STUDY OF CYBERCRIME AWARENESS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the paper to study the cybercrime awareness among college students on the basis of gender and locality. Sample: The sample of the study will consist of 160 college students belonging to Moga district. The sample will be taken through random sampling technique. Method and Design: The present study is a Descriptive study and survey method will be used by the investigator. Cyber Crime Awareness Scale Dr. S. Rajasekar (2011) was used. Result: This reveals that there is no significant difference exists in attitude towards cybercrime between rural and urban college students. There will be no significant difference between male and female college students towards cybercrime is rejected.

Keywords: Cybercrime and College students

INTRODUCTION

The larger picture of cybercrime became globally noticeable after 2007 post which parents, policymakers and academicians have drawn attention towards spreading knowledge of internet safety among children, adolescents and youth. Cybercrime uses computers and mobiles as tools. The alarming growth rate in use of these devices among youth raises concern, because they unknowingly commit crime or get victimized.

With the advent of smart phones in India, communication in life has become smart and easy. Smart phones have not only found place among youth and working class but even toddlers and senior citizens, all of whom are using them effectively and elaborately. As any other revolution, this emerged trend has highly influenced the younger generation. Many of our Government Post Graduate and Under Graduate students (age group 17-21 years, mostly from rural background) now spend very little time in library with books

or journals. For a given assignment, a principle writing for experiment or project write up, students find search engines handy, since they believe in utilization of time factor over performance factor. Majority of students do not show dive in depth of powerful language, which is reflected in official letters they write. This habit will cost them highly in their career. Stealing/copying of personal or institutional information without permission, or personal Identity theft - where fake social media accounts are created and absurd posts are made will take momentum. These are all, one or the other forms of cybercrime, the repercussions of which, students at this innocent age are unaware. Probability of students falling prey to other hackers is yet another face of the same coin.

CYBERCRIME

Cybercrime is a bigger threat than ever before, now that more and more people are connected to the Internet via laptops, smart phones and tablets, and is one of the most profitable ways to make money in the criminal world. There are a wide variety of cybercrimes, which can broadly be placed into two categories: one-off crimes, such as installing a virus that steals your personal data; and ongoing crimes such as cyber bullying, extortion, distributing child pornography or organizing terrorist attacks.

Cybercrime, like other crime, is the work of criminals but it is practiced by those who have technological skills and use the internet to achieve their nefarious ends. Cybercriminals employ their diverse skill set to access bank accounts, steal identities, blackmail, defraud, stalk, and harass or use a compromised computer as part of a sophisticated botnet to stage DDoS attacks on large institutions.

HOW TO OCCURRED CYBERCRIME

1. Child pornography and Abuse: Internet abuse of children is a global issue, with criminals soliciting minors through chat rooms for child pornography. Cyber security departments are monitoring these chat rooms to reduce and prevent such abuse and solicitation.

2. Piracy or Theft: This crime occurs when a person violates copyrights and downloads music, movies, games, and software. There are even peer sharing

websites which encourage software piracy and many of these websites are now being targeted by the FBI.

3. Cyber Stalking: This is a kind of online harassment wherein the victim is subjected to a barrage of online messages and emails. Typically, these stalkers know their victims and instead of resorting to offline stalking, they use the Internet to stalk.

4. Cyber Terrorism: Cyber terrorism, also known as information wars, can be defined as an act of Internet terrorism which includes deliberate and large-scale attacks and disruptions of computer networks using computer viruses, or physical attacks using malware, to attack individuals, governments and organizations. The goal of terrorism is to create a feeling of terror in the minds of the victims.

5. Identity theft is a significant issue involving cyber-crimes where criminals access sensitive information like bank accounts, credit cards, and Social Security to steal money or make purchases in the victim's name, resulting in significant financial losses and damaging their credit history.

6. Malicious Software: These are Internet-based software or programs that are used to disrupt a network. The software is used to gain access to a system to steal sensitive information or data or causing damage to software present in the system.

REVIEW RELATED TO LITERATURE

Saima (2006) examined cyber crime awareness among students at Government Law College, Trivandrum. The survey, completed by 89 respondents from 10 classes, showed a 77% response rate. The findings suggest that awareness is crucial for reducing and preventing cyber crime. However, the hypothesis that law students are more aware of cyber crimes is not supported. The study also revealed a trend of students watching pornography despite being aware of its illegality.

