Security Cards:
A Threat Brainstorming Toolkit

Purpose: To facilitate the broad exploration of potential security and privacy threats to a system: the "security mindset"
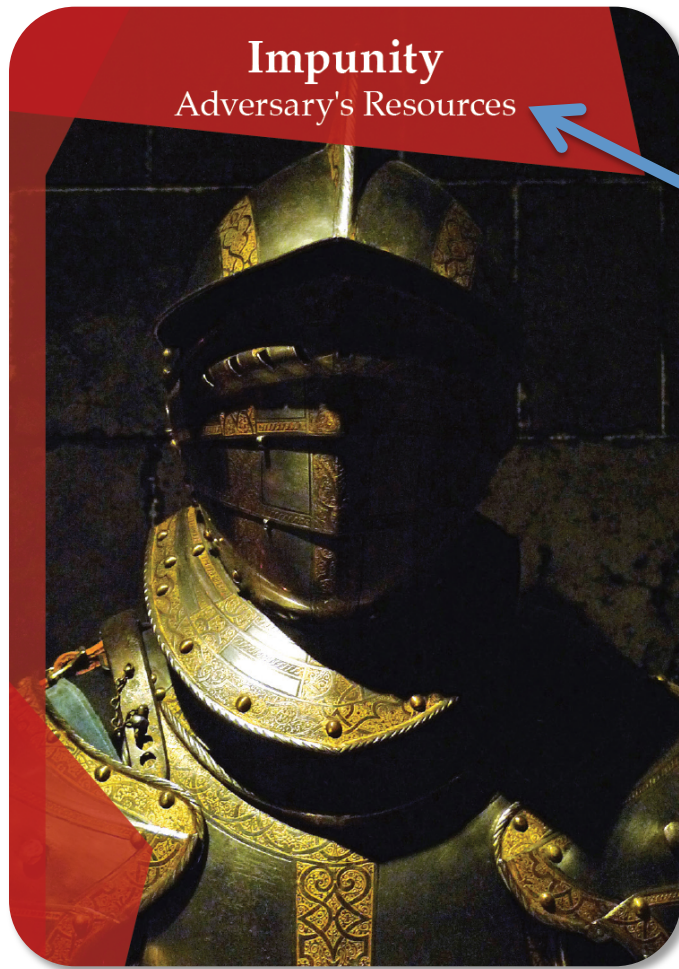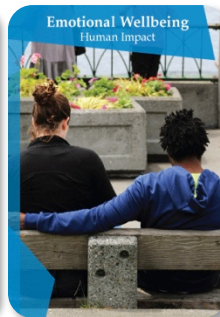
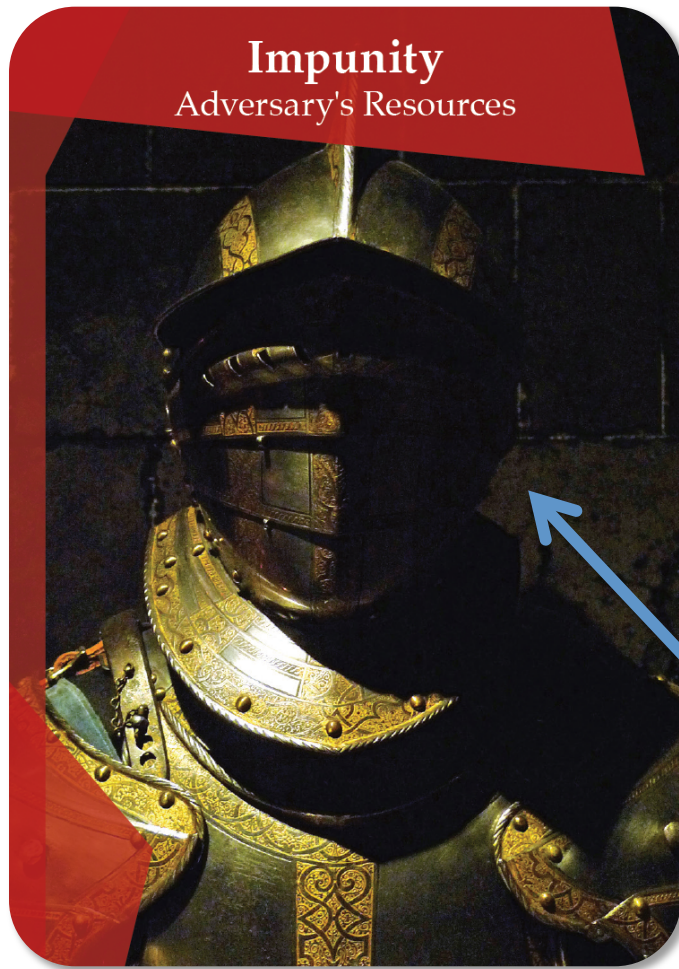# Example Card (Front)

Card topic

Example Card (Front)

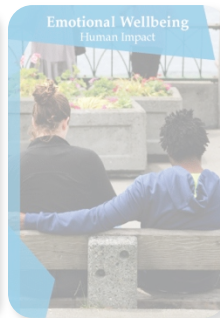Card topic

Card dimension

Example Card (Front)

Card topic

Card dimension

Evocative photograph

Example Card (Back)

Impunity
Adversary's Resources

What kinds of impunity might the adversary have? How might impunity for their actions make adversaries free to execute more frequent, longer-lasting, or more obvious attacks on your system?

Example Related Concepts

Example Causes: unafraid of incarceration · government sponsorship · utilizing network proxies and redirection

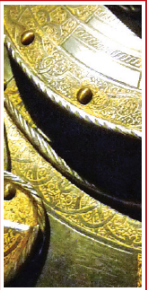Example Contributors: geo-political diversity · anonymity

Questions for clarification and to jumpstart thinking

Example Card (Back)

Impunity
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Example Causes: unafraid of incarceration · government sponsorship · utilizing network proxies and redirection

Example Contributors: geo-political diversity · anonymity

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Illustrative examples

HUMAN IMPACT

- The Biosphere
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Financial Wellbeing
- Personal Data
- Physical Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Societal Wellbeing
- Unusual Impacts

ADVERSARY'S MOTIVATIONS

- Access or Convenience
- Curiosity or Boredom
- Desire or Obsession
- Diplomacy or Warfare
- Malice or Revenge
- Money
- Politics
- Protection
- Religion
- Self-Promotion
- World View
- Unusual Motivations

ADVERSARY'S RESOURCES

- Expertise
- A Future World
- Impunity
- Inside Capabilities
- Inside Knowledge
- Money
- Power and Influence
- Time
- Tools
- Unusual Resources

ADVERSARY'S METHODS

- Attack Cover-Up
- Indirect Attack
- Manipulation or Coercion
- Multi-Phase Attack
- Physical Attack
- Processes
- Technological Attack
- Unusual Methods

Threat Brainstorming Activity

1. Form groups of 4

2. (Say hello)

3. Decide a system to look at, e.g.:

    1. A recipe and grocery shopping organization app
    2. Internet-enabled light bulbs
    3. An exercise and sleep tracking device
    4. An internet-enabled washing machine
    5. A university records system (grades, medical ,and/or financial)
    6. A web browser plugin to change the display of Wikipedia pages

Threat Brainstorming Activity

- **Communally sort the cards within each dimension in order of relevance to the system being analyzed.**

- Have discussions as to **why** a sorting is valid. Give **specific** (potential) examples.

- *Recommended order:*
  1. Sort the Human Impact cards
  2. Sort the Adversary's Motivations cards
  3. Sort the Adversary's Resources card
  4. Sort the Adversary's Methods cards
  5. Re-visit all of the sorted cards.