

p. 26, Computer Security and the Internet: Tools and Jewels from Malware to Bitcoin, end of §1.8:

*We use computers and mobile devices every day to work, communicate, gather information, make purchases, and plan travel. Our cars rely on software systems—as do our airplanes. (Does this worry you? What if the software is wirelessly updated, and the source of updates is not properly authenticated?) The business world comes to a standstill when Internet service is disrupted. Our critical infrastructure, from power plants and electricity grids to water supply and financial systems, is dependent on computer hardware, software and the Internet. Implicitly we expect, and need, security and dependability.*

*Perhaps the strongest motivation for individual students to learn computer security (and for parents and friends to encourage them to do so) is this: security expertise may be today's very best job-for-life ticket, as well as tomorrow's. It is highly unlikely that software and the Internet itself will disappear, and just as unlikely that computer security problems will disappear. But beyond employment for a lucky subset of the population, having a more reliable, trustworthy Internet is in the best interest of society as a whole. The more we understand about the security of computers and the Internet, the safer we can make them, and thereby contribute to a better world.*