

Chapter 3

Demystifying Cyber Crimes

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ABSTRACT

With the National Cybercrime Reporting portal witnessing an increase of 15.3% increase in the cyber cases in second quarter of 2022, the post pandemic world has seen a tremendous rise in the number of cybercrime cases. The cases have increased many folds, 125% from 2021, and still continues beyond. The targets of crime are not limited to any age group and innocent children have not been spared. The exposure to online classes, conferences, meetings, etc. has opened the door to criminal activities in a humongous way. Thus, there comes the need for each and every one of us to be well aware of the recent practices that these criminals use and not fall into the clutches of these nefarious cyber criminals.

1. INTRODUCTION TO CYBER CRIME

One of the most significant advancements that has been made in the 21st century which has impacted our lives to a great extent is the advent of internet. Way back from the use of ARPANET in 1969 to the furtherance of Web 3.0, knowledge and technical maneuvering has lived up to it. The way we communicate, play games, work, shop, pay bills without having to wait in long queues, greet pals on their special occasions from far off lands, from landline to video calls, anything and everything we do has made our lives better and comfortable.

But this comes along with a dark side, a much deeper side of the world that many of us are not aware about. With the inception of internet, it has undergone due changes from web 1.0 to latest induction of web 3.0 widely used for many purposes legit and illegit. The modern day technology has made easy access to bundle of

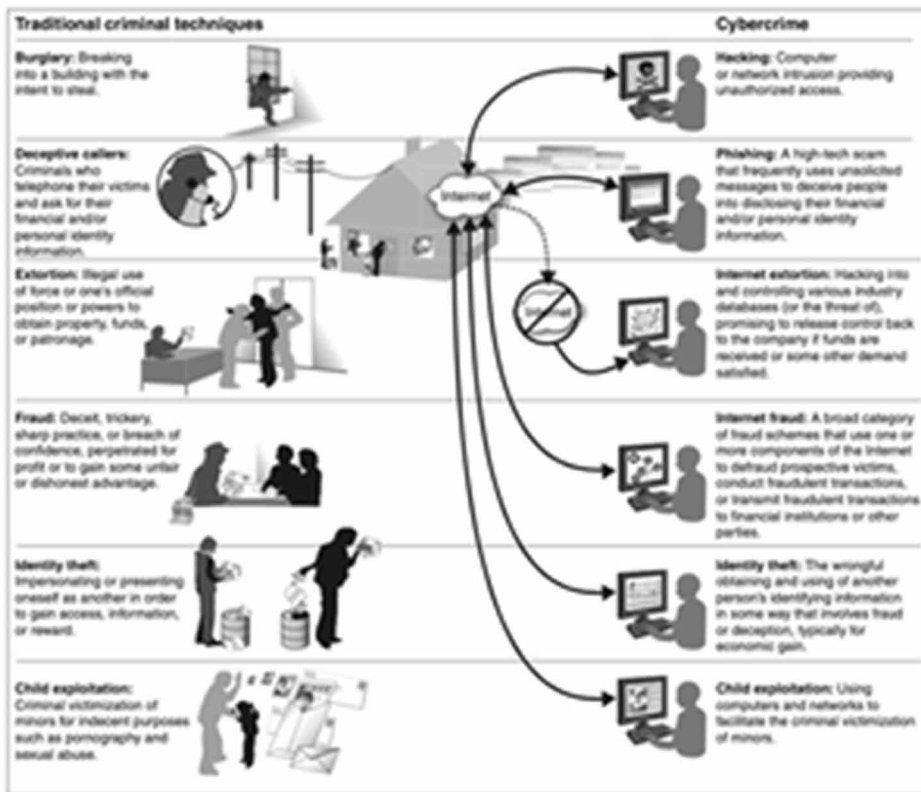
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knowledge from various sources all across the globe that learning of new skills has become tip of the iceberg. The recent advancements has not only reaped upper hand on technocrats but has also whipped hand on criminal mindset as well.

The methods of crimes have ascended from traditional ways like theft, bank robbery, bribing, blackmailing to modern day crimes *aka* cyber crimes. The indiscriminate exposure to web has augmented these crimes ranging from phishing to ransomware, vishing and many more.

Cyber crime is a term which is most widely used in 21st century defined as any crime administered through the use of computer or any other devices linked to communication like phone, email etc. with the intent to cause fear, anxiety, stress or blackmailing to publish on social media. The severity of crimes has mounted many folds with the increase in daily number of cases being reported on *cybercrime.gov* portal despite conducting a large of awareness programmes for children, youth, parents and senior citizens through various mediums online and offline. The psychology behind ushering these crimes is either greed, revenge or adventure. The Figure 1 represents the comparison between traditional as well as modern day cyber crimes.

Figure 1. Traditional vs. cyber crimes comparison



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