

Pre-Analysis Plan Update for Engendering Policing: Evaluating Reforms to Increase Women's Access to Security and Justice

Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner (UVA), Akshay Mangla (Oxford), and
Sandip Sukhtankar (UVA)

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On March 5, 2020, we submitted a Pre-Analysis Plan for this project based on our knowledge and best projections of data collection activities at that point in time. On March 25, 2020, the Indian government imposed a strict lockdown in an attempt to slow down the Covid-19 pandemic. In this document we describe how the lockdown affected our data collection activities, and how we intend to modify our analysis as a result.

1. Intervention

The focus and efforts of the Madhya Pradesh Police (MPP) shifted considerably towards implementing the lockdown and supporting health staff. The Women's Help Desk (WHD) intervention received considerably less attention and resources post-lockdown. We expect the intervention to have been affected in at least the following ways:

- 1.1. In addition to the stringent restrictions on mobility, public transport was also suspended, making it near impossible for women to travel to police stations in order to benefit from the WHDs
- 1.2. Any ongoing and scheduled training activities were suspended
- 1.3. All outreach activities were suspended
- 1.4. Personnel assigned to WHDs may have been reallocated in order to assist with pandemic control efforts

We will thus consider that the intervention effectively ended by the end of March, although where it makes sense will report data both upto and after the lockdown.

2. Data collection

2.1. Administrative data

Administrative data collection has been delayed given reduced ability to approach relevant personnel in police headquarters and the limited bandwidth of these officials. We still expect to be able to collect the data, and if we are able to obtain monthly data, we may be able to report impacts both upto and after the lockdown.

2.2. CCTV data

Prior to the lockdown, we collected CCTV data from 144 police stations. Of the remaining, the major proportion comprises police stations in Bhopal district, which we had planned to visit last.

If mobility restrictions are lifted we may attempt to collect data from the police stations in Bhopal district. However, given that we may be analyzing only 80% of our sample, we may be underpowered to detect effects.

2.3. User satisfaction survey

Prior to the lockdown, we collected surveys from 1848 women and 1403 men who visited police stations in February and March. We do not anticipate going back to collect any more user satisfaction surveys.

2.4. Police survey

Prior to the lockdown, we collected surveys from 1948 police officers. We will attempt to interview the remaining 22 police officers over the phone in July.

2.5. Citizen survey

We did not begin the citizen survey at all prior to the lockdown. We will attempt to interview our sample over the phone in July, but it is likely that a significant number of the phone numbers may no longer work. Moreover, at this point we do not have phone numbers for those sampled from the Samagra sample, although we are attempting to obtain them.

2.5.1. Hence, it is quite likely that we will be underpowered to detect any impacts on outcomes that rely solely on citizen survey data (primary outcome 5.5.1, secondary outcomes 6.5.1-6.5.4). If we are not able to interview at least 3600 women, or if it appears as though the sample reached over the phone is particularly skewed (for example, richer), we may not present these results.

2.5.2. Those outcomes that use citizen survey data for controls (5.1.1, 5.1.3, 6.1.2) will also be affected. Again, as above, we may only present these outcomes without controls if we get a small or skewed sample.

2.5.3. Those outcomes that use citizen survey data for heterogeneity analysis (7.5.3) will also be affected. We will not present this analysis in case the sample is small or skewed.

2.5.4. We will ask respondents to report all outcomes for the period prior to the imposition of the lockdown. For a subset of outcomes, we will also ask respondents to report for the period since the lockdown.

2.5.5. We added a module containing questions related to COVID-19 and the impact of the lockdown imposed by the Indian government on households. The module included questions regarding return (rural-urban) migration of household members, the availability of governmental assistance and citizen interactions with the police.

2.6. Qualitative study

Our qualitative research in select police stations located in two study districts was suspended prior to the lockdown. The station-level data collection was complete, save for one interview. We do not anticipate returning to the police stations for further data collection. However, we do intend to conduct qualitative interviews (via telephone) with senior police officers in the two study districts.