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The Study on Characteristic Differences in the Prevalence of post-Traumatic Stress Disorders among the Victims of Cyber Dependent Offences in India

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Abstract

Cyber Dependent Crime is any unlawful conduct coordinated by methods for electrical activities that attempts to hurt the security of computer systems and the information prepared by them. Cyber dependent crimes influence the victims psychologically. It affects the behavior and attitude of victims. Various victims of cyber dependent crimes show signs of anti-social behavioral traits and traits of cynicism. Though various studies have hypothesized on the nature of victimhood pertaining to cyber dependent crimes, the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is unknown. This ambiguity leads to further uncertainty in respect of characteristic difference among victims of cyber dependent crimes suffering due to PTSD, since the impact of cyber dependent crime vary with type. The current study is carried out with a sample size of 253 from a open sample frame determined through convenient sampling method. With the help of complex graphs, Mann Whitney u test, Jonckheere-Terpstra Test it could be found out that the prevalence of post-traumatic stress in victims of crimes, it could be identified that level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. The study concludes that post-traumatic stress disorder varies in respect to the type of cyber dependent crimes.

Keywords

Cyber Dependent Crime, post-traumatic stress disorder, victims, behavior, offences

INTRODUCTION

The internet in India is developing quickly. It has offered ascend to new open doors in each field we can consider – be it excitement, business, games or training (Mittal and Singh, 2019). There are two sides to a coin. Internet additionally has its own particular drawbacks ('Cyber Victimization of Women and Cyber Laws in India', no date). One of the significant weaknesses is Cybercrime – illicit activity carried out on the internet. The internet, alongside its focal points, has additionally presented us to security hazards that accompany interfacing with an expansive network (Dasgupta, Chaturvedi and Dalal,

2009). Computers today are being abused for illicit exercises like email undercover work, charge card misrepresentation, spams, programming theft et cetera, which attack our security and annoy our faculties. Cyber Dependent Crime is any unlawful conduct coordinated by methods for electrical activities that attempts to hurt the security of computer systems and the information prepared by them (Maheshwari, Hyman and Agrawal, no date). In a more extensive sense, in any case, a computer related crime might be any unlawful conduct carried out by methods for or in connection to a computer system or network. Even subsequent to taking a few measures to stay away from computer crime and secure the computers, still computer crimes still happen sooner or later or other. Therefore the most noteworthy need ought to be given to aversion (Rajput, 2020b).

The government has taken various steps towards curbing of offences which are cyber dependents. The recent amendment in criminal law and Information technology Act has tried its level best to curb the increasing rate of offences and offer protection to the victims. Various efforts are taken by the government to reduce chances of victimhood and victimization through awareness and imposing regulations in the form of restrictions (Rajput, 2020). At the same time various government institutions including the CBI have attempted to identify the reason for occurrence of cybercrimes and in particular to social networks (Pareek, 2013).

When a closer understanding of the topic in respect of victims is carried out, it could be understood that the cyber dependent crimes influence the victims psychologically (Kirwan and Gráinne, 2011). It affects the behaviour and attitude of victims (Kirwan and Power, 2012). Various victims of cyber dependent crimes show signs of anti social behavioural traits and traits of cynicism (Kirwan and Gráinne, 2011). It is a well founded psychological principle that cynicism and anti social behavioural traits are often result of a psychological disorder. There is high probability of the victims to suffer due to post traumatic stress disorders. Though various studies have hypothesized on the nature of victimhood pertaining to cyber dependent crimes, the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is unknown. This ambiguity leads to further uncertainty in respect of characteristic difference among victims of cyber dependent crimes suffering due to PTSD, since the impact of cyber dependent crime vary with type.

The study on victimology and psychiatric jurisprudence vary from country to country. Certain countries focus on a need based approach while certain countries focus on a right based approach (Damle, 2012). It is quite interesting to find out that countries like the United States, where right based approach is followed, victim psychological behaviour is studied (Bottazzi and Me, 2014). However in India, since need based approach is followed, the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorders among victims of cyber dependent crimes is unknown. Therefore this study attempts to find out the difference in the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorders among victims of cyber dependent offences and the characteristic differences.

