My name is _____ and I have come from PDAG, a New Delhi based research organization. We are conducting this study along with a team of social scientists at the University at Albany (SUNY Albany). The study is being conducted about political opinion and social media for which we will be interviewing voters across districts of Western UP. We want to know how people respond to various things that have appeared on social media platforms, such as WhatsApp. If you agree to participate in our study, we will ask you some questions about your opinions and your participation in politics as well as your media usage. We will provide a fuller explanation of our survey at its completion. Responses from the study will be used to write articles for journals and newspapers. It is an independent study and is no way affiliated to any party or government. The information shared by you as part of the survey will be strictly confidential and your identity will be anonymized. Your participation in this study does not involve any physical or emotional risk to you beyond that of everyday life. It should take 20-25 minutes to complete the study and the participation in the study is completely voluntary. You are free to decline to participate, to end participation at any time for any reason, or to refuse to answer any individual question. We hope that you would help us in making this study successful by participating in it.
This is an independent academic study and we are not linked to any political party or government agency.

The active cooperation of many participants is necessary to make this study successful. Would you agree to participate in our study?

1. Yes [Proceed to Warm-Up]
2. No

(**INTERVIEWER:** IF THE RESPONDENT DOES NOT WANT TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE THANK THE RESPONDENT, END THE INTERVIEW, AND WRITE DOWN THE REASON FOR NOT BEING INTERVIEWED.)

After Consent obtained to be Self-filled by FI

1. Name of District (Drop-down menu)
2. Name of Assembly Constituency/Vidhan Sabha? (Drop-down menu for the ACs of selected districts)
3. Number of PS? (Drop-down menu for the selected AC)
4, Name of Village
5. Is this a Substitute interview? (1. Yes 2. No)
6. Respondent ID (As per the electoral roll, 9000 series in case of substitute)
7. Image of Village landmark (Panchayat building/AWC/community hall etc)

[Interviewer: please note gender of respondent]

a. Male
b. Female
c. Other

Section 1: Media Use

Q1. Do you own a mobile phone? **(for every question, include don't know and refused to answer as response options, but enumerators should not read this out. They should only mark this when respondents say they don't know / refuse to answer after multiple tries)**

a. Yes
b. No

Q2. (if yes to Q1) Is it your personal mobile phone or a shared mobile phone? [personal cellphone]

1. Personal
2. Shared

Q3. Do you access the internet through a mobile phone? [internet access]

1. Yes
2. No (If no, probe again by asking: Are you sure, do you by chance use WhatsApp, google, ShareChat, YouTube on your phone? IF answer to any of these questions is YES, answer should be 1.)
3. Don't Know (98)
4. Refused (99)

Q4. Many people access news in different ways. Thinking about your own news habits, do you access news in any of the following ways? Check all that apply. **(randomize order of response options, and code this up as yes/no for every question so enumerator goes down the list one by one)**

1. Read news in print (using a newspaper or magazine)
2. Watch news on the TV
3. Listen to news on the radio
4. Get news online on the internet through search engines and websites
5. Get news online through social media or messaging apps (whatsapp, facebook)
6. get news by speaking with family members
7. get news by speaking with others outside the family (neighbours, colleagues, acquaintances)

(If 4,5,6,7 in Q3) Q5. Which of the following online platforms have you used for any purpose in the past week? Check all that apply. [platform use] **(randomize order of response options)**

1. Facebook
2. Twitter

3. YouTube
4. Instagram
5. WhatsApp
6. Google
7. ShareChat
8. Koo

Q6. [if yes to WhatsApp] Typically, how often do you use WhatsApp?

a) Several times a day
b) Once a day
c) Several times a week
d) Once a week
e) 2-3 times a month
f) Once a month
g) Less often than once a month
h) Never

Q7. How interested would you say you are in politics? [political interest]

1. Extremely interested
2. Very interested
3. Moderately interested
4. Slightly interested
5. Not interested at all

Q8. How much do you trust the following sources for news? [news trust] **(randomize order of response options)**

1. Republic TV
2. Aaj Tak
3. Dainik Jagran
4. Zee News
5. NDTV
6. Amar Ujala
7. Dainik Bhaskar
8. Hindustan Dainik
9. News18 India

a) Trust completely
b) Trust somewhat
c) Neither trust nor do not trust
d) Do not trust very much
e) Do not trust at all

Section 2: Religiosity

Q9. How often do you practice the following religious activities?

