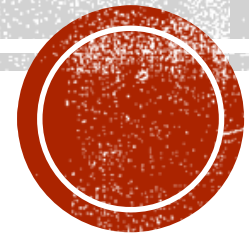


SECULARIZATION WITH HINDU CHARACTERISTICS



Ajay Verghese
University of California, Riverside

THE SECULARIZATION THESIS

Modernization – “industrialization, urbanization, and rising levels of education and wealth” – weakens religion



SECULARIZATION IN THE WEST

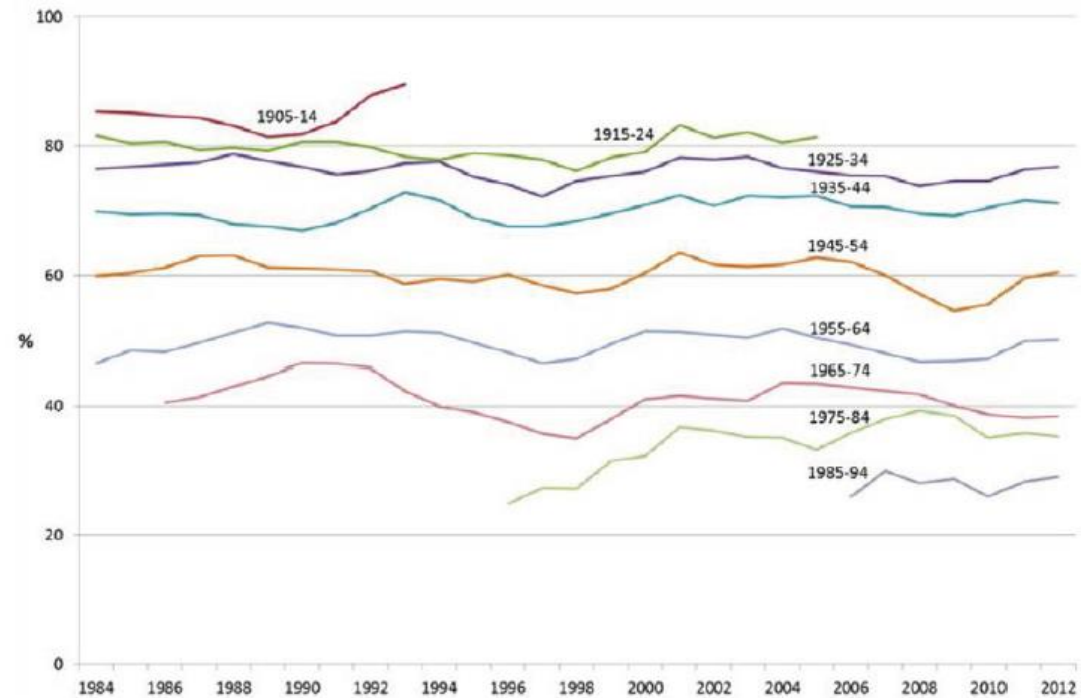


FIG. 1.—Religious affiliation by decade of birth, Great Britain, 1983–2013. Data are from the British Social Attitudes survey, 1983–2013. Includes white respondents age 20–84. Three-survey moving average.



