**Case study: "Information security behaviours of smartphone users in China: an empirical analysis”**

**Introduction:**

This study explores the information security behaviour of Chinese smartphone users and shows that many users do not take adequate precautions to protect their private information. As highlighted by the author of the research Zhang et al. (2017) private information or confidentiality of information means protecting information to prevent unauthorized disclosure by ensuring information is shared only between authorized users.

The Research shows that many people don't pay attention to their phone's security settings or follow best practices when using apps and other features. The study pointed out how Souppaya and Scarfone (2012) emphasised that a suitable utilisation of add-on utilities is crucial for smartphone information security. As such, noncompliance to follow this can lead to serious security risks and potential privacy violations.

**Research methodology and findings:**

The case study investigates the behaviour of smartphone users in China by analysing data using descriptive analysis and Pearson’s Chi-square test to establish relationships between three different areas:

* **Avoidance of harmful behaviours**:

The data collected during they survey in the study highlighted how Jones and Chin (2015) stated that a vast majority of smartphone users are careless about granting permissions to applications, often downloading apps from unknown sources. Around 56% of respondents don't cautiously check application authorisations, and 59% frequently download applications from untrusted sources. Just 21% log out of their applications constantly, and 34% never log out. Moreover, 42% tapped on obscure source joins and just 46% consistently refreshed their cell phone frameworks and applications.

* **Use of smartphone settings and add-on utilities:**

In this area the study uncovered that just 52% of clients have antivirus programming introduced on their cell phones. 83% of respondents utilize a lock screen secret phrase, yet a few respondents utilize a solitary secret word across different applications, making a security risk. 72% consistently have Bluetooth or her GPS switched off, and 16% associate with unstable Wi-Fi networks without checking the security level, to confirm what Harris and Pattern (2014) emphasized.

* **Disaster/data recovery**

Regarding data recovery the study pointed out that, just 23% of respondents generally back up their information and 40% have never cleaned their telephone prior to discarding it.

* **Group analysis**

It is also important to say that the study identified that gender, education, and occupation, significantly affect information security behaviours. Where males have more riskier behaviours on one hand, but they are better at logging out of applications and deleting data when disposing of old smartphones. People with less education don’t backup their data very often and those with work refresh their frameworks now and again.

**Conclusion:**

The study also found that different user groups have different perceptions of information security. This means you may need a targeted education and training program to improve your overall security habits. The paper provided a list of practical tips for users to such as only download apps from trusted sources and update your phone regularly. It is also important to emphasise that while the study offers valuable insights it is limited by its small sample size and exploratory nature. Future research could focus on a larger and more diverse group of smartphone users in China to examine the impact of targeted training programs on improving information security behaviours.

**References:**

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