1. Performing puja at home / work
2. Visiting the temple/mosque/church/gurudwara

a) Daily
b) Weekly
c) Only on festivals
d) Never

Q10. Are you pure vegetarian, or are you vegetarian but eat eggs, or are you a meat/fish eater?

1. Pure vegetarian
2. Vegetarian but eat eggs
3. Meat/fish eater (Non-veg)

Section 3: Perceptions of State and Police

Q11. How satisfied are you with police performance and their work in your area? [police satisfaction]

1. Fully satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied
3. Somewhat dissatisfied
4. Fully dissatisfied

Q12. Do the following terms describe the police in your area? [police perceptions]
(randomize order of terms below)

1. Honest
2. Hardworking
3. Corrupt
4. Inefficient
5. Biased

    a) yes
    b) no

Q13. Do the following terms describe the UP State Government? [govt perceptions]
(randomize order of terms below)

1. Honest
2. Hardworking
3. Corrupt

4. Inefficient
5. Biased

a) yes
b) no

Q14. In your opinion, is the police in your area effective at investigating and arresting perpetrators for each of the following crimes? [police performance]

1. Theft / robbery
2. Riots / protests

a) Very effective
b) Somewhat effective
c) Somewhat ineffective
d) Not effective
`

Q15. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (binary YES/NO) [general state capacity]

1. It is easy for me to obtain state-issued documentation (eg birth certificate, death certificates, driving license)
2. I am satisfied with the security and safety situation in the area
3. There is a sufficient supply of electricity in my area
4. I am satisfied with access to water in my area

Q16. In UP today, do you believe that the state government is biased towards any particular religious group? [perception of state fairness]
(randomize order first 2 responses)

1. biased towards Muslims
2. biased towards Hindus
3. No it is not biased

Section 4: Institutions and Polarization

Q17. I am going to name a number of organizations and groups. For each one, could you tell me how much trust you have in them: is it a great deal of trust, quite a lot of trust, not very much trust or none at all? **(randomize order of 1-6 below)**

1. Your neighbors
2. The courts in India
3. The National government
4. Hindus
5. Muslims
6. The media

Q18. In any society, some groups improve their relative status over time while others see their status deteriorate. Do you think the status of the following groups have in recent times much improved, somewhat improved, stayed the same, somewhat deteriorated or much deteriorated? [status anxiety] **(randomize order of 1-4 below)**

1. Upper castes
2. OBCs
3. Hindus
4. Muslims

Q19. How comfortable are you having close friends that are Hindus? **(randomize order Q19 and Q20)**

1. Very comfortable
2. Somewhat comfortable
3. Not very comfortable
4. Not at all comfortable

Q20. How comfortable are you having close friends that are Muslims?

1. Very comfortable
2. Somewhat comfortable
3. Not very comfortable
4. Not at all comfortable

Section 5: Political Preferences

Q21. Which political party do you feel closest to? **(Forced choice: they have to name one. Don't include don't know or refused here. Let respondents first say their choice without reading out options. Randomize options 1-5 in case enumerator does have to read)**

1. BJP
2. INC
3. SP
4. BSP
5. RLD
6. Other

Q22. How strongly do you support or oppose the BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party)?

1. I strongly support the BJP
2. I somewhat support the BJP
3. I somewhat oppose the BJP
4. I strongly oppose the BJP

Q23. Are you a member of a local citizen group aimed at preventing cow slaughter or defending Hindu values (Bharatiya Gau Raksha Dal, Rashtriya Gau Raksha Dal, Hindu Yuva Vahini, Karni Sena, Bajrang Dal, or other)?

