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## Awareness of Cyber Crime on Social Media

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**Abstract:** More and more people, in spite of age and gender, are signing up for profiles on online social networks for connecting with one another during this virtual world. Some people have many friends and followers spread across multiple profiles. But at the same time there is proliferation of fake profiles also. Fake profiles often spam the users like posting inappropriate or illegal content. Fake profiles are created while misrepresenting some known person to cause harassment to him/her. This is a cross sectional study conducted among the common people through a questionnaire with 10 questions. The sample was taken on common people. The sample size of the study was 100 and the results were tabulated accordingly. From the response collected it is evident that there is no significant relationship among the public regarding cyber crime. People who are associated with the IT sector are well aware than the general public on Cyber Crime. The Independent variable such as age and gender was taken into consideration and the dependent variable such as awareness about the ransomware and cyber crime was put forward to the public. The best of our knowledge, none of the previous researchers have adopted this approach.

**Keywords:** Networks; spam; illegal contents; fake profiles; ransomware

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### INTRODUCTION

The connectivity of the universe has become a child's play in the present decade with the help of internet connectivity. Every innovation has its pros and cons (Pantic, 2014). Social Media is a place where people meet, either in their own identity or in a different identity (Benson, no date). Fake identities are used by a certain category of people, there are also people who use others' identity to cheat and do anti social activity which is considered as Cyber Crime. (Pantic, 2014; Virtanen, 2017) Almost every individual has more than one account on different social platforms (Santoso, 2018). Official crimes have been more aggressive and increased these days, Cybercrime is a threat to millions of internet users. (Luxton, June and Fairall, 2012)

Cyber Crime has become a day today activity. People with unknown identity committing online crimes, social abuse and hacking on important records (government and nongovernmental organization) (Mantelero and Vaciego, 2014). This study aims at assessing if people are aware of the cyber crime, how to reporting the cyber crime office and taking their own precaution (Luxton, June and Fairall, 2012; Kranenbarg et al., 2018)

The need of this research are the same social media platforms that you use to keep up with friends and family – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube – have given rise to a vast global cyber criminal network, in line with a replacement report by cybersecurity firm Bromium. The report on social media cyber crime, administered as a part of a six-month academic study by a criminology expert at the University of Surrey within the UK, detailed all of the various tactics – ranging from cryptojacking to botnets for hire – used by cyber criminals around the world to earn nearly \$3.25 billion annually by exploiting popular social platforms (Tayebi, Glässer and Skillicorn, 2020). The aim of the study is to create awareness on cyber crime on social media. Previously our department has published extensive research on various aspects of prosthetic dentistry ('Evaluation of Corrosive Behavior of Four Nickel–chromium Alloys in Artificial Saliva by Cyclic Polarization Test: An in vitro Study', 2017; Ganapathy, Kannan and Venugopalan, 2017; Jain, 2017a, 2017b; Ranganathan, Ganapathy and Jain, 2017; Ariga et al., 2018; Gupta, Ariga and Deogade, 2018; Anbu et al., 2019; Ashok and Ganapathy, 2019; Duraisamy et al., 2019; Varghese, Ramesh and Veeraiyan, 2019), this vast research experience has inspired us to research about the awareness of cybercrime on social media. Our team has rich experience in research and we have collaborated with numerous authors over various topics in the past decade (Ezhilarasan, 2018; Ezhilarasan, Sokal and Najimi, 2018; Gupta, Ariga and Deogade, 2018; Jeevanandan and Govindaraju, 2018; J et al., 2018;

Menon et al., 2018; Prabakar et al., 2018; Rajeshkumar et al., 2018, 2019; Vishnu Prasad et al., 2018; Wahab et al., 2018; Dua et al., 2019; Duraisamy et al., 2019; Ezhilarasan, Apoorva and Ashok Vardhan, 2019; Gheena and Ezhilarasan, 2019; Malli Sureshbabu et al., 2019; Mehta et al., 2019; Panchal, Jeevanandan and Subramanian, 2019; Rajendran et al., 2019; Ramakrishnan, Dhanalakshmi and Subramanian, 2019; Sharma et al., 2019; Varghese, Ramesh and Veeraiyan, 2019; Gomathi et al., 2020; Samuel, Acharya and Rao, 2020)

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This is a cross sectional study conducted among the common people through a questionnaire with 10 questions. The sample size of the study was 100 and the questionnaire elicited responses on various aspects of cyber crime on social media. results were tabulated and statistically analysed

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The results are based on the survey reports, 10 questions were asked and all the questions were answered by the 100 respondents. No questions were skipped in this survey. In the analysed results we are able to understand that the people will get to know more about the cyber crime on social media.

