

Teach your children well ..

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(Version 2)

The Beginning ... of the end of Cybercrime?

(Part I)

by

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Some History: The old days !





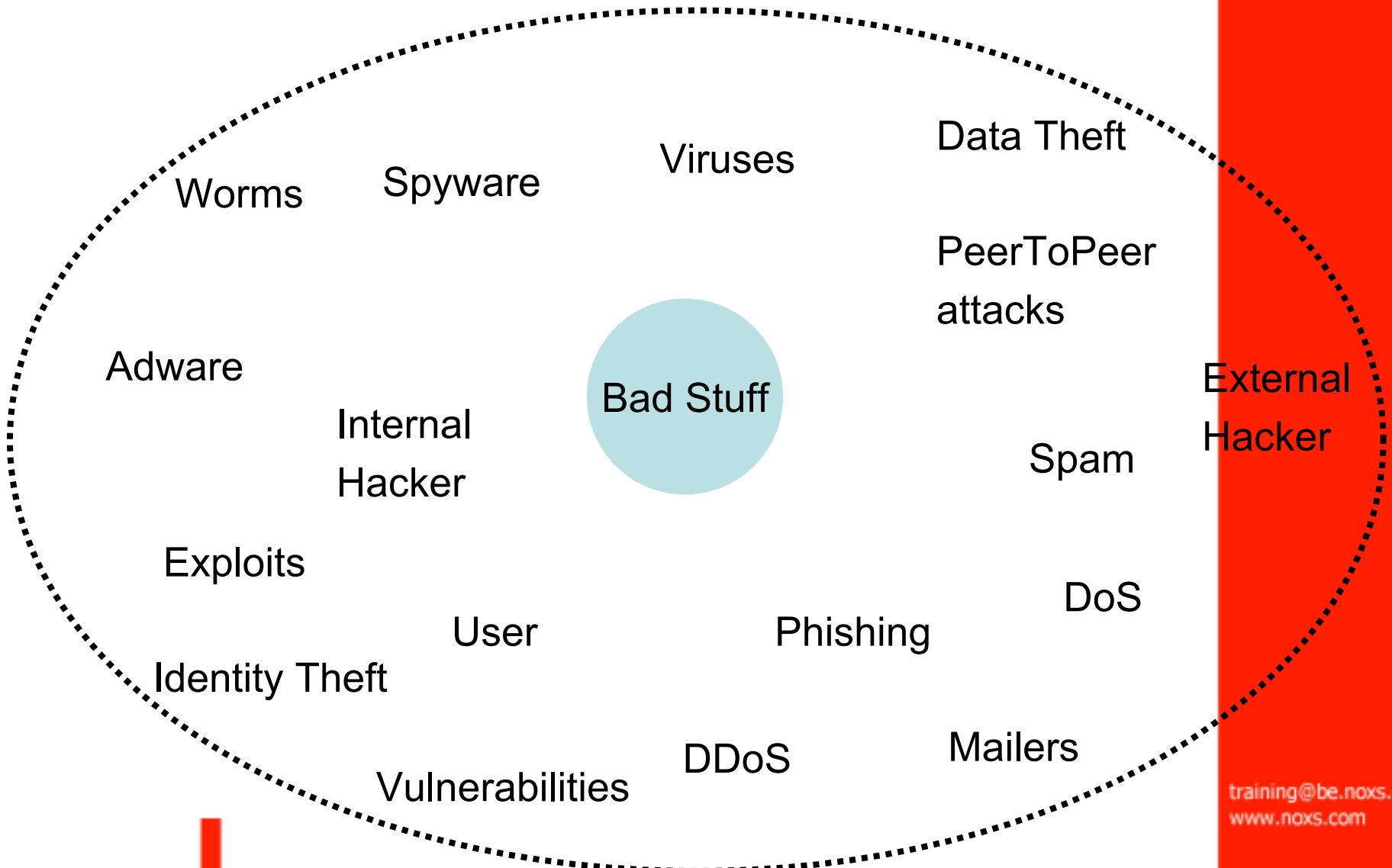
How some people reacted just after the old days and when they first found a virus ...



How it really started

- Walking around on LAN party...
Question: Who did this?
- A question from Sarah Gordon for the EICAR 2004 conference panel discussion...

What do children think about security?



I needed help with this...so with the help of my wife a police and MEGA officer

M.E.G.A.

**Belgian version of the US-based DARE project
(Drugs Abuse Resistance Education)**

Mijn Eigen Goede Antwoord

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My Own Good Answer

- To raise children's awareness of the problems associated with drugs, alcohol and violence
- Why not make some additions: To make children aware of the dangers that reside on the internet



Together with some MEGA officers and some school teachers we created a set of basic security related questions for children (age 11-12)....

=> Let's have a look together to some of the results...



Let's go to the children (age 11-12)...



Question 1: Do you know what a computer virus is?

Some answers:

“No”

“It eats your emails”

“It wipes out everything”

“The computer is sick”

Question 2: Have you ever been infected
by a computer virus?

Some answers:
20% said "yes"
10% said "no"
70% said "I don't know"

Question 3: What are the effects of a virus?

Some answers:

See answer 1, however it became clear that only a few children really seems to know what viruses exactly do – none of them mentioned self-replication...

Question 4: Do you click on every link in an email and open every attachment you receive?

Some answers:
99% said "yes"

Question 5: Do you use 'easy' passwords?

Some answers:

- 80% blank passwords if possible
- 16% easy password (they found it difficult)
- 4% difficult password

Question 6: How can I surf on the internet safely?

Some answers:

“I surf to kids’ sites” [laughing]

“Isn’t the internet safe?!”

“I use Google”

“I have an anti-virus program, it was delivered with the pc for free” (Note: 3 trial months...)

Question 7: What do you think of virus-writing or hacking?

Some answers:

“Cool”

“Dangerous for your health”

“Oh my father does it all the time...”



Conclusions and opinions in Belgium ?

- I wrote an article about it in August VB 2004
- It was not a scientific poll yet, but it reflected the ideas of some children in one region in the world...
- Children of that age don't seem to know very well what computer security is!
- We must start ethical computer education at a much earlier age, if we want to change people's behaviour and reduce the attractiveness of becoming a virus-writer, hacker or spyware-writer.
- We could incorporate this information inside the projects like MEGA/DARE
- Bringing in more psychological elements and Re-evaluation next year
- Investigate if this can be done elsewhere .. worldwide?



Some Results: Inclusion into the MEGA project (age 11-12)...





And that brought David Harley on the idea to do his investigation in the UK ...