1. Yes
2. No

Q24. (if yes to Q23) Do you personally interact with or know members of these groups?

1. Yes
2. No

Q25. We'd like to get your feelings towards some of our political leaders. We want you to rate each person using a feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm towards the person, ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you don't feel favorable towards the person or don't care for the person.

You would rate the person at the 50 degree mark if you were indifferent. **(randomize order of 1-2 below)**

1. Narendra Modi
2. Yogi Adityanath

Section 6: Nationalism and Democratic Norms

Q26. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

1. Generally speaking, India is a better country than most other countries
2. It is very important to me that India be viewed favorably by people of other countries.

a) Strongly agree
b) Somewhat agree
c) Somewhat disagree
d) Strongly disagree

Q27. Which of the following statements are essential to the functioning of a democracy? Check all that apply. **(randomize order of statements below)**

1. Criminals are severely punished
2. People accused of crimes have due process in a court of law
3. The army takes over when government is incompetent
4. Laws are created on the basis of preferences of the religious majority
5. People should have the right to protest violently
6. People who disagree with the majority should nonetheless have the right to express their opinion freely
7. People should have the right to eat the food they want to eat

Q28. I would now like to ask you about a situation in which you cannot be sure whether the accused actually committed a crime. In this case, some people say that it is better to punish the accused there and then even if you are not certain of their guilt, because otherwise they might get away with it. Others say that you should get all of the facts before deciding whether to punish someone even if it means that guilty people will sometimes escape punishment. Which view comes closest to your own?

1. It is better to punish the accused there and then even if you are not certain of their guilt, because otherwise they might get away with it.
2. You should get all of the facts before deciding whether to punish someone even if it means that guilty people will sometimes escape punishment.

Q29. And how democratically is India being governed today? Use a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 means that it is "not at all democratic" and 10 means that it is "completely democratic". What position would you choose?

Section 7: Misinformation

Q30. How accurate do you think the following statements are? **(randomize order of statements 1-3 below)**

1. The Muslim population in India will overtake the Hindu population in the near future
2. Drinking cow urine (gomutra) is scientifically proven to help build one's immune system
3. Muslims and Hindus were equally affected by the Covid-19.

    a. Very accurate
    b. Somewhat accurate
    c. Not very accurate
    d. Not at all accurate

Section 8: Experience with Communal Violence

Q31. In your opinion, have Hindu-Muslim relations historically been tense around here?

1. Yes, very tense
2. Somewhat tense
3. No, not very tense

Section 8: Experiments

We would now like to describe events that happened in a different district in UP. We will show you a photo of an incident that took place. You will also listen to an audio recording describing the incident.

Q32. Vignette 1 [randomize to show either 38a, 38b, 38c, or 38d with equal probability].

Q32a.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo. [rumor only]

Q32b.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo.
- Subsequent to this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- it was a love marriage, and the Muslim man had not kidnapped the

Hindu woman, as the post claimed. The mob violence took place because of false information.
[rumor + correction]

Q32c.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo.
- After the incident, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually abducted the Hindu woman—as the rumor suggested.
  [rumor + state positionality]

Q32d.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo.
- After the incident, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually abducted the Hindu woman—as the rumor suggested.
- Subsequent to this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- it was a love marriage, and the Muslim man had not kidnapped the Hindu woman, as the post claimed. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor + correction + state positionality]

Q32e.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo.
- After the incident, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
  [rumor + state positionality2]

Q32f.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, last January, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim

man had abducted a Hindu woman in order to marry her. One day, when the Muslim man returned home from work, an angry mob attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man. In the ensuing destruction, many buildings were burnt, as you can see in the photo.