SECULARIZATION IN THE WEST

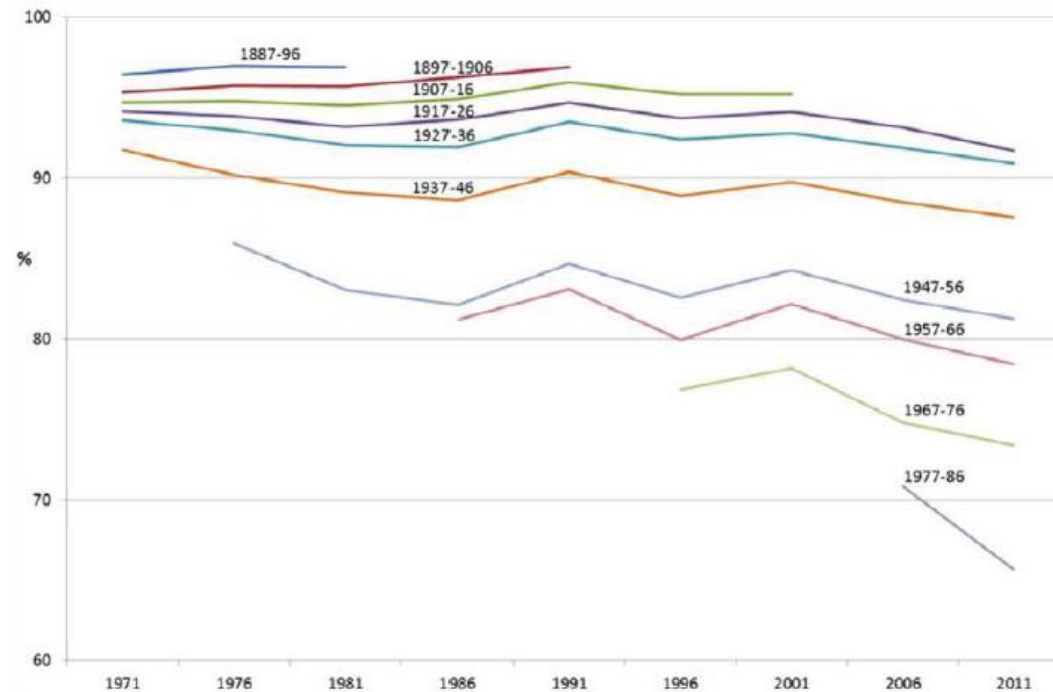


FIG. 3.—Religious affiliation by decade of birth, Australia, 1971–2011. Data are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics: commissioned tables from the census of population, 1971–2011. Includes only people born in Australia.



SECULARIZATION IN THE WEST

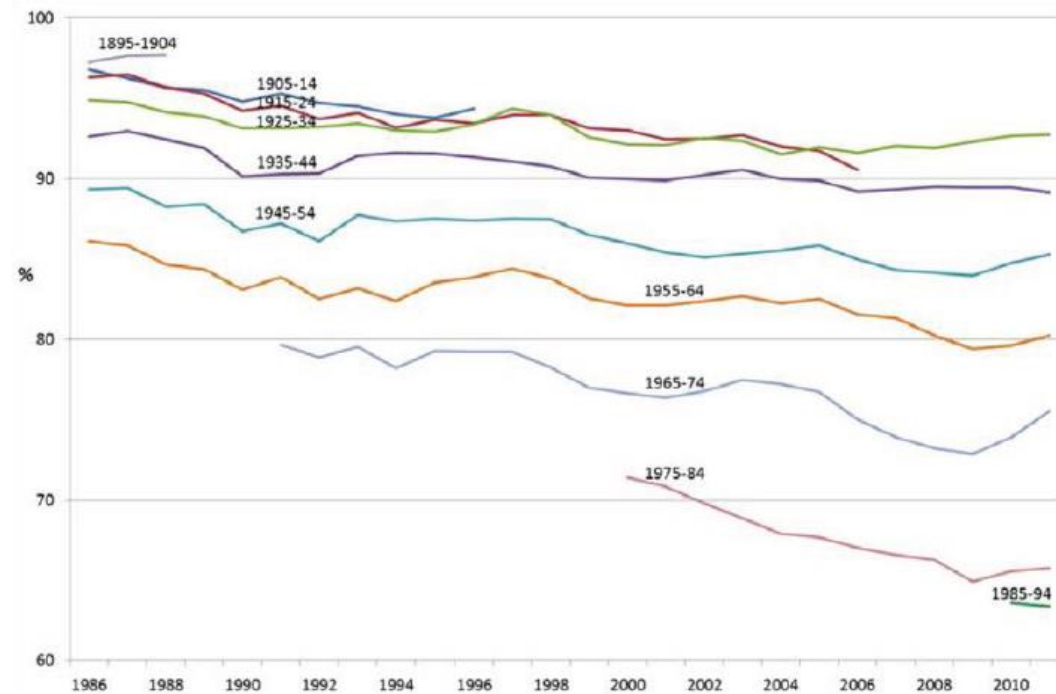


FIG. 5.—Religious affiliation by decade of birth, Canada, 1985–2012. Data are from the Canadian General Social Survey, 1985–2012; includes only respondents born in Canada. Three-survey moving average.



