

Discussion Codebook

Numeric Code	Code	Details
0	Irrelevant/Spam	Discussion that is either not relevant to the rumour, or would not have meaningful context in the experimental environment. Example: “ <i>‘Outside agitators’ also known as the police</i> ”, or “ <i>Use your words... Mommy</i> ”
1	Affirms	Affirming the rumour in question (<i>i.e.</i> it does look like federal agents are kidnapping/detaining protestors or it does sound like law enforcement are using contact tracing apps to track protestors). Example: “Are they even police? Could be kidnapping”, or “When the true use of contact tracing is acknowledged and public health will never be trusted again. This is a major unforced error in language. Can’t take this back.”
2	Denies	Denies the rumour in question (<i>i.e.</i> federal agents are not kidnapping/detaining professors or law enforcement are not using contact tracing technology on protestors). Examples: “ <i>I’m calling it now... this SMELLS of PSYOP. The person being ‘kidnapped’ remains silent when asked to give... their name. This smells more of a STAGED extraction done purely for SHOCK VALUE. If this was a real protestor... why didn’t he give his name on camera?</i> ”, or “ <i>Could we not use the term “contact tracing” to describe police investigations into criminal matters?</i> ”
3	Neutral	Does not make a claim on the truthfulness of the rumour. Example: “ <i>Surrounding the van. Block it’s exit. If they injure somebody you document it and take your pick of top level attorneys ready to pounce on these morons. Feds don’t drive minivans with golf hats on the dash. Ever heard of Miranda?</i> ”
4	Questions	Expresses uncertainty in the rumour. Example: “ <i>Is this what the “contact tracing” that was meant for coronavirus is being used for? Or is this just mere coincidence of expression? Seems relevant. Please clarify.</i> ”