- After the incident, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
- Subsequent to this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- it was a love marriage, and the Muslim man had not kidnapped the Hindu woman, as the post claimed. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor + correction + state positionality2]

Q32g. According to you, how accurate is the claim that the Muslim man in the story actually kidnapped the Hindu woman? [belief in misinfo] **(for all the questions in the experimental section, don't provide don't know or refused options. Respondents need to give a response, if they are unsure enumerator should probe till they give an answer)**

1. Very accurate
2. Somewhat accurate
3. Not very accurate
4. Not at all accurate

Q32h. How strongly do you support the actions of the group of men that attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose [main DV support for vigilantism]
[10 point slider scale]

Q32i. Now think about people in your neighborhood (mohalla). How strongly would they support the actions of the group of men that attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose [DV2 support for vigilantism]
[10 point slider scale]

Q32j. In your opinion, to what extent do you agree that the mob who attacked the neighborhood of the Muslim man be punished?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree

Q32k. We'd like to get your feelings towards some groups in society. We want you to rate each group using a feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm towards the person, ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you don't feel favorable towards the person or don't care for the person.
You would rate the person at the 50 degree mark if you were indifferent. [polarization mechanism] **(randomize order of terms below)**

1. Hindus
2. Muslims

Q33. Vignette 2 [randomize to show either 39a, 39b, 39c, or 39d with equal probability].

Q33a.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroy property in the area. [rumor only]

Q33b.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said

they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroy property in the area.

- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- none of the Muslim men had tried to spread corona. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor + correction]

Q33c.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroy property in the area.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
  [rumor + state positionality2]

Q33d.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroyed property in the area.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- none of the Muslim men had tried to spread corona. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor + state positionality2 + correction]

Q33e.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on

fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroy property in the area.

- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually spat on fruits and vegetables to spread corona—as the rumor suggested.
  [rumor + state positionality]

Q33f.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, earlier this year, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that Muslim men were conspiring to spread coronavirus in other neighborhoods by spitting on fruits and vegetables. One day, when a some Muslim men were walking back home, an angry mob gathered around the men, accusing them of spreading corona. The mob said they wanted to take revenge and proceeded to burn Muslim shops and destroyed property in the area.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually spat on fruits and vegetables to spread corona—as the rumor suggested.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- none of the Muslim men had tried to spread corona. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor + state positionality + correction]

Q33g. According to you, how accurate is the claim that the Muslim men in the story were actually conspiring to spread corona by spitting on fruits and vegetables? [belief in misinfo]

1. Very accurate
2. Somewhat accurate
3. Not very accurate
4. Not at all accurate

Q33h. How strongly do you support the actions of the group of men that burned Muslim shops and destroyed property? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose [main DV support for vigilantism]
[10 point slider scale]

Q33i. Now think about people in your neighborhood (mohalla). How strongly would they support the actions of the group of men that burned Muslim shops and destroyed property? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose

[10 point slider scale]

Q33j. In your opinion, to what extent do you agree that the mob that burned Muslim shops and destroyed property should be punished?

5. Strongly agree
6. Somewhat agree
7. Somewhat disagree
8. Strongly disagree

Q33k. We'd like to get your feelings towards some groups in society. We want you to rate each group using a feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm towards the person, ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you don't feel favorable towards the person or don't care for the person.
You would rate the person at the 50 degree mark if you were indifferent. [polarization mechanism] **(randomize order of terms below)**

1. Hindus
2. Muslims

Q34. Vignette 3 [randomize to show either one of the 12 with equal probability].

Q34a.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state.

One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
[rumor+NoCorrection+Nopositionality+NoElite]

Q34b.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually illegaly transported cows for slaughter—as the rumor suggested.

