

Category 6: Group Dynamic Vulnerabilities

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This directory contains detailed implementation schemas for all 10 indicators in the Group Dynamics vulnerability category.

Overview

Group dynamic vulnerabilities exploit collective behavior patterns, groupthink, diffusion of responsibility, and organizational defense mechanisms.

Indicators

1. [6.1] **Groupthink security blind spots** - Collective decision-making failures
2. [6.2] **Risky Shift Phenomena** - Groups taking riskier decisions than individuals
3. [6.3] **Diffusion of Responsibility** - Everyone assumes someone else will act
4. [6.4] **Social Loafing in Security Tasks** - Reduced individual effort in groups
5. [6.5] **Bystander Effect in Incident Response** - Failure to respond assuming others will
6. [6.6] **Dependency Group Assumptions (baD)** - Collective dependency fantasies
7. [6.7] **Fight-Flight Security Postures (baF)** - Group-level attack/avoidance patterns
8. [6.8] **Pairing Hope Fantasies (baP)** - Unrealistic group optimism
9. [6.9] **Organizational Splitting** - Good/bad division creating blind spots
10. [6.10] **Collective Defense Mechanisms** - Group-level denial, rationalization

Implementation Schema

Each indicator follows the **OFTLISRV** framework with focus on group-level observables.

Key Metrics

Groupthink Index

$GI = \text{Decision_unanimity} \times \text{Speed_to_consensus} / \text{Devil's_advocate_presence}$

Responsibility Diffusion Score

$RDS = \text{Incident_response_delay} \times \text{Ownership_transfers} / \text{Team_size}$

Social Loafing Coefficient

$SLC = \text{Individual_contribution} / \text{Expected_contribution_per_member}$

Key Data Sources

- **Ticketing:** Ownership transfers, group assignments, response times
- **Meeting Data:** Decision records, dissent markers, participation
- **Collaboration Tools:** Contribution metrics per team member
- **Incident Response:** Group incident handling vs individual
- **Change Management:** Group-approved changes vs individual

Detection Approach

Groupthink Detection

```
# Analyze group decision patterns
decision = get_group_decision(incident_id)

groupthink_markers = {
    'unanimity': all([vote == decision for vote in votes]),
```

```

    'no_dissent': count_dissenting_views == 0,
    'quick_consensus': decision_time < baseline * 0.5,
    'illusion_invulnerability': overconfidence_markers > 0,
    'collective_rationalization': justification_complexity < baseline
}

if sum(groupthink_markers.values()) >= 3:
    flag_groupthink_risk(team_id)

```

Diffusion of Responsibility

```

# Track ownership transfers
transfers = get_ownership_transfers(incident_id)

if len(transfers) > 3: # Passed around multiple times
    diffusion_detected = True

# Check for assumption someone else will handle
assumption_keywords = ['thought you', 'assumed', 'believed handled']
if any(kw in incident_notes for kw in assumption_keywords):
    diffusion_detected = True

```

Baseline Establishment

Group dynamic indicators require: - Team composition and size data - Historical group decision patterns - Normal responsibility transfer rates - Organizational culture assessment

Common Event Types

- group_decision → 6.1, 6.2, 6.8
- ownership_transfer → 6.3, 6.5
- group_task_assigned → 6.4
- organizational_crisis → 6.7, 6.9, 6.10
- dependency_reference → 6.6

Risk Levels

- **Low** (0-0.33): Healthy group dynamics, individual accountability
- **Medium** (0.34-0.66): Some group influence, responsibility still clear
- **High** (0.67-1.00): Systematic group dysfunction, diffusion of responsibility

Mitigation Strategies

Structural

- Explicit individual responsibility assignment

- Devil's advocate roles in security decisions
- Decision review processes
- Individual performance metrics alongside group metrics

Cultural

- Reward individual initiative
- Normalize dissent and questioning
- Clear accountability structures
- Post-decision reviews

Process

- Individual accountability in group tasks
- Bystander intervention training
- Explicit handoff protocols
- Group decision documentation requirements

Related Resources

- **Dense Foundation:** [/foundation/docs/core/en-US/](#) - Group dynamics formalization
- **Bion's Basic Assumptions:** Theoretical foundation for 6.6-6.8
- **Dashboard:** [/dashboard/soc/](#) - Group-level metrics