SECULARIZATION IN THE WEST

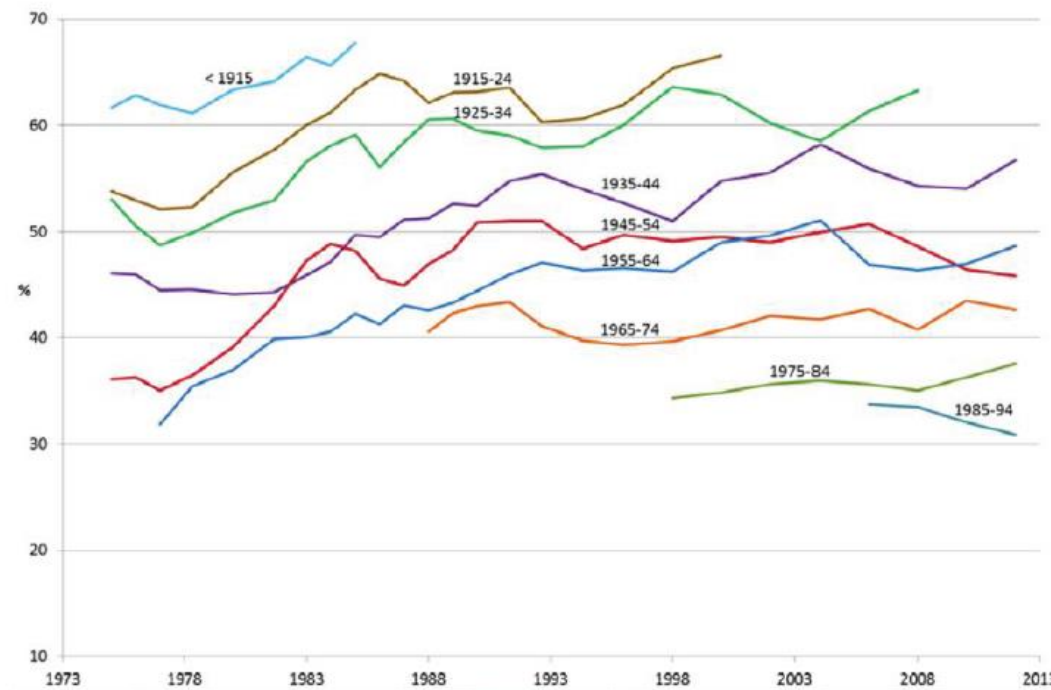


FIG. 8.—Strong or somewhat strong religious affiliation by decade of birth, United States, 1974–2014. Data are from the General Social Survey, 1974–2014. Includes respondents age 20–84 born in the United States. Three-survey moving average.



THE PUZZLES

1. Does secularization theory apply outside the **western world** and beyond the **Abrahamic religions**?
2. How could secularization affect political behavior?



THE CASE: HINDUISM IN INDIA



THE CASE: HINDUISM IN INDIA

Religious:

1. 900 million Hindus
2. WIN/Gallup 2012: 18th most religious country

Fast Developing:

1. 1999-2015: GDP growth rate over 7%
2. Rising urbanization, per-capita income, education levels



METHODOLOGY

1. Quantitative

1. Ethnographic fieldwork to develop measure of Hindu religiosity
2. Surveys in India's least developed state (Bihar) and most developed state (Kerala)
3. 900 respondents in each state using a stratified random sample

2. Qualitative

1. Participant observation during survey enumeration, and follow-up interviews
2. Ethnographic fieldwork with urban families



1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY

Religion:

The Hindu *dharm*, which has been translated as: “religion, law, duty, norm, social usage, right conduct, morality, justice, or righteousness”

A pious Hindu can be:

1. An atheist
2. Someone who never goes to temple



1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY



1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY

Hindu Rituals (Top Five Answers)

<i>Ritual (Closed-ended)</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Ritual (Open-ended)</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Religious donations	96.0	Puja	73.4
Puja	90.1	Going to festivals	22.4
Visiting temple	90.1	Attire	20.4
<i>Tied:</i> Participating in religious performances, Consulting pandit about auspicious timings	88.2	<i>Tied:</i> Fasting, Visiting temple	16.3
Fasting	74.5	Parents/ancestors	10.2



1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY

AGREE/DISAGREE SCALE, 1-4

- I would marry someone who is not Hindu.
- I would marry someone from a lower caste.
- It is important for me to teach my children about Hinduism.
- It does not bother me when people make fun of Hindu rituals.*



1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY

- Fasting is important to receive god's blessings.
- It is auspicious for parents to do the *mundan* [tonsure ceremony] for their child.
- *Darshan* is important to receive god's blessings.
- The best part of the *Chhath* festival is that I get to buy new clothes.
- (Temple entry)
 - *For men*: I would not enter a temple if I just lost a family member.
 - *For women*: I would not enter a temple if I were menstruating.