[rumor+NoCorrection+Positionality1+NoElite]

Q34c.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
[rumor+NoCorrection+Positionality2+NoElite]

Q34d.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter:
[rumor+NoCorrection+Nopositionality+ Elite]

Q34e.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor+Correction+Nopositionality+NoElite]

Q34f.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually illegaly transported cows for slaughter—as the rumor suggested.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor+Correction+Positionality1+NoElite]

Q34g.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information.
  [rumor+Correction+Positionality2+NoElite]

Q34h.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter:
  [rumor+Correction+NoPositionality+ Elite]

Q34i.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually illegally transported cows for slaughter—as the rumor suggested.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter: [rumor+Correction+Positionality1+Elite]

Q34j.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
- A week after this incident, reporters from several main Hindi news channels – such as Aaj Tak, Zee News, and NDTV, spent a month thoroughly investigating the story. They interviewed dozens of local stakeholders with knowledge of the case- such as the police, eyewitnesses, neighbors, netas. Finally their investigation found that the initial rumor was actually baseless- the man was not transporting cows for slaughter. The mob violence took place because of false information.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter: [rumor+Correction+Positionality2+Elite]

Q34k.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately started to round up the vigilante mob and arrested them for unlawfully taking justice into their own hands.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter:

[rumor+NoCorrection+Positionality2+Elite]

Q34l.

- Let me tell you about the incidents that are described in this social media post. In this area, in 2020, people heard a rumor on social media. The rumor said that a Muslim man was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh from a neighboring state. One day, when the Muslim man was driving his lorry on the highway, he was surrounded and stopped by a mob. The mob proceeded to beat the man up, because they did not approve of his actions. As a result of the beating, the Muslim man needed hospitalization and was in a serious condition.
- The day after the violence, local police sprung into action. They immediately decided to investigate whether a crime had actually been committed- whether the Muslim man had actually illegally transported cows for slaughter—as the rumor suggested.
- Following this incident, several politicians and leaders reacted to the violence and put out statements. For example, this is what PM Narendra Modi said on twitter: [rumor+NoCorrection+Positionality1+Elite]

Q34m. According to you, how accurate is the claim that the Muslim man in the story was illegally transporting cows for slaughter into Uttar Pradesh? [belief in misinfo]

1. Very accurate
2. Somewhat accurate

3. Not very accurate
4. Not at all accurate

Q34n. How strongly do you support the actions of the group of men that beat up the Muslim man? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose [main DV support for vigilantism]
[10 point slider scale]

Q34o. Now think about people in your neighborhood (mohalla). How strongly would they support the actions of the group of men that beat up the Muslim man? Drag the slider towards the thumbs up sign to indicate support, towards the thumbs down sign to indicate oppose
[10 point slider scale]

Q34p. In your opinion, to what extent do you agree that the mob that beat up the Muslim man should be punished?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree

Q34q. We'd like to get your feelings towards some of our political leaders. We want you to rate each person using a feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm towards the person, ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you don't feel favorable towards the person or don't care for the person.
You would rate the person at the 50 degree mark if you were indifferent.

1. Narendra Modi

Common DV [ask to all after all 3 vignettes are done]

Q35. In the news stories you just heard, local men acted violently in response to rumors about Muslims. In your opinion, how likely is it that upon hearing similar rumors, people in your area (mohalla) would react in a similar manner? [sarakhan]

1. Very likely
2. Somewhat likely
3. Somewhat unlikely
4. Very unlikely

Section 8: Demographics

Q36. What is your age? (numeric entry)

Q37. Is the respondent [enumerator notes without asking]?

1. Male
2. Female
3. Other

Q38. Which of the following caste categories do you belong to?

1. General / Upper
2. OBC (Other Backward Class)
3. Dalit / SC
4. ST

Q39. Which subcaste/jati do you belong to?
If General
1. Brahmin 2. Bhumihar 3. Rajput/Thakur 4. Kayastha 5. Vaishya/Bania/Mahajan 6. Punjabi Khatri 7. Sindhi 8. Jat Sikh 10. Other

If OBC
1. Jat 2. Gujjar 3. Ahir/Yadav 4. Kurmi 5. Lodh 6. Koeri/Kushwaha/Maurya 7. Kumhar/Prajapati 8. Kewat/Mallah 9.Gadaria/Pal 10. Mali/Saini 11. Teli 12. Mandal 13. Badhai/Darzi/Nayi/Lohar/Sunar 14. Other OBC

If SC
1. Balmiki/Khatik 2.Jatav/Dhusia/Jhusia/Hari 3. Dhangar/Dhanuk 4. Dhobi
5. Dom/Dusadh 6. Kori/Kol 7. Musahar 8. Mazhabi/Ramdasia/Ramgarhia Sikh 9. Pasi 10. Nonia 11. Other SC
Not adding ST as a category as there are no STs in Western UP.