In this survey it was observed that 85% of the people are aware of cyber crime on social media (fig 1). 78% of the people do not experience any cyber attack (fig 2). 41% answered insufficient protection of data; 26% answered lack of virus in the system; 14% answered malware; 19% answered perverse mind set of hackers for the reason of increase in cyber attack (fig 3). 9% answered severe mental stress; 6% answered all of the above; 15% answered loss of privacy; 70% answered all of the above for the thought of impact of cyber attack (fig 4). 71% are aware of cyber bullying (fig 5). 56% are not aware on how to contact the cyber crime police in case of bullying (fig 6). 79% trust the cyber crime department (fig 7). 73% are thought of threatening customers in business and 27% thought of denial of agreement in business (fig 8). 54% want to undergo any educational courses regarding protection from cyber attack (fig 9). 48% answered police; 31% answered private security agency; 16% answered non governmental agency (NGO); 5% answered amateurs bloggers for agency trusting in managing cyber attacks (fig 10)

This survey has given information about the people's awareness on cyber crime. The questionnaire has a question relating to crime regarding the trust of the police department in cyber crime. At the end of the session, it was understood that the subjects trusted the police department. The other few questions which were put forward in this questionnaire was if there was a personal attack or bullying by the help of cyber crime which most of them answered in the positive way that the complaint would be cyber crime office. The next question was regarding the increase of cyber attacks in social media. The majority of the people answering there was insufficient protection of data but when you see this situation there is always a third factor involved which is waiting to hack or cheat or retrieve personal data for cyber crime for personal use. The other questionnaire was regarding the impact of cyber attack on the people which most of the people had answered the privacy was lost, mental depression and anguish which in turn leads to severe mental stress. The results have been discussed on these four sectors that the person is mentally and physically derived from office personal data and also losing their money in this form.

People who are associated with the IT sector are well aware than the general public on Cyber Crime. Social networking has provided a platform for cyber criminals to do fraudulent activities, Money laundry without any effort (Wykes, 2007; Mantelero and Vaciago, 2014). The cyber criminals work on soft targets so that most of these individuals do not bring out the malicious activity of the cyber criminals (Herrick, 2016). The other form of crime using social platforms like facebook, whatsapp, Instagram etc., make their activities to reach more numbers of population. It is proved that even 0.1% of the population which has no validity as in this article. (Kirwan, Fullwood and Rooney, 2018)

The survey has been conducted on Malaysian students regarding the risk factor of social networking. It is understood that networking uses the most important code word "friends" which makes the individual lose to the cyber criminals. (Tayebi, Glässer and Skillicorn, 2020). The other article which provides information states the fear of cyber crime. In several surveys, it has been proved beyond doubt that the cyber crime victim has undergone mental stress, depression and anguish. The cyber Criminals used their tricks against social economic status people. So that the crime is not brought to light (Virtanen, 2017). Virtual offence with real consequences was also studied and authors describe cyber bullying in which definition mentioned by Smith et al as an aggressive, intentional act carried out by a group or individual, using electronic forms of contact, repeatedly and over time and again (Wykes, 2007). A victim who cannot easily defend himself or herself. So it is also proved that a person can use text message, emails, facebook, and social media etc in which personal attack or bullying can be done to reduce the self confidence of the individuals. (Rao, Bansal and Chandran, 2018) Our institution is passionate about high quality evidence based research and has excelled in various fields ( (Pc, Marimuthu and Devadoss, 2018; Ramesh et al., 2018; Vijayashree Priyadharsini, Smiline Girija and Paramasivam, 2018; Ezhilarasan, Apoorva and Ashok Vardhan, 2019; Ramadurai et al., 2019; Sridharan et al., 2019; Vijayashree Priyadharsini, 2019; Chandrasekar et al., 2020; Mathew et al., 2020; R et al., 2020; Samuel, 2021)