Objectives

1. To find out if there is prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder among victims of cyber dependent crimes.
2. To identify if there is any difference between prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder and type of cyber dependent crime
3. To study if there is a characteristic difference in the prevalence of post traumatic disorders among victims on the basis of type of cyber dependent crime
4. To study if there is a characteristic difference in the prevalence of post traumatic disorders among victims across age
5. To study if there is a characteristic difference in the prevalence of post traumatic disorders among victims across gender

Review of Literature

Post-traumatic stress disorders

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a mental health condition that's activated by an unnerving occasion — either encountering it or seeing it (Narayan, 2012). Side effects

may incorporate flashbacks, nightmares and serious anxiety, as well as uncontrollable musings about the occasion(Ovuga and Larroque, 2012).

many people who experience traumatic occasions may have temporary trouble adjusting and adapting, however with time and great self-care, they usually improve. On the off chance that the side effects deteriorate, last for a considerable length of time or even years, and meddle with your day-to-day working(C., Anoumatacky and Te Bonle, 2012).

Symptoms

Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms may start within one month of a traumatic occasion, yet some of the time symptoms may not appear until years after the occasion(Spiegel, 1988). These symptoms cause significant issues in social or work situations and in relationships(Vermetten, Germain and Neylan, 2017). They can also interfere with your ability to approach your normal daily tasks(Winn, 1994; Vermetten, Germain and Neylan, 2017).

PTSD symptoms are generally gathered into four sorts: intrusive memories, avoidance, negative changes in thinking and mood, and changes in physical and emotional reactions. Symptoms can vary after some time or vary from individual to individual.

● **Intrusive memories**

Symptoms of intrusive memories may include:

1. Recurrent, unwanted distressing memories of the traumatic occasion
2. Reliving the traumatic occasion as in the event that it were happening again (flashbacks)
3. Upsetting dreams or nightmares about the traumatic occasion(Coleman et al., 2020)
4. Severe emotional distress or physical reactions to something that reminds you of the traumatic occasion(McCarty, 2020)

● **Avoidance**

Symptoms of avoidance may include:

1. Trying to avoid thinking or talking about the traumatic occasion
2. Avoiding places, activities or individuals that remind you of the traumatic occasion(Bisson, 2020)

● **Negative changes in thinking and mood**

Symptoms of negative changes in thinking and mood may include:

1. Negative contemplations about yourself, others or the world
2. Hopelessness about what's to come
3. Memory issues, including not remembering important aspects of the traumatic occasion(Boysan, 2016)
4. Difficulty maintaining cozy relationships
5. Feeling detached from family and companions
6. Lack of interest in activities you once delighted in
7. Difficulty experiencing positive feelings
8. Feeling emotionally numb

● **Changes in physical and emotional reactions**

Symptoms of changes in physical and emotional reactions (also called arousal symptoms) may include:

1. Being easily startled or scared
2. Always being on guard for danger
3. Self-dangerous behavior, for example, drinking excessively or driving excessively fast
4. Trouble sleeping
5. Trouble concentrating
6. Irritability, angry upheavals or aggressive behavior(Pillai, Mehta and Chaudhari, 2016)

● **Overwhelming guilt or shame**

For youngsters 6 years old and more youthful, signs and symptoms may also include:

1. Re-enacting the traumatic occasion or aspects of the traumatic occasion through play

2. Frightening dreams that may or may not include aspects of the traumatic occasion

How prevalence post-traumatic stress disorder is found out

The doctors generally use a behavioural tire measure to determine the prevalence of PTSD which include,

- Agitation
- Irritability
- Hostility
- Hypervigilance
- self-destructive behaviour
- social isolation(Ford, 2009)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