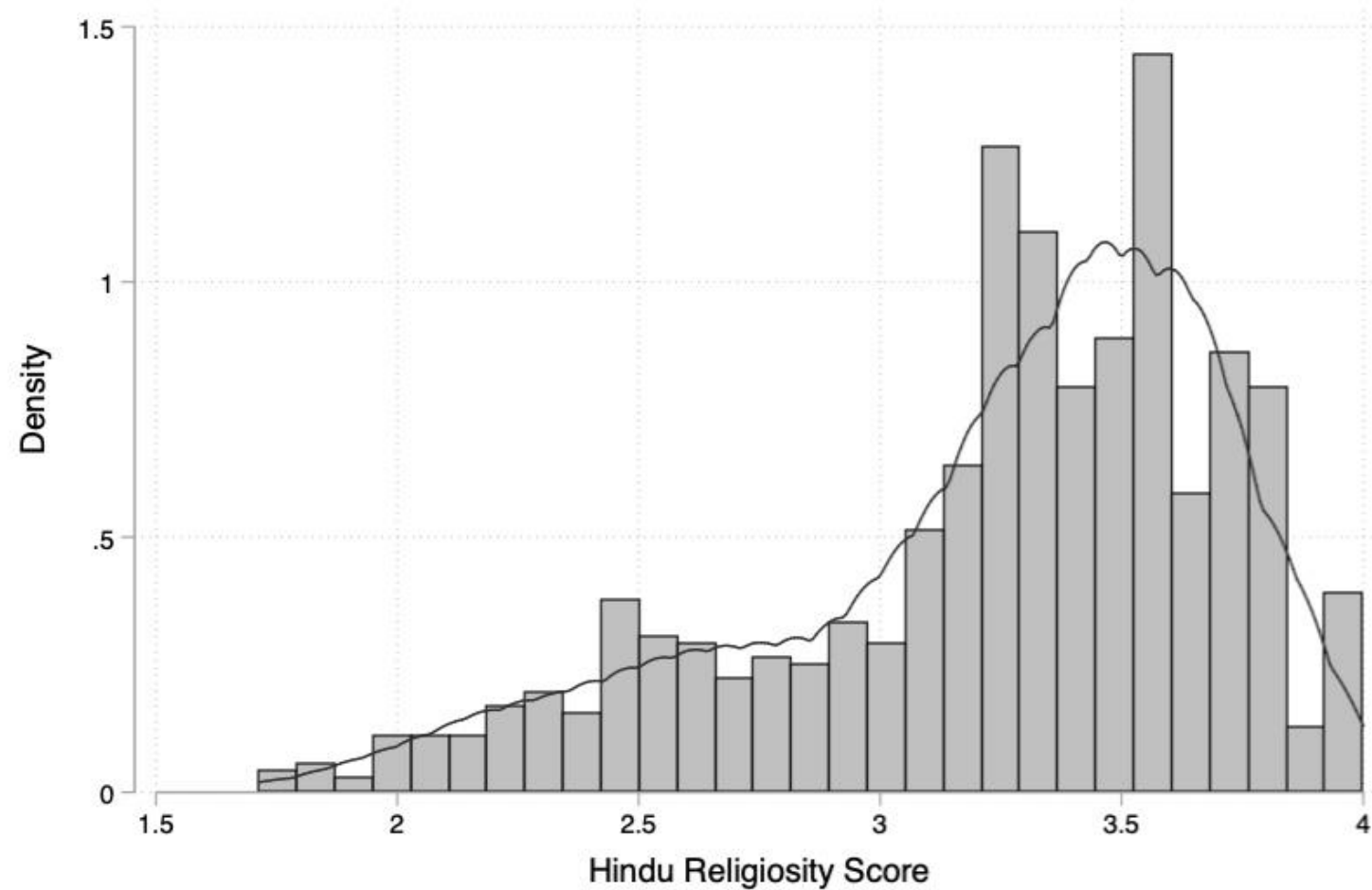


1. MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY

- I believe that god blesses me when I do *puja*.
- I don't need to consult with the astrologer/pandit before fixing a wedding date.*
- When something bad happens to me, I worry it was caused by the evil eye.
- As a Hindu, I should only eat vegetarian food.
- An atheist can be a very moral person.



