My article this week comes from tripwire, and concerns digital abuse. Walker, the author of ‘How to Deal with the Rise of Digital Abuse’ touches on a growing concern across the country, and that is the rise of digital abuse. It was not too long ago where if you lived in the online world, as opposed to going out in society, there was certain peace of mind that you would be safe. However, with the advent of social networking, and more and more people living their lives online, real threats are popping up everywhere, which have their roots in the digital medium. For example, did you know that a person online can suffer mental anguish and misery just as if they were being victimized in public? What it interesting about this, is that this is proof that people just cannot hide online and expect to be shielded from the harsher forms of society. In fact, with the pervasiveness of social media, an attacker could target a person quite easily. When a criminal or attacker targets a person online, they could cyber stalk them, post threats, slander the person online, and even infect the person’s computer with viruses or malware. While the Internet has certainly made communication much easier, it also facilitates criminal activity. Cyber threats and cyber stalking are real things, and they continue to rise. Additionally, if an attacker targets a person, they could offensive emails, instant messages, videos, and pictures.

One thing I really liked about the article I read is that the author gave a First Responder Help Kit; it is basically advice on what to do if you are a victim of cyber abuse. The First Responder Help includes:

* Do no respond to the attacker
* Record the date and time of the incident
* Keep all communication from the attacker
* Do not open emails
* Keep a folder with all files from the attacker

Reference

Walker. (2015). How to deal with the rise of digital abuse. Retrieved from http://www.tripwire.com/state-of-security/security-awareness/how-to-deal-with-the-rise-of-digital-abuse/