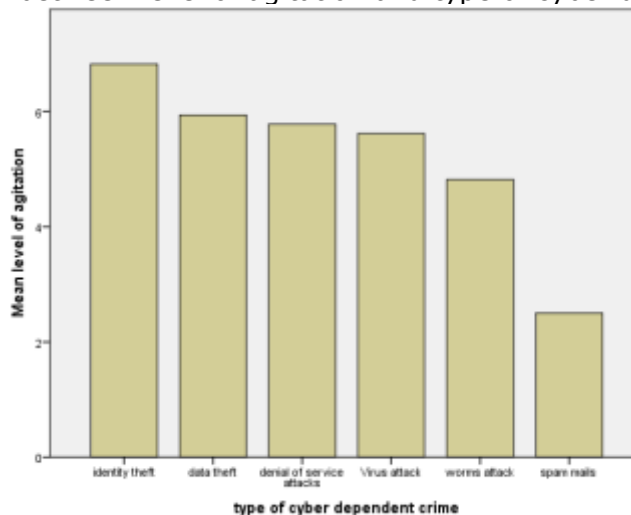
This socio-legal, empirical study is carried out to find out the difference in the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorders among victims of cyber dependent offences and the characteristic differences

This research is carried out by determining the level of post-traumatic stress disorders characteristics. The study includes both qualitative as well as quantitative methods. Since analyzing the level of each trait is required the study also includes an analytic method. Present study is based on Primary as well as Secondary sources of data, which are as Primary Sources collected by interview from victims and Secondary Sources collected through literature of N.G.O. reports, Government Reports, Websites, Research Articles, Newspapers. The study is dependent on Independent variables like age and and Dependent variable.

The study is carried out with the help of a convenient sampling method, having 253 sample size from an open sample frame. The statistical tools used for the purpose of deriving results are graphs, pie charts, Pearson correlation, Mann Whitney U test, independent t test and Kendall's tau_b test

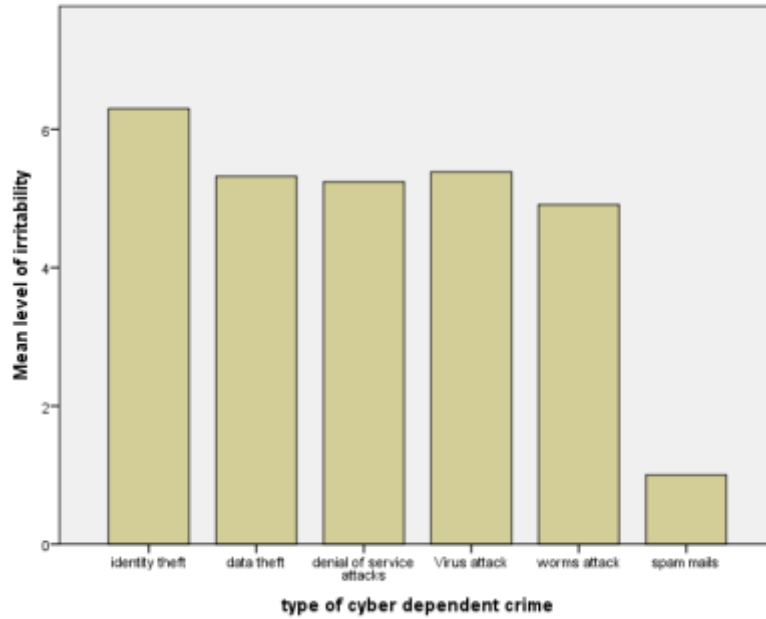
Graphs and Analysis

Graph1. Graph between level of agitation and type of cyber dependent crime



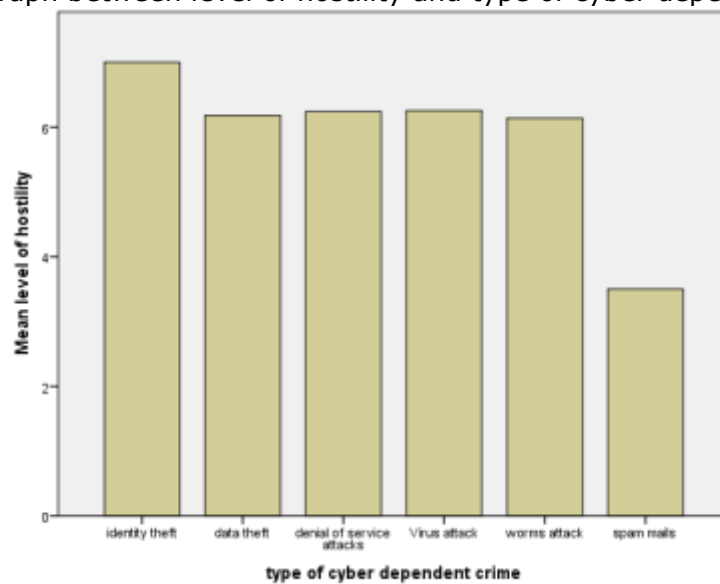
This graph depicts the level of agitation in victims of cyber dependent crimes with post-traumatic stress disorder

