For those who experience online fraud, it can have a devastating impact across several facets of their lives. Not only do victims have to deal with the financial loss, but many also struggle with physical, emotional and relational effects of victimisation. If this wasn’t enough to cope with, there is also a very strong victim blaming discourse that is attributed to online fraud victims, which exacerbates the detrimental effect on individuals. The existence of a victim blaming discourse is significant. This presentation demonstrates how the victim blaming discourse is evident with online fraud, through the use of interview excerpts from 85 seniors in Queensland, Australia, who received a fraudulent email request. It explores how humour plays a role in both coping with and reinforcing these victim blaming attitudes. Lastly, it outlines the consequences of this discourse on victims through their inability to disclose their victimisation to others and seek the help and support needed for their recovery.

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