## CONCLUSION

There is a moderate level of awareness and knowledge regarding cyber crime among the participants, it is recommended that programmes regarding cyber crimes can be conducted by the department of cyber crime with the initiation of government in all institutions as most of the students are using the internet for all their banking purposes.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

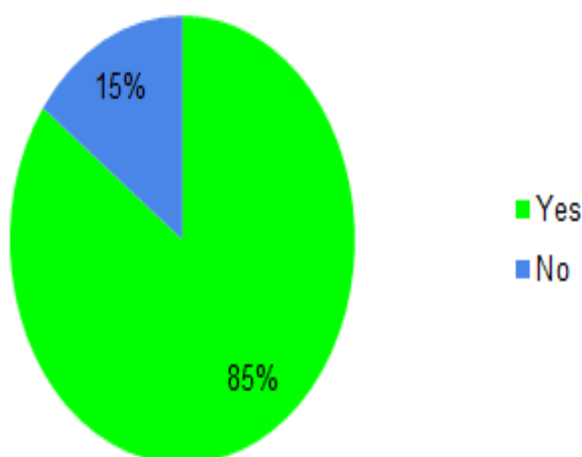
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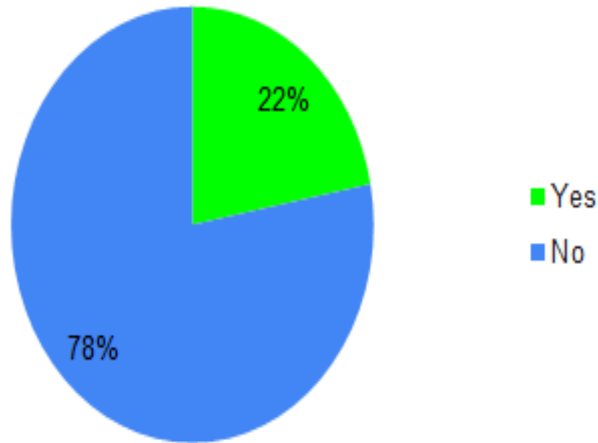
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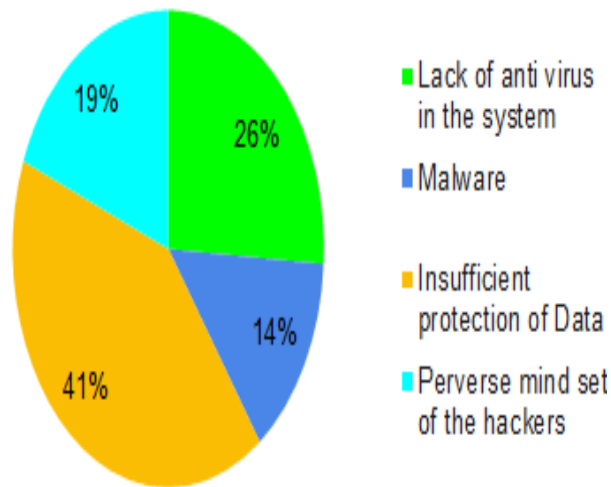
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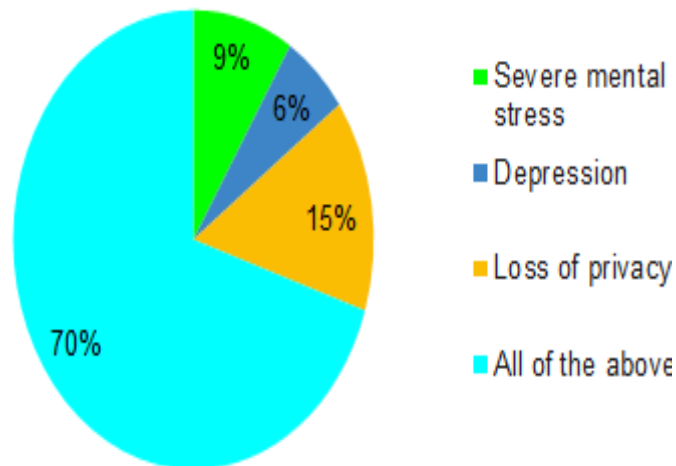
**Fig.1: This pie chart represents awareness about cyber attack.85% answered “Yes”(green) and 15% answered “No”(blue)**