Graph2. Graph between level of irritability and type of cyber dependent crime



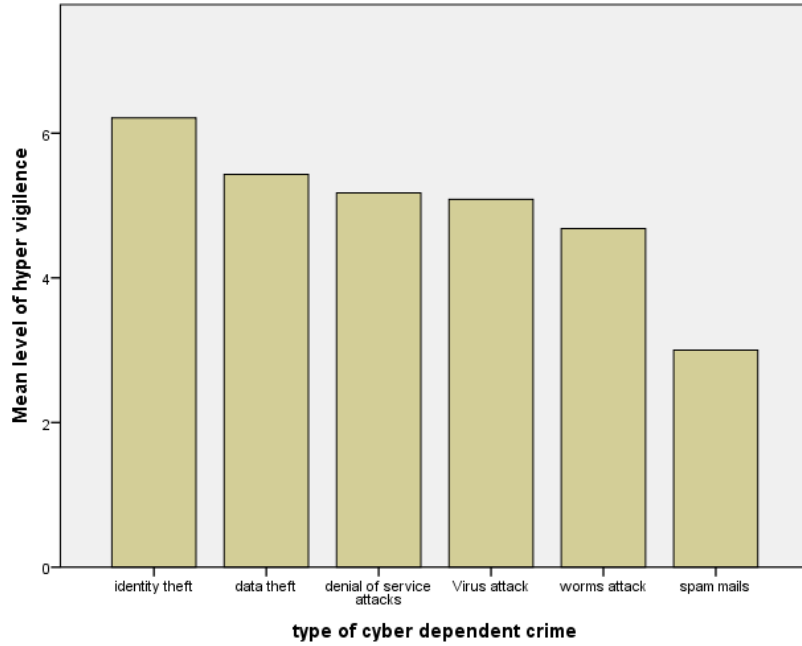
This graph depicts the level of irritability in victims of cyber dependent crimes with post-traumatic stress disorder

Graph3. Graph between level of hostility and type of cyber dependent crime



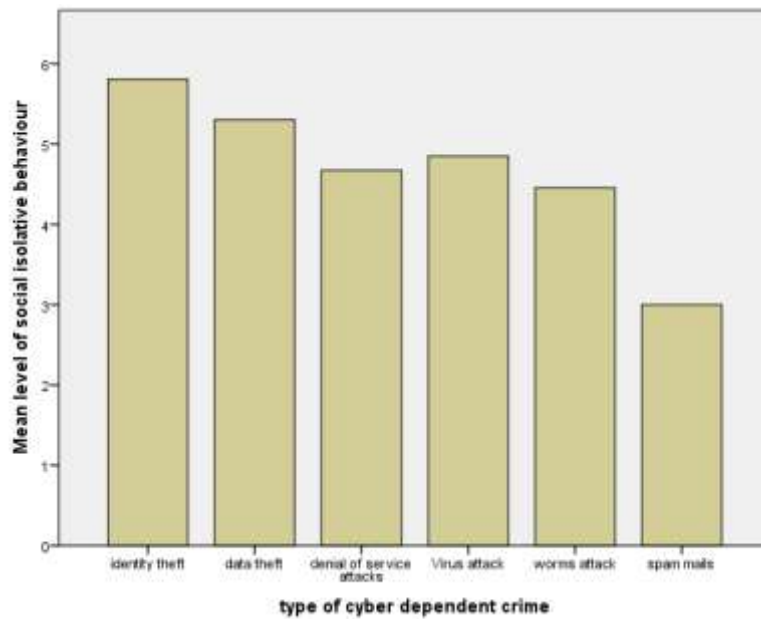
This graph depicts the level of hostility in victims of cyber dependent crimes with post-traumatic stress disorder