MEASURING HINDU RELIGIOSITY



2. SURVEY OF BIHAR

Multistage stratified random sample

1. Within state:

1. Three districts randomly selected from different cultural regions

2. Within district:

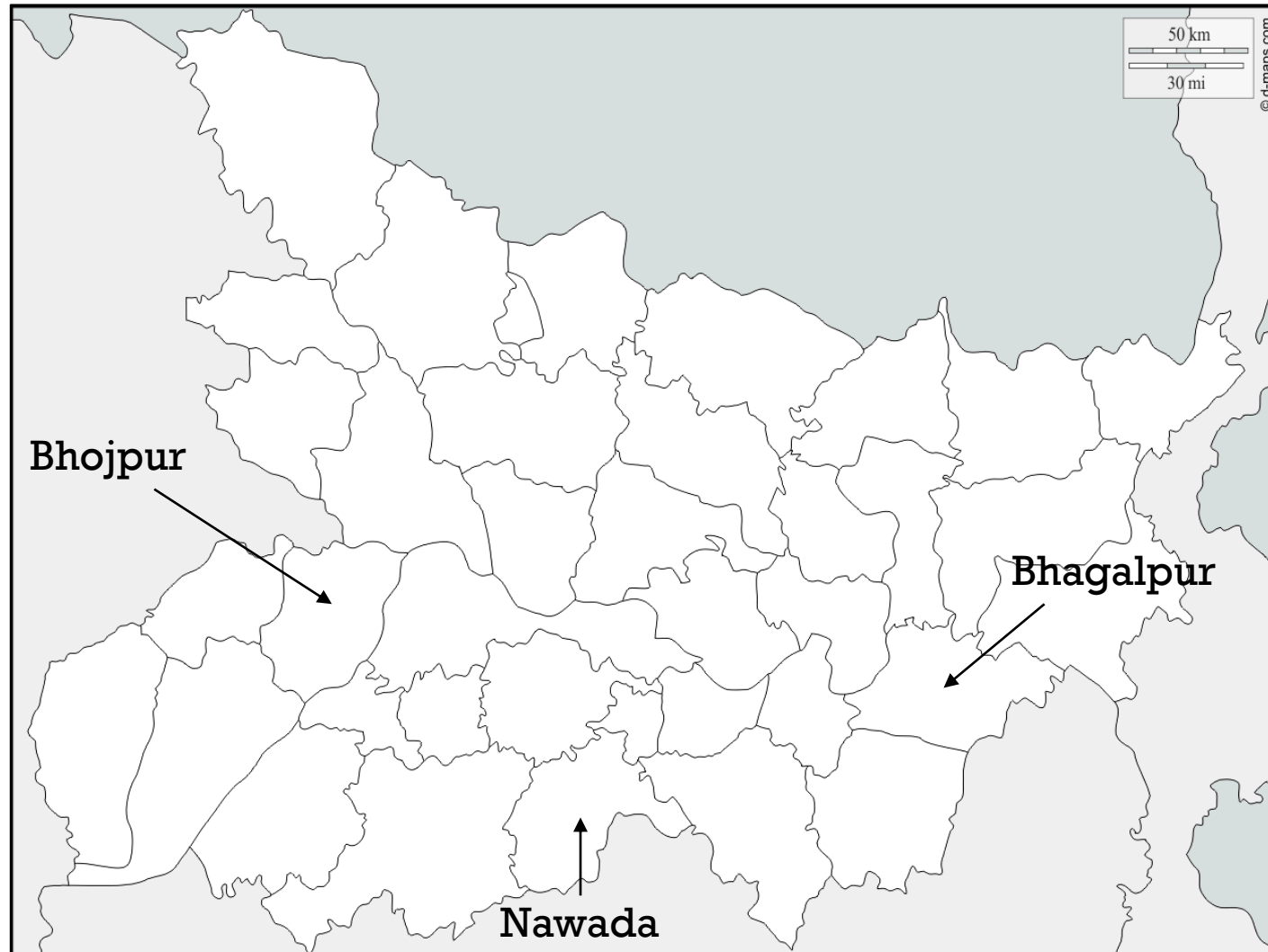
1. Urban/rural breakdown proportionate to district as whole, but 10% oversample from urban areas

3. Within household:

1. Random selection of male/female household members (18+) using Android app



2. SURVEY OF BIHAR



SECULARIZATION MECHANISMS

1. H_1 : Education is negatively correlated with religiosity.
2. H_2 : Wealth is negatively correlated with religiosity.
3. H_3 : Personal security is negatively correlated with religiosity.