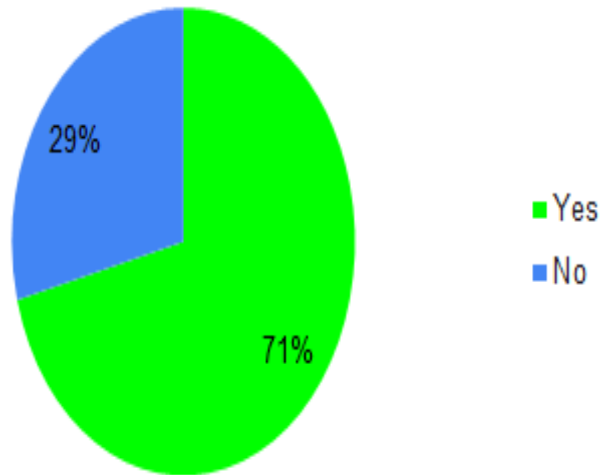
**Fig.2:** This pie chart represents experience any cyber attack.22% answered “Yes”(green) and 78% answered “No”(blue)



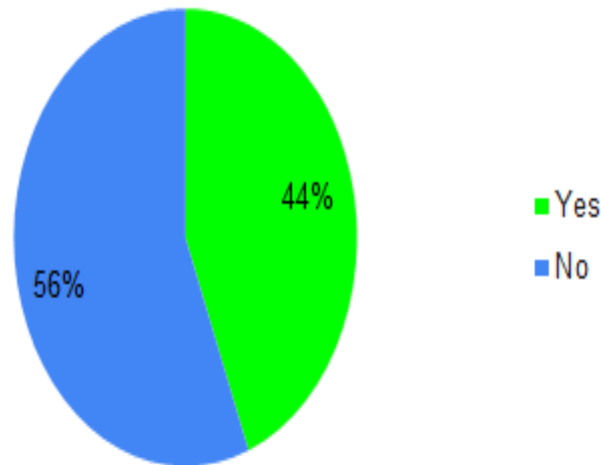
**Fig.3:** This pie chart represents about reason for increase in cyber attack.26% answered lack of anti virus in the system(green);14% answered malware(blue);39% answered insufficient protection of data(orange);20% answered perverse mind set of hackers(light blue)



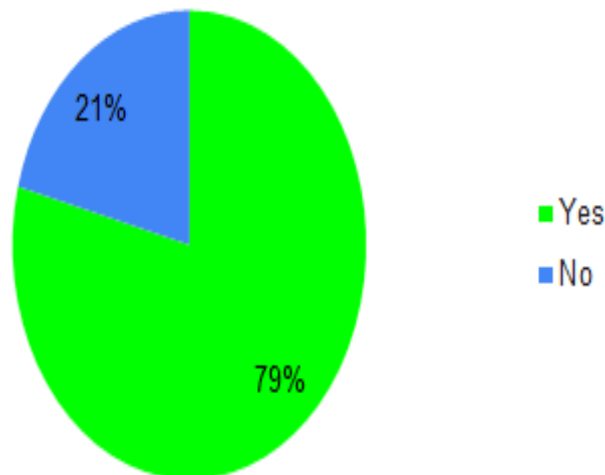
**Fig.4:** This pie chart represents awareness about impact of cyber attack.9% answered severe mental stress(green);2% answered depression(blue);14% answered loss of privacy(orange);70% answered all of the above(light blue)



