The Psychology of a Cyber Predator;
Decoding the Deviate Mind

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Session ID: HT1-203

Session Classification: Intermediate

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Agenda

Traits and characteristics

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Recognizing a Cyber Predator

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"People have always lied, cheated and stolen, but the Internet enables some of them to do it more easily, quickly, cheaply."

- Joinson

What is a Cyber Predator?

- Anyone who engages in Psychological and/or physical victimization of others

- Use digital technology to hunt for online victims to abuse, taunt, steal and victimize in any way, including sexually, emotionally, psychologically or financially

- They know how to manipulate their audience, creating trust and friendship where none should exist in order to take advantage

The Ultimate Goal -
to not only STOP, but to apprehend them
and deter other cyber predators

Digital technology has created a playground for:

- Cyber Bullies
- Cyber Stalkers
- Cyber Criminals
- Cyber Terrorists
- Online Sexual Predators
- Internet Libel
- Cyber Warfare

Digital Highway is well suited in supporting deviant lifestyles and criminal activities

- Unregulated – information can be procured free and anonymously

- Easily connect like-minded and motivated people who are interested in deviant behavior.

Traits and Characteristics

Traits & Characteristics of a Cyber Predator

iPredators can be:

- Any Age

- Male or Female

- Unbound by socio-economic status or racial heritage.

- More likely to recommit their crime than any other criminal

Cyber Predators are Motivated by:

- Acceptance or Belonging
- Malice
- Spite
- Revenge
- Money
- Identity
- Loneliness
- Deviant Sexual Fantasies

- Power and Control
- Addictions
- Retribution
- Political Reprisal
- Religious Beliefs
- Mental Illness
- Variety
- Low Self-Esteem
- Ego

Sexual Deviant and Self-Harm Predators are primarily motivated by:

- Loneliness

- Poor Social Ties

- Low or No Self Esteem

- Low or No Self Control

- Aggressive

- Interpersonal Hostility

Psychological Mindset

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Human beings have 6 basic
instinctive psychological
needs, which lead to a
seventh very important need

They are driving forces
in our lives

7-Fundamental Human Needs

- We feel deep inside of ourselves

- We must have all needs met

- Every second of every day we are striving to fulfill these desires

- When one or more of these needs are not fulfilled we feel a deep-seated restlessness

- Unfulfilled needs create an unsatisfied longing, an undercurrent of disappointment and causes a cyber criminal to **ACT**

7-Fundamental Human Needs

- In the ***non***-digital world, the cyber criminal has to adapt to the outside environment and circumstances to fit in – making it more difficult to satisfy his/her needs

- Cyber criminals can wear a mask to hide their discontentment (smoked mirror effect)

- This gnawing discontentment is caused by one or more of their psychological needs not being met

This motivates & drives the cyber criminal
to turn to the world of the internet

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7-Fundamental Human Needs

- The vast digital world acts as an IV directly into cyber criminals' veins

- Satisfying their Fundamental Human Needs anytime, practically anywhere, and with an endless supply of opportunities

7-Fundamental Human Needs

- In the non-digital world, there are many ways to meet these needs

- But the cyber criminal who has something to hide can isolate in front of their computer and can easily satisfy his/her Fundamental Human Needs

7-Fundamental Human Needs

The internet becomes a drug for satisfying a Cyber Criminal's Fundamental Human Needs because it's:

- Addictive
- Easy Access
- In Quantity
- Anytime
- Convenient
- Satisfying
- Economical
- Variety

7-Fundamental Human Needs Include:

4 Essential Needs:

- Love/Connection

- Significance

- Certainty/Comfort

- Uncertainty/Variety

These first Four Essential Needs are necessary to fulfill natural internal instincts. They must satisfactorily meet these needs or else their life seems grim, inadequate or mediocre.

