Unit 3 Lab

Keren Elazari

1. Would you describe Kyle Lovett as a criminal, given that he broke the law with his hacking? Explain your answer.

I wouldn't call him a criminal because he was trying to help fix a problem.

2. What are the ethical ramifications, good and bad, of the practice of "full disclosure" in hacking communities?

It is a good thing because it makes people more aware of vulnerabilities. Through this, victims are as knowledgeable as the people attacking them. It helps and benefits other people.

3. What does the title of the talk mean—that hackers are the internet's immune system?

Hackers force us to make the internet better. Just like how viruses make a human immune system stronger, hackers to the same thing in terms of the internet.

4. Elazari states that hackers are Robin Hoods in the business of the redistribution of what? Since we are in the information age, where information is power and everyone at all levels, from governments and corporations down to general citizens, is struggling to control and "own" information, how does Elazari suggest that hackers fit into the picture? Do you agree? "I think that, like Robin Hood, they are in the business of redistribution, but what they are after isn't your money. It's not your documents. It's your attention." Elazari suggests that they can do a lot more than break things, they can bring people together. For example, when the internet was shut down in Egypt in 2011, hackers helped people use workarounds to bypass censorship.

Mikko Hypponen

- 1. What are Hypponen's three kinds of hackers? For each of the three categories of hackers, describe one method of attack that would be especially likely for that kind of attacker to use, and explain why that attack makes sense for that kind of attacker.
- Online hackers (most likely after money). One way they do this is through banking Trojans, or by keylogging our personal financial information.
- Those motivated by protests, motivated by an opinion, and motivated by the laughs. Hack into a public thing and display their belief/message.
- Nation states (governments). Government can hack each other to either steal information, or to even change the functions of that entire government.
- 2. What do you think about Hypponen's examples about governments turning against their own citizens and hacking them? Hypponen makes the statement that this is a question of control and warns that any privacy rights we give away now, we give away for good. What impact might this have in fields like cybersecurity and technology, which are rapidly changing, almost overnight?

Privacy rights are a very important thing. If we slowly give them away, we eventually may not have any. Without them, anything that is personal to us won't be private anymore. Hackers, with bad intentions, would be more prone to stealing our personal information. Governments could be taken over, even wars can spark. It may not seem like these things can happen at first, but it works on a step-by-step process. One thing leads to another which leads to another thing, and then that keeps repeating.