

# When Covid misinformation comes for the family WhatsApp | Rest of World

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Last July, my 80-year-old grandfather woke up in the middle of the night, unable to recognize any of the people in his small apartment in central Bangalore — not my aunt, not my uncle, not even my grandmother, his wife of sixty years.

My mother and I were helpless in Queens. Covid-19 cases were on their first ascent in India; we couldn't risk traveling from New York to be by his side. For solace, we turned to our family WhatsApp group, a jumble of aunts, uncles, and cousins spread across India, the Middle East, and the U.S. — most of whom I have only met once or twice as a child.

[...]

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