Anouti (2014) conducted study on cybercrime knowledge among young adults in the United Arab Emirates found that a medium level of knowledge was observed among 130 students from Zayed University and Abu Dhabi University. Only 32% had high or

adequate knowledge, while the rest had low to medium knowledge. The study found a significant difference in knowledge based on student major, with 21.5% of students specializing in Computer Information Technology having the highest knowledge. The study also found a strong correlation between knowledge and the use of internet technology, with heavy internet users having a higher level of knowledge about cybercrimes.

Prathima and Suma (2018) surveyed 250 graduate and postgraduate students in Chickmagaluru, Karnataka, India, on cybercrime awareness. The survey focused on understanding the basic purpose of using the internet, understanding cybercrime levels, and the type of education needed. The results showed that 95% of students use mobiles for internet browsing, 29.6% for downloading pictures/videos, and 36.6% for music. Despite this, 50% had no idea about cybercrime types, 90% wanted to learn, and 60% wanted to learn through seminars.

Philips(2018) conducted study on cybercrime awareness among undergraduate students in Rivers State, Nigeria, used a stratified random sampling technique and a questionnaire. The study found that undergraduate students were highly aware of cybercrimes, with an aggregate mean set value of 3.37, exceeding the criterion mean value of 2.50. The results suggest that students are well-informed about cybercrime and its potential threats.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

Students are the largest consumers of data facilities. They are addicted to many social networking sites. Hence, it is a student's right to aware of the cyber threats and its consequences. Moreover Government provides free laptop facilities to under privileged students and internet facility to all classes of students. As faculty, it is our responsibility to ensure that these facilities are utilized safely and effectively. Having chosen college going students the present study enables us to understand the nature of students who hail from both rural and urban background. This study was essential and will help the Government to understand the importance of incorporating cyber awareness programes in regular curriculum of every University and for every branch of study.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the significant difference in the Cybercrime awareness among rural and urban college students.

2. To find out the significant difference in the Cybercrime awareness among male and female college students.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. There exists no significant difference in the Cybercrime awareness among rural and urban college going students.

2. There exists no significant difference in the Cybercrime awareness among male and female college going students.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. The study was delimited to Moga district only.
2. The study was delimited to 160 college students only.
3. The study was delimited to male and female college students only.

METHODOLOGY

Sample: The sample of the study will consist of 160 college students belonging to Moga district. The sample will be taken through random sampling technique.

Method and Design: The present study is a Descriptive study and survey method will be used by the investigator.
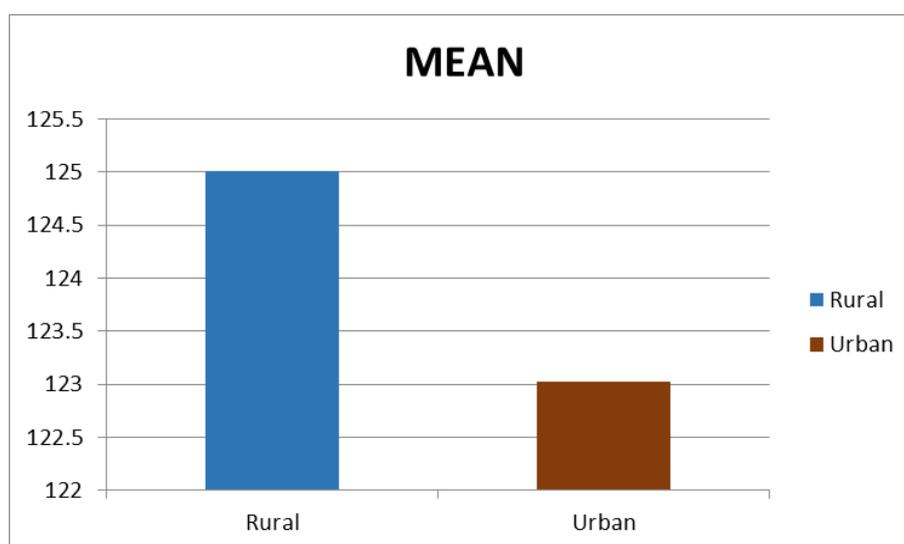
ANALYSIS AND INTERPERTATION OF DATA

