

Re: What is the motivation for Virus Writers?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security.virus/2003-12/1153.html>

From: Trevor (*sales_at_logicians.com*)

Date: 12/16/03

Date: 16 Dec 2003 01:15:22 -0800

"Robert Moir" <bofh@myps.org> wrote in message
news:<O1C2\$xlwDHA.2000@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl>...

> *Trevor wrote:*

>

> > *The parallel is that victims are people who have no power at all in*
> > *both cases. We have lived with terror in the UK for decades with the*
> > *IRA (although now there is almost peace in Ireland). The IRA lost*
> > *support because it rarely attacking military, but normally civilians*
> > *in clubs, etc, or businesses (eg offices). They were called "soft*
> > *targets" instead of "hard targets."*

> >

> > *I cannot change XP, so why attack my PC and cost me \$200 and a lot of*
> > *trouble?*

>

> *But as I alluded to in my other reply, very few virus authors are thinking*
> *about you and your \$200 when they write a virus. Lets be clear about this,*
> *many more people write viruses and either destroy them without letting them*
> *loose (obviously the 2nd best outcome after not writing them at all), still*
> *more write them and send them to virus companies and don't let them loose*
> *"in the wild".*

>

> *Still more write them, show their friends, and claim a friend released the*
> *virus without their permission, in fact against their direct request. Some*
> *of these might even be telling the truth, though when they claim it happens*
> *more than once I have my doubts.*

>

> *Some authors are malicious, some are just dumb, some are naive, some are*
> *thoughtless, and some write and destroy their own viruses without doing any*
> *harm because they want to see how they work.*

>

> *Of my list, its only the first lot who are even remotely close to being*
> *terrorists (and as they don't kill people, I'm sorry, I think the comparison*
> *is still over the top), and the last class in my list aren't doing anybody*
> *any harm at all.*

>

> --

Well I learned a lot on Saturday.

I brought my new PC with a top spec, and I was very pleased. I had it built by a shop to my design, and when I got it home I was very happy.

Then the machine rebooted. I thought it was a software error, and when it happened again, I knew it was serious. I searched google.com and found a link with a remedy.

Then my PC kept rebooting, so I could not install anything. Then more and more started going wrong. I slept on it, and tried again the next day.

I got more angry and actually punched my keyboard. It smashed and I had to buy a new one.

I took it to a PC guy who fixed everything.

I then when and purchased the top security I could find, and installed every patch at microsoft.

Now my PC is great. I already took several orders using it.

And I can say – "Thank you Norton."