Q40. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

1. Primary school (up to 5th standard)
2. Middle school (5-8th standard)
3. 10th standard pass (Matric pass)
4. 12th standard pass (Higher Secondary pass)
5. Vocational college education (e.g. to qualify as an electrician, nurse) (ITI/Skill Development Course)
6. University first degree/Graduation (e.g. BA, BSc)
7. University higher degree/Post Graduation (e.g. MA, MBA, PhD)
8. Professional higher education (e.g. to qualify as a lawyer, accountant)
9. Other
10. No schooling at all

Q41. Which of the following best describes the area / locality you live in?

1. Metropolitan city (over 10 lakh people)
2. City (1 to 1.5 lakh people)
3. Town (50,000 to 1 lakh people)
4. Small town (less than 50,000 people)
5. Village (less than 10,000 people)

Q42. What is the current monthly salary of your household (in rupees)? Please estimate the combined monthly salary of everyone that lives in your house.

1. Less Than 5,000
2. 5,000 - 10,000
3. 10,000 - 25,000
4. 25,000 - 50,000
5. 50,000 - 1 Lakh
6. 1 Lakh - 2 Lakhs
7. 2 Lakhs - 5 Lakhs
8. 5 Lakhs - 10 Lakhs
9. Over 10 Lakhs

Q43. What is your main current occupation?

1. Student
2. Government job
3. Private sector job
4. Self-employed / own business
5. Agricultural work
6. Homemaker
7. Don’t work / not working
8. Other

Q44. Do you or your household own land?

1. Yes
2. No

Q45. In which type of house do you live?

1. Pucca (both wall and roof are made of pucca material)
2. Pucca-kuccha (either wall or roof is made of pucca material, but others of kuccha material)
3. Kaccha (both wall and roof are made of kuccha material)
4. Hut (both wall and roof are made of grass, leaves, mud, un-brunt brick or bamboo

Q46. Do you or members of your household have the following things? Yes/No

[see appendix A at the end for options]

Enumerator Observations

Q47. Was the interviewee distracted during the interview?

a. Concentrated
b. Somewhat distracted
c. Very distracted

Q48. Were there other people present who might be listening during the interview? [Select one option only]

a. Nobody else present
b. Spouse
c. Children
d. Other adult family members
e. Children and other family member
f. A small crowd

Q49. Did the interview take place inside the house or outside?

1. Inside
2. Outside

APPENDIX A

Do you have this asset/ appliance in your home? *1 = Yes* *2 = No* *(If 1, then ask the follow-up questions. If 2, move on to next asset/ appliance.)* क्या आपके पास यह संपत्ति / उपकरण है? 1 = हां 2 = नहीं (यदि 1, तो फॉलो-अप प्रश्न पूछें। यदि 2, अगली संपत्ति / उपकरण पर जाएं।)
Electric fan बिजली का पंखा
Electric cooler इलेक्ट्रिक कूलर
AC एअर कंडीशनर
Computer कंप्यूटर
Cell phone
Bicycle साइकिल
Scooter/motorcycle स्कूटर / मोटरसाइकिल
Car/jeep कार / जीप
Refrigerator फ्रिज
Washing machine वॉशिंग मशीन
TV टीवी
Gas stove गैस चूल्हा
Water Purifier पानी का शुधिकरण यंत्र
Geyser गीज़र
Backup invertor/generator/Battery बैकअप इन्वर्टर / जनरेटर / बैटरी
Bank account/post office account
Internet connection at home
toilet inside the house
ATM / Debit / Credit card