Hypothesis 1: There exists no significant difference between rural and urban college students towards cyber crime

Table 1 : Table shows the mean ,S.D, S.Ed and t- value between rural and urban college students towards cyber crime

Group	N	MEAN	S.D.	S.Ed	t- value	Level of Significance
Rural	80	125.01	14.54	2.16	0.92	Not Significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level
Urban	80	123.02	12.77			

It reveals that the mean scores of attitude towards cyber crime of rural and urban college students are 125.01 and 123.02 respectively and S.D is 14.54 and 12.77 ,S.Ed 2.16 respectively. Calculated't'- value is 0.92 which is less than the table value 1.98 at 0.05 level at 0.01 Level . This reveals that there is no significant difference exists in attitude towards cyber crime between rural and urban college students. Hence , Hypothesis 1: There exist no significant difference between rural and urban college students towards cyber crime is accepted.
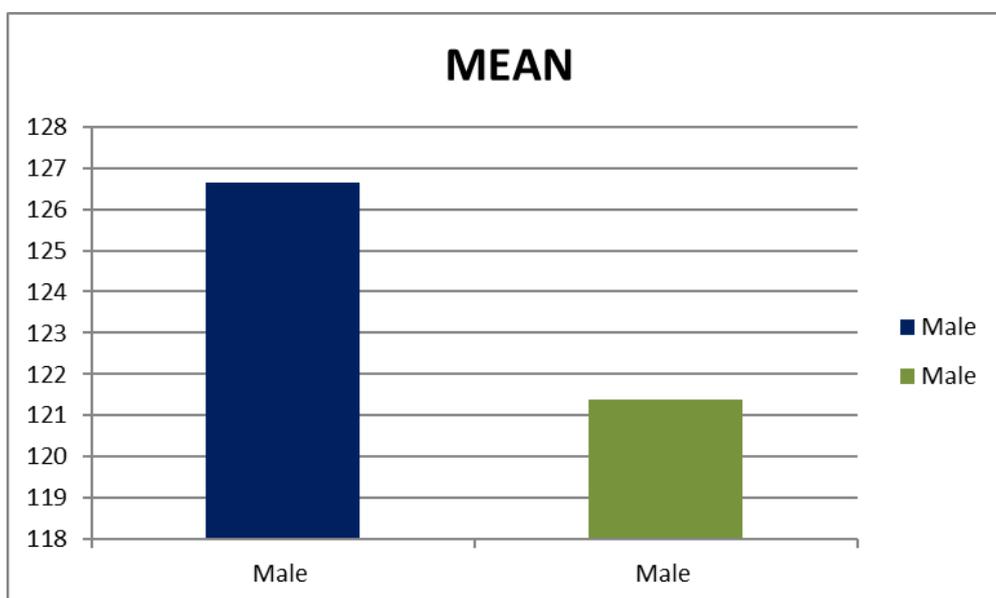

Hypothesis 2. There exist no significant difference in the cybercrime awareness among male and female college students.

Table 2 : Table shows the mean ,S.D, S.Ed and t- value between male and female college students towards cyber crime

Group	N	MEAN	S.D.	S.Ed	t- value	Level of Significance
Male	80	126.65	13.90	2.12	2.48	Significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level
Male	80	121.38	13.02			

It reveals that the mean scores of attitude towards cyber crime of male and female college students are 126.65 and 121.38 respectively and S.D is 13.90 and 13.02,S.Ed 2.12 respectively. Calculated 't'- value is 2.48 which is less than the table value 1.98 at 0.05 level at 0.01 Level . This reveals that there is significant difference exists in attitude towards cyber crime between male and female college students. Hence, hypothesis 2: There exist no significant difference between male and female college students towards cyber crime is rejected.

CONCLUSION

Cybercrime is a growing threat due to increased internet connectivity, making it a lucrative criminal business. These crimes are becoming more prevalent in the digital age. On the basis of depth study of cybercrime awareness among college students the

result reveals that there is no significant difference exists in attitude towards cybercrime between rural and urban college students apart from this there is significant difference exists in attitude towards cybercrime between male and female college students.

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