7-Fundamental Human Needs Include:

2 Quality of Life Needs (even cyber predators seek quality of life):

- Growth

- Contribution

7-Fundamental Human Needs

When all Six Needs are gratified and elevated, they believe a high quality of life has been attained

And, when the cyber predator meets *just 2* needs at a very high level, it creates and addiction to the world of deviant behavior on the internet

7-Fundamental Human Needs

1 Must Have Need:

- Compelling Future

When all 6 Essential Needs are met, the cyber predator has cemented a compelling future in their mind

7 Fundamental Human Needs Defined

LOVE & CONNECTION

- The cyber predator has an inner desire and a need for love

- They want to receive the affection and high regard of another person

- Connection adds richness to their lives

- It makes them feel valued and important and gives them a sense of belonging in the world

- They must feel a part of and connected to something or someone

LOVE & CONNECTION

- When little or no love and connection is present(no high regard from another single soul) then:

- Complex emotions begin to surface such as:
  - Loneliness
  - Distress
  - Longing
  - …and eventually, social hostility

- When these unhealthy emotions are present, they taint the fundamental background of their life and they turn to the Internet to find Love & Connection **on their terms**

LOVE & CONNECTION

Potential Vehicles for Love & Connection:

- Chat rooms

- Social Media

- Membership Sites

SIGNIFICANCE

- A Cyber Predator wants to be regarded by someone as being important

- They can make themselves feel important as well

- It is believing that they are doing something of importance for themselves, others or in the world

- Cyber Predators have a warped sense of what it means to be important or doing something important

SIGNIFICANCE

Potential Vehicles for Significance:

- Winning someone's affection

- Scamming money

- Media attention

- Bragging about their exploits

- Power

- Feeling and/or appearing intelligent

CERTAINTY/COMFORT

- Sense of security

- Sense of knowing (can be control)

- Ability to limit, eliminate or avoid stress or pain

- Ability to increase, intensity or create pleasure

- Level of their certainty is equal to the level of their sense of psychological & physical survival

CERTAINTY/COMFORT

Potential Vehicles for Certainty/Comfort:

- Consistency

- Anonymity

- Identity

- Knowing they can acquire money, affection, media attention, etc.

- Power

- Feeling and/or appearing intelligent

- Addiction

UNCERTAINTY/VARIETY

- New experiences

- Diversity

- Surprises

- Challenge and excitement

- Monotony creates unpleasant emotions

UNCERTAINTY/VARIETY

Potential Vehicles for Uncertainty/Variety:

- Multitude of choices on the Internet

- Excitement of the chase

- Addiction

- Multiple relationships at one time

- Different identities

- Feeling of not knowing what could happen - doubt

- Learning, increasing their skills

QUALITY OF LIFE NEEDS

GROWTH

- Striving for the next level
- Creating something new
- Challenge and excitement
- Wanting to identify with others
- Expansion
- Mental Stimulation

GROWTH

Potential Vehicles for Growth:

- Multitude of choices on the Internet

- Winning

- Increasing their addiction(s)

- Being able to juggle more than one relationship

- Multiple identities

- Learning, increasing their skills

- Increasing their financial, sexual and/or psychological gains

QUALITY OF LIFE NEEDS

CONTRIBUTION

- Contributing to themselves or others mentally, sexually and/or financially

CONTRIBUTION

Potential Vehicles for Contribution:

- Contributing to a cause bigger than themselves
- Teaching others how to scam, hack, manipulate, etc.
- Contributing to their own addiction(s)
- Gossip and libel
- Creating conflict
- Hacktivism – protesting or promoting political views

DEMO

Recognizing a Cyber Predator

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Recognizing a Cyber Predator

Cyber Predators use the 7-Fundamental Human Needs on YOU!

AND

They hunt for YOU (victims)
through every passage of the internet

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Recognizing a Cyber Predator

- Cyber Predators recognize your needs and seduce you (vehicles: attention, affection, kindness, intelligence, contribution, etc.)

- Whether your need is something pleasurable or painful – they will attempt to fulfill your need

- Can be quite patient - will groom their victims

- Something seems too good to be true

- In some circumstances, may try to meet you in-person (i.e. - sexual predator, con-man)

Avoiding a Cyber Predator

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Avoiding a Cyber Predator

- Use common sense, gut feeling, seems too good to be true

- Thorough due diligence

- Ask for references, call

- Do not provide personal information

- Avoid meeting in-person alone (i.e. - sexual predator, con-man)

- Be aware

- Be your own detective

The Future Challenge

The Future Challenge

- Some cyber criminals treat it as if it's a full-time job

- One of the fastest growing businesses on internet

- Work hard to evade investigators

- Earn more than the drug trade

- Effects our economy

- Effects our businesses, families & friends

- Effects psychology (fear & helplessness)

How To Apply What You Have Learned

- Be diligent and aware at all times
- Educate others
- Get involved!

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