Part 1:

Although technology has many benefits, there are also many negative parts involved. As technology advances, people’s skills with it are advancing as well, and not necessarily for the better. The website Ashley Madison was involved with users getting their information leaked, by hackers. 30 to 40 million people were lured into this scheme. And, with the download of a spiteful software installation, hackers could get retrieve basically any information possible, such as stealing passwords.

In the Ashley Madison scheme hackers were more aggressive with certain people than others. Clients of a management firm got threatening emails to share what the use of the website was, since it’s an adultery website. While other people were involved in a more low-key attack. They would use previously used email addresses and trick their victims into revealing personal information, which would lead to downloading the spiteful software, Malware. Malware is a software that allows a person to get any time of information possible from the person. The article said that “It’s important to understand that the attackers are clever,” said Itay Glick, the chief executive of the cybersecurity company Votiro. “They don’t need to use the information today; they can use it two weeks from today or one month from today.” Which means that the attacks will continue for weeks or months, just because they have the information doesn’t mean they will use it. In time they will use it, but this is all apart of their strategy. Another quote from this article said “The bad guys are trying to take advantage of the fact that people are very curious, and as they say, curiosity kills the cat,” Mr. Levy said.
In my opinion, I understand that it is hard to control the hackers, but I think everyone should be responsible and do what they can do protect their personal information. I think it is ridiculous that people would even want to do this, but since it is out of our control we need to do what we can to be protected. This relates to our lectures because we learned about cybercrime and having your identity stolen. We even discussed spoofing an email and pretending to be someone else to elicit private information, which is exactly what my article focused on.

The only way we can do is to take action which would be with a few tips. Getting low tech would be one of them, if you have a list of your passwords it would be safer to save it on an old computer that doesn’t have internet rather than keeping it on a more updated computer with internet. Another tip would be to keep your information in two places, like with a flash drive, just incase your computer gets infected and disables your use with it. Another big tip is to not get tricked with pop ups, and if you are not sure call the company, because with one-click it could affect everything.

Hackers today are smarter than we think, or could even imagine. We could try to think of a solution but with the attackers skills it would be difficult to compete with. It is a really scary concept. There are “1.5 million annual cyber attacks, online crime is a real threat to anyone on the Internet. That number means there are over 4,000 cyber attacks every day, 170 attacks every hour, or nearly three attacks every minute.” (CBS)

Part 2: The Office Season: 9 Episode: 2
The Office is a T.V. show based on a typical paper company in Scranton, PA. Michael Scott is the regional manager of the paper company, Dundler Mifflin. Michael makes jokes all the time, but usually fail at them. He wants his employees to be his friends more than anything, which is why he chooses being a boss second, after being a friend. In the episode he says “I consider myself approachable, maybe even as “one of the guys”, but maybe I need to be aproachabler”. The next main characters are really good friends, Jim and Pam. Jim is a salesman at Dundler Mifflin, he is usually pulling pranks on Dwight and is one of the more responsible employees at the office. Jim has a crush on the receptionist, Pam, who has a boyfriend. Pam has a shy personality but also has a sense of humor. Dwight Schrute is also an important character in this episode. He is also a salesman, who is a know it all. He considers himself worth more, as the “Assistant Regional Manager”. Dwight has a secret relationship with the head of the Accounting department at the office. Angela is a low-key character, she is private and has a strong passion for all of her cats that she lives with. A usual day at the office consists of Michael making jokes, Jim pranking Dwight and no work getting done. The technology I chose from this episode is emailing. The employees at Dundler Mifflin found out that Michael was monitoring their emails. When Michael was doing so, he found an office barbecue party, which he was not invited to. If it wasn’t for Michael hacking into the employees email accounts without permission and reading their emails he would never know about the barbecue. He is intruding in their personal life and personal property. In most cases he would be their boss, and not their friend.

Emailing is very available, if you have almost any device, such as a computer, phone, Ipad, tablet, or many others you are able to use emailing. It is even more available to anyone and any age because it is free. This season began airing in 2006 and emailing began in the early 1990’s, which means that it was probably advancing very quickly and very popular. Then you
could just end emails for free, but now with a popular email source, Gmail, you can connect with any device, you can video chat, and Gmail provides you with 15 GB of free storage. (Google)

There are many other benefits of Google and emailing today but those are just a few most popular. In this episode of The Office emailing is definitely causing problems. If it wasn’t for emailing, and Michael hacking into the employees emails he would have no clue that there was a barbecue party going on that Friday night. In the real-world I believe that emailing solves many problems but also causes many. I check my email multiple times a day for school, where I can quickly send emails to my teachers and get replies because today If I send an email from my computer in my room and my teacher is out at lunch, it will just pop up on their phone or any other device. Or if I had to send a file to someone in an emergency it would go through to anyone and anywhere in a second. Emailing is very available today. I could see why emailing causes problems though. Technology is affecting the characters in the show a lot because Michael Scott is now hurt that he wasn’t invited to the party, and Jim is annoyed that Michael found out about the party. In Jims opinion, Michael is his boss and he said in the episode that he doesn’t feel like people would be able to relax if Michael attended. But in Michaels opinion, if everyone in the office was invited he should be invited too. I think technology is very ethical, because it has many benefits like talking to people no matter where and quickly and also you can send files. But people take advantage of technology and will abuse it, like in this episode. Michael made emailing unethical because he trespassed and read through his employees emails, finding something out that he shouldn’t have. In 5 to 10 years I think that emailing will diminish significantly, I already think it has. It started in the early 1990’s and was really popular back then. Although people still use emailing a lot, technology is advancing rapidly which will cause emailing to diminish. AOL was the most popular emailing server, I remember when I was
younger I would use it, as well as my parents. But now I would never think of using AOL, which was less than 10 years ago.

If you type into Google “hacking email” an endless amount of websites come up instantly. The first article I found matched perfectly with the Dundler Mifflin employees, it is called “How Many Times Has Your Personal information Been Exposed to Hackers?”. In this case it would be Michael Scott. If I could give advice to the employees it would be to follow what this article says, which provides steps to protecting your email. It tells the reader to change their email frequently, don’t use the same passwords for every report, don’t put important personal information to websites that don’t require a password, and look for a lock symbol next to the web address to be assured that the website is safe. (NY Times)

Although this circumstance isn’t as serious as other situations would be, hacking in emails is very serious. I found an article that provides the reader with information on what to do if their email was hacked. You would have to quickly change your password, report the incident to the email site, notify your contact list, scan your computer with an anti virus program, review your personal email settings, and check your email folders.

Emailing has many benefits but also has many disadvantages, like a main one hacking. The Office gave a simple example, of what is a real dangerous crime throughout the world. If a person is informed then it will definitely help to not get your email hacked. Technology is advancing before our eyes which forces us to pay more attention, so we don’t get caught in the trouble, like getting hacked.

Work Cited


