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PERSONALITY, EMOTIONS, EMAIL, AND EXPLOITS

Social engineering is not new; it has been used by attackers for thousands of years. Social engineering takes advantage of the very characteristics that make us human by manipulating our behavior to make us do something we shouldn't. These characteristics and the degree to which we possess them, combine to make up our unique individual personalities. The way a person reacts to life can be traced to their personality. Much work has been done studying the characteristics of human personality, resulting in the ability to categorize our unique personalities into 16 unique types. Since the qualities of being human, combined with our unique personality define how we react to the world, the social engineer targets their attacks to focus on these characteristics - on our personality. The question is, is there one particular personality type that makes a better target of a social engineering attack than others?

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