Graph4. Graph between level of hyper vigilance and type of cyber dependent crime



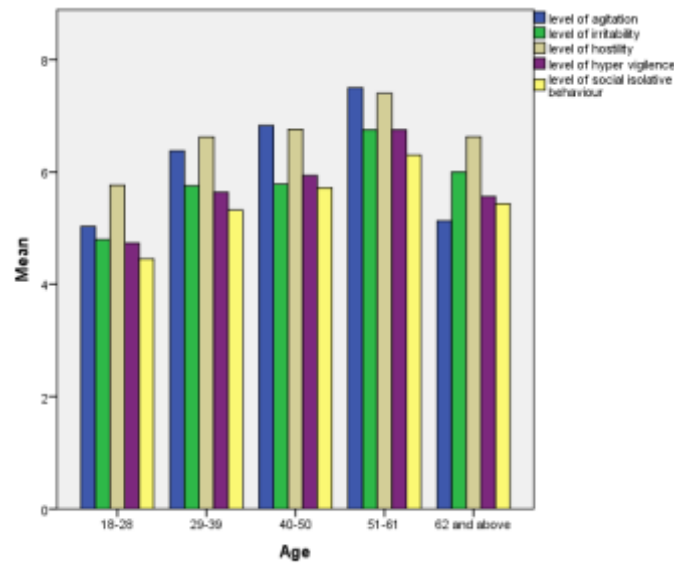
This graph depicts the level of hyper vigilance in victims of cyber dependent crimes with post-traumatic stress disorder

Graph5. Graph between level of social isolative behaviour and type of cyber dependent crime



This graph depicts the level of social isolative behaviour in victims of cyber dependent crimes with post-traumatic stress disorder

Graph6. Graph between level of agitation and type of cyber dependent crime



This graph depicts the level of post-traumatic stress disorders in victims of cyber dependent crimes

Analysis1. Maan Whitney U test between post traumatic stress disorder characteristics and Gender

Ranks

	Gender	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
level of agitation	male	149	125.63	18719.00
	female	104	128.96	13412.00
	Total	253		
level of irritability	male	149	125.39	18683.00
	female	104	129.31	13448.00
	Total	253		
level of hostility	male	149	125.99	18773.00
	female	104	128.44	13358.00
	Total	253		
level of hyper vigilance	male	149	124.97	18621.00
	female	104	129.90	13510.00
	Total	253		
level of self destruction behaviour	male	149	126.98	18919.50
	female	104	127.03	13211.50
	Total	253		

Test Statistics^a

	level of agitation	level of irritability	level of hostility	level of hyper vigilance	level of self destruction behaviour
Mann-Whitney U	7544.000	7508.000	7598.000	7446.000	7744.500
Wilcoxon W	18719.000	18683.000	18773.000	18621.000	18919.500
Z	-.360	-.427	-.266	-.535	-.006
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.719	.670	.790	.592	.995

This non parametric test is done to find out the relationship between the nominal and scale variable.

Analysis2. Jonckheere-Terpstra Test between post-traumatic stress disorder characteristics and Age

Jonckheere-Terpstra Test^a

	level of agitation	level of irritability	level of hostility	level of hyper vigilance
Number of Levels in Age	5	5	5	5
N	253	253	253	253
Observed J-T Statistic	13442.000	13134.500	12994.500	13296.500
Mean J-T Statistic	11518.000	11518.000	11518.000	11518.000
Std. Deviation of J-T Statistic	633.026	628.936	629.948	630.540
Std. J-T Statistic	3.039	2.570	2.344	2.821
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.002	.010	.019	.005

This non parametric test is done to find out the relationship between the ordinals and scale variable.

