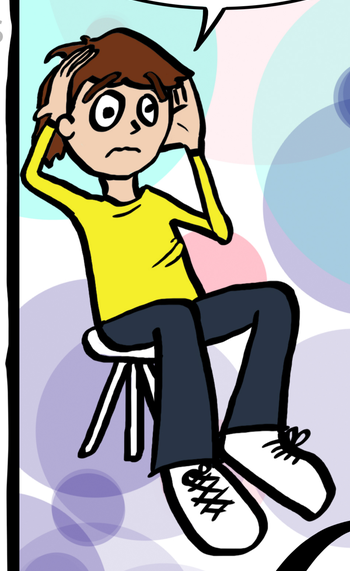
Spearheading security awareness and education

Establishing technical controls

Policies

Security operations

Management commitment and leadership



That looks so convoluted!

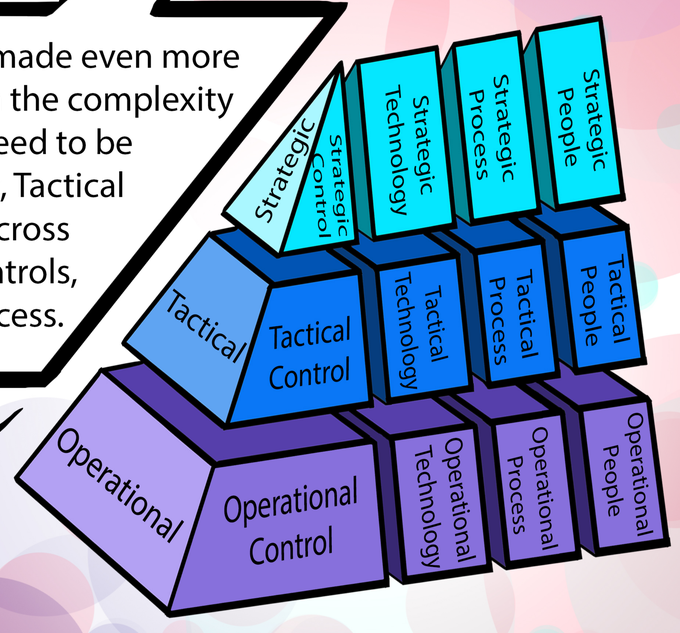
Yes! And you are right because:

- Information Security has been treated solely as a technology issue when it should be seen as a governance issue.

- There is no clear distinction between management and governance when it comes to Information Security.

- Information Security is a subset of Corporate Governance and is part of the Board's fiduciary duty, but it is often left to the CIO.

And this is made even more complicated with the complexity of decisions that need to be made at the Strategic, Tactical and Operational levels across domains encompassing Controls, Technology, People and Process.



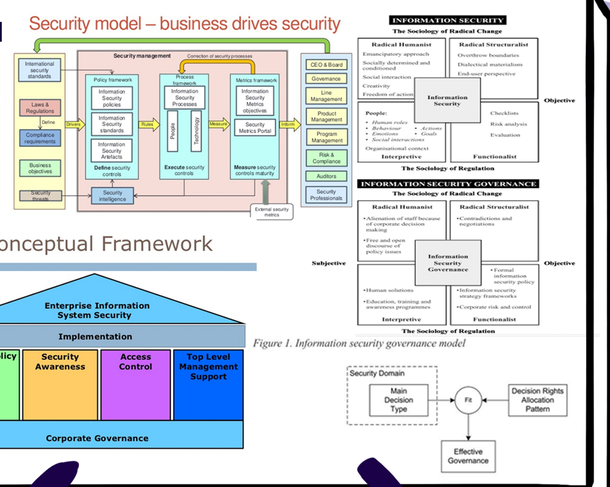
Therefore, organisations need to be able to **measure** their **Information Security Governance**.
As the old adage says...

Manage what you do not measure, you cannot

Anticipated Research Design

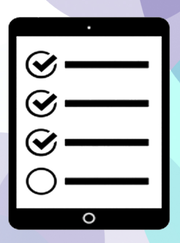
- Develop Model
- Refine Model
- Validate Model

MODEL



Focus groups

Questionnaires



Intended Outcome

A better understanding on how will this improve Information Security Governance in organisations

AND most importantly...
Get me my PhD!

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

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