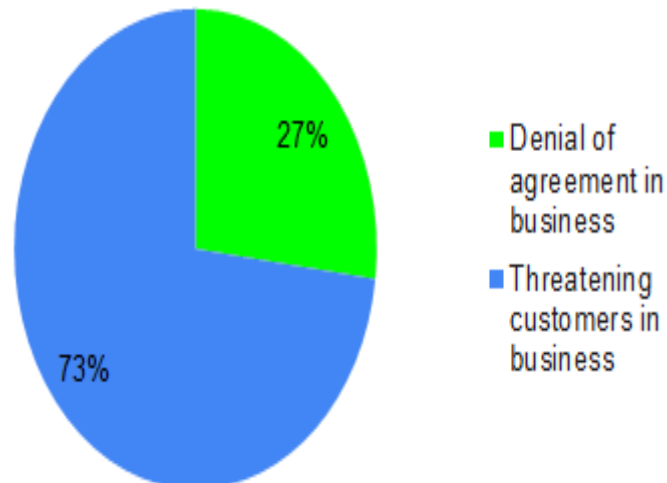
**Fig.5: This pie chart represents awareness about cyber bullying.71% answered “Yes”(green) and 29% answered “No”(blue)**



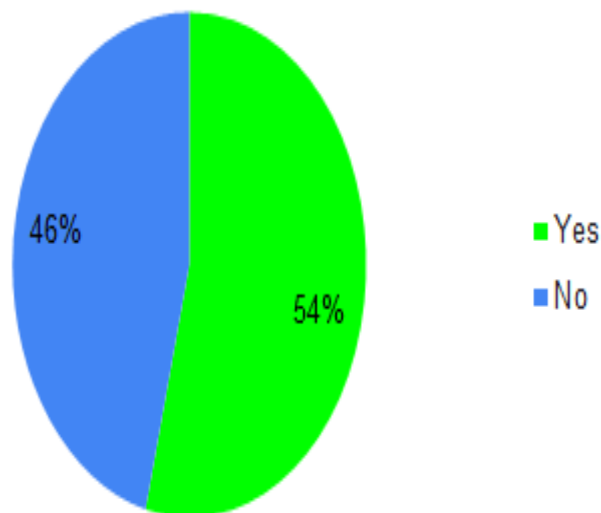
**Fig.6: This pie chart represents awareness about how to contact the cyber crime in case of bullying.44% answered “Yes”(green) and 56% answered “No”(blue)**



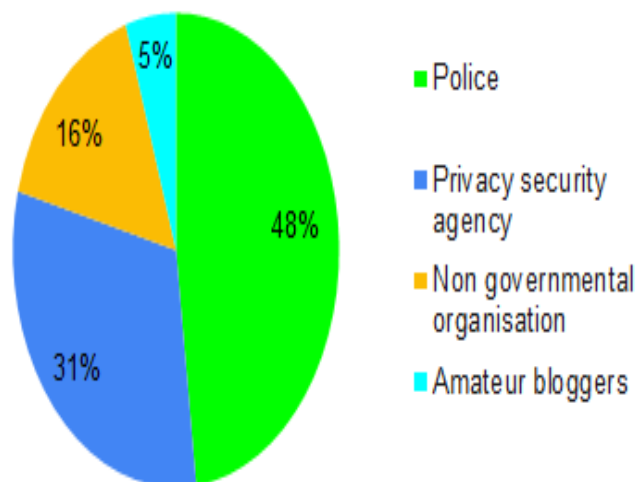
**Fig.7: This pie chart represents about the trust of cyber crime police department .79% answered “Yes”(green) and 21% answered “No”(blue)**



**Fig.8: This pie chart represents awareness about cyber attack affects business.27% answered denial of agreement in business(green) and 73% answered threatening customers in business(blue)**



**Fig.9:This pie chart represents to undergo any educational courses regarding protection from cyber-attack.54% answered "Yes"(green) and 46% answered "No"(blue)**



**Fig.10: This pie chart represents about which agency you trust in managing cyber attack.48% answered police(green);31% answered private security agency(blue);16% answered non governmental organisation(orange);5% answered amateurs bloggers(light blue)**