Analysis3. Test between age and level of social isolative behavior

Jonckheere-Terpstra Test^a

	level of social isolative behaviour
Number of Levels in Age	5
N	253
Observed J-T Statistic	13390.500
Mean J-T Statistic	11518.000
Std. Deviation of J-T Statistic	628.933
Std. J-T Statistic	2.977
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.003

a. Grouping Variable: Age

This non parametric test is done to find out the relationship between the ordinal and scale variable.

RESULTS

From graph 1 it could be identified that the level of agitation is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces.

From graph 2 it could be identified that the level of irritability is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of irritability is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of irritability varies. Level of irritability reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. However in the case of virus attack the level of irritability is comparatively high.

From graph 3 it could be identified that the level of hostility is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of hostility is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of hostility varies. Level of hostility reduces as the intensity of offence reduces.

From graph 4 it could be identified that the level of hyper vigilance is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of hyper vigilance is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of hyper vigilance varies. Level of hostility reduces as the intensity of offence reduces.

From graph 5 it could be identified that the level of post-traumatic stress disorder is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of post-traumatic stress disorder is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of post-traumatic stress disorder varies. Level of post-traumatic stress disorder reduces as the intensity of offence reduces.

Analysis 1 depict that prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is the same between male and females. However in a very few cases post-traumatic stress disorder in female is more prevalent in than males.

Analysis 2 depict that prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder varies across different age groups. The prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above.

Analysis 3 depict that prevalence of social isolative behaviour varies across different age groups. The prevalence of social isolative behaviour is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above.

DISCUSSIONS

The level of agitation is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. This principle applies in the case of other behavioural characteristics also.

in the case of virus attack the level of irritability is comparatively high, which breaks the principle established above due to the impact of the virus attack due to the effect of virus attack in the computer. Generally a virus would affect the functioning of the computer thus the irritability levels stay high.

Though the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is the same between male and females, in a very few cases post-traumatic stress disorder in females is more prevalent than males because the level of sensitivity in females is high compared to male, Thus the result.

The prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individuals aged 62 years and above is because of the trait spectrum influence on age.

CONCLUSION


From the above results and discussion it could be identified that level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. This principle applies in the case of other behavioural characteristics pertaining to post traumatic stress disorders. Post-traumatic stress disorder varies in respect to the type of cyber dependent crimes. The study is able to find out that prevalence of social isolative behaviour varies across different age groups. The prevalence of social isolative behaviour is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above. The prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder is the same between male and females in most cases.

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The Study on Characteristic Differences in The Prevalence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorders Among the Victims of Cyber Dependent Offences in India Leelesh Sundaram.B Asst. Prof. Sornalakshimi Abstract: Cyber Dependent Crime is any unlawful conduct coordinated by methods for electrical activities that attempts to hurt the security of computer systems and the information prepared by them. Cyber dependent crimes influence the victims psychologically. It affects the behaviour and attitude of victims. Various victims of cyber dependent crimes show signs of anti social behavioural traits and traits of cynicism. Though various studies have hypothesized on the nature of victimhood pertaining to cyber dependent crimes, the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is unknown. This ambiguity leads to further uncertainty in respect of characteristic difference among victims of cyber dependent crimes suffering due to PTSD, since the impact of cyber dependent crime vary with type. The current study is carried out with a sample size of 253 from a open sample frame determined through convenient sampling method. With the help of complex graphs, mann whitney u test, Jonckheere-Terpstra Test it could be found out that the prevalence of post traumatic stress in victims of crimes, it could be identified that level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. The study concludes that post traumatic stress disorder varies in respect to the type of cyber dependent crimes. Key words: Cyber Dependent Crime, post traumatic stress disorder, victims, behaviour, offences Introduction The internet in India is developing quickly. It has offered ascend to new open doors in each field we can consider – be it excitement, business, games or training(Mittal and Singh, 2019). There are two sides to a coin. Internet additionally has its own particular drawbacks('Cyber



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Symptoms Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms may start within one month of a traumatic occasion, yet some of the time symptoms may not appear until years after the occasion(Spiegel, 1988). These symptoms cause significant issues in social or work situations and in relationships(Vermetten, Germain and Neylan, 2017). They can also interfere with your ability to approach your normal daily tasks(Winn, 1994; Vermetten, Germain and Neylan, 2017). PTSD symptoms are generally gathered into four sorts; intrusive memories, avoidance, negative changes in thinking and mood, and changes in physical and emotional reactions; Symptoms can vary after some time or vary from individual to individual. Intrusive memories Symptoms of intrusive memories may include: 1. Recurrent, unwanted distressing memories of the traumatic occasion 2. Reliving the traumatic occasion as in the event that it were happening again (flashbacks) 3. Upsetting dreams or nightmares about the traumatic occasion(Coleman et al., 2020) 4. Severe emotional distress or physical reactions to something that reminds you of the traumatic occasion(McCarty, 2020) Avoidance Symptoms of avoidance may include: 1. Trying to avoid thinking or talking about the traumatic occasion 2. Avoiding places, activities or individuals that remind you of the traumatic occasion(Bisson, 2020) Negative changes in thinking and mood Symptoms of negative changes in thinking and mood may include: 1. Negative contemplations about yourself, others or the world 2. Hopelessness about what's to come 3. Memory issues, including not remembering important aspects of the traumatic occasion(Boysan, 2016) 4. Difficulty maintaining cozy relationships 5. Feeling



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From graph 2 it could be identified that the level of irritability is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of irritability is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of irritability varies. Level of irritability reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. However in the case of virus attack the level of irritability is comparatively high. From graph 3 it could be identified that the level of hostility is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of hostility is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of hostility varies. Level of hostility reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. From graph 4 it could be identified that the level of hyper vigilance is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of hyper vigilance is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of hyper vigilance varies. Level of hostility reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. From graph 5 it could be identified that the level of post traumatic stress disorder is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of post traumatic stress disorder is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of post traumatic stress disorder varies. Level of post traumatic stress disorder reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. Analysis 1 depict that prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is the same between male and females. However in a very few cases post traumatic stress disorder in female is more prevalent in than males. Analysis 2 depict that prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder varies across different age groups. The prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is high in the



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Discussions The level of agitation is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. This principle applies in the case of other behavioural characteristics also, in the case of virus attack the level of irritability is comparatively high, which breaks the principle established above due to the impact of the virus attack due to the effect of virus attack in the computer. Generally a virus would affect the functioning of the computer thus the irritability levels stay high. Though the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is the same between male and females, in a very few cases post traumatic stress disorder in females is more prevalent than males because the level of sensitivity in females is high compared to male, Thus the result. The prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individuals aged 62 years and above is because of the trait spectrum influence on age. Conclusion From the above results and discussion it could be identified that level of agitation is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of agitation varies. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. Level of agitation reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. This principle applies in the case of other behavioural characteristics pertaining to post traumatic stress disorders. post-traumatic stress disorder varies in respect to the type of cyber dependent crimes. The study is able to find out



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Discussions evel of monetary support requirement/ need is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of monetary support requirement/ is low in the victims of spam mails. This variation is due to the degree of intensity of the offence. This principle applies in the case of other behavioural characteristics affecting individual through a cyber dependent crime need of mental support is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level in need of mental support is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level in need of mental support varies. Level in need of mental support reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. this is due to the degree of influence of psycho emotional factors on a person(victim). need requirements varies across different age groups. The overall priority level of needs is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above because the level of sensitivity in females is high compared to male, Thus the result. Conclusion From the current study it could be identified that it could be identified that the level of monetary support requirement/ need is high among of the victims of identity theft. The level of monetary support requirement/ is low in the victims of spam mails. Based on the intensity of the offence the level of monetary support requirement/ varies. Level of monetary support requirement/ reduces as the intensity of offence reduces. This difference could be traced in other forms of needs as well. The study is able to find out that need requirements varies across different age groups. The data protection and privacy support requirement is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above. It also depict that prevalence of social isolative behaviour varies across different age groups. The restorative support is high in the age group 18-28 and the age group that includes individual in age of 62 years and above. These finding permits to make a conclusion that there is difference in the need of cyber dependent