SURVEY SUMMARY STATISTICS

Variable	Respondents	Average	Min	Max
<i>Explanatory variables</i>				
Education	914	2.685996	0	7
Income	914	2.724289	0	8
Income Stability	496	.3608871	0	1
Health	914	2.238512	1	3
<i>Control variables</i>				
Age	914	42.85339	18	93
Male	914	.5164114	0	1
Caste Rank	914	1.958425	1	3



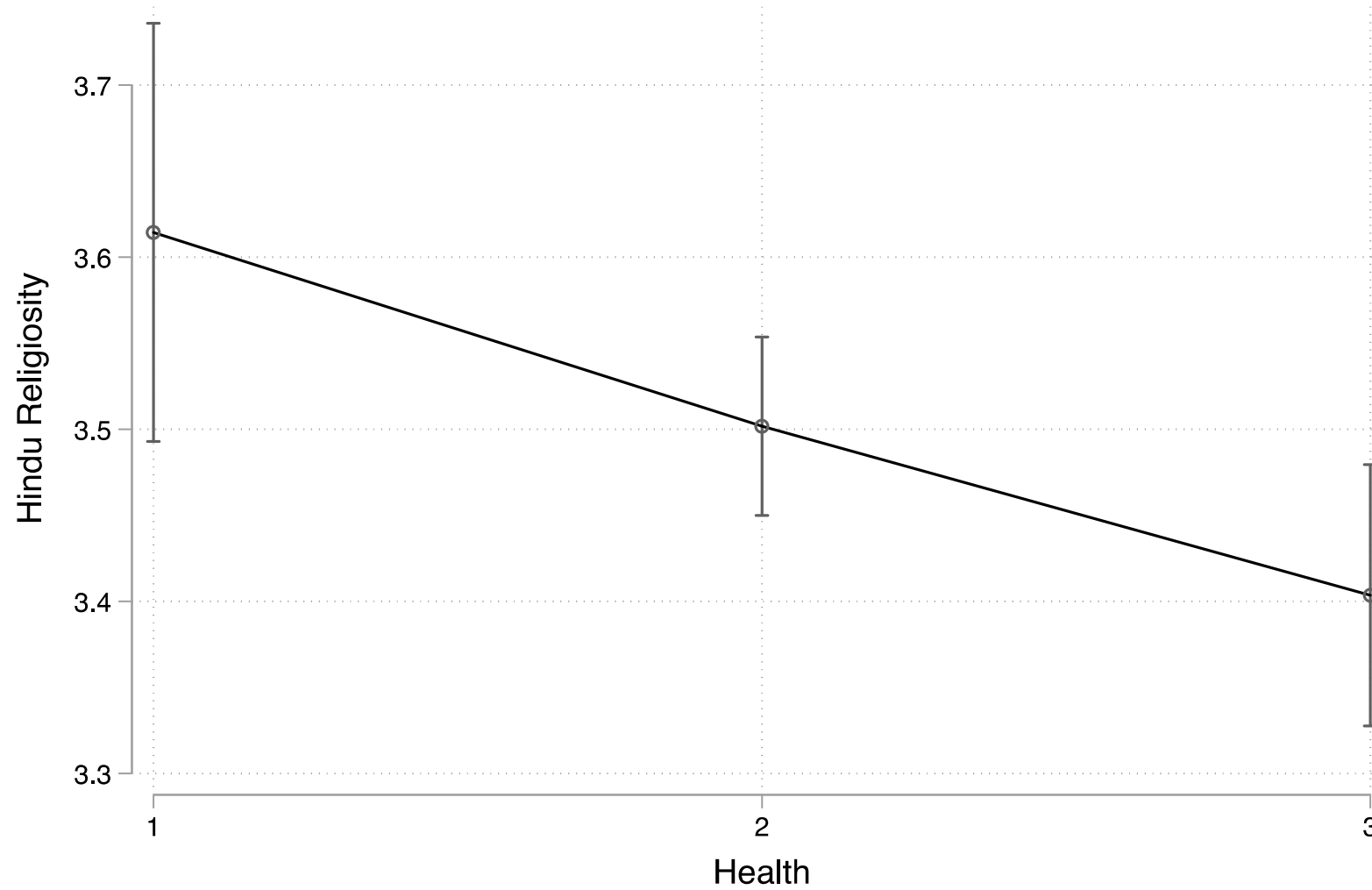
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6
Age						
Male	++	++	++	++	++	++
Caste Rank						
Education						
Income						
Health	---	---	---	---	---	---
English Speaking		---				
Internet at Home			--			
Internet on Phone				--		
Own a TV					++	
Non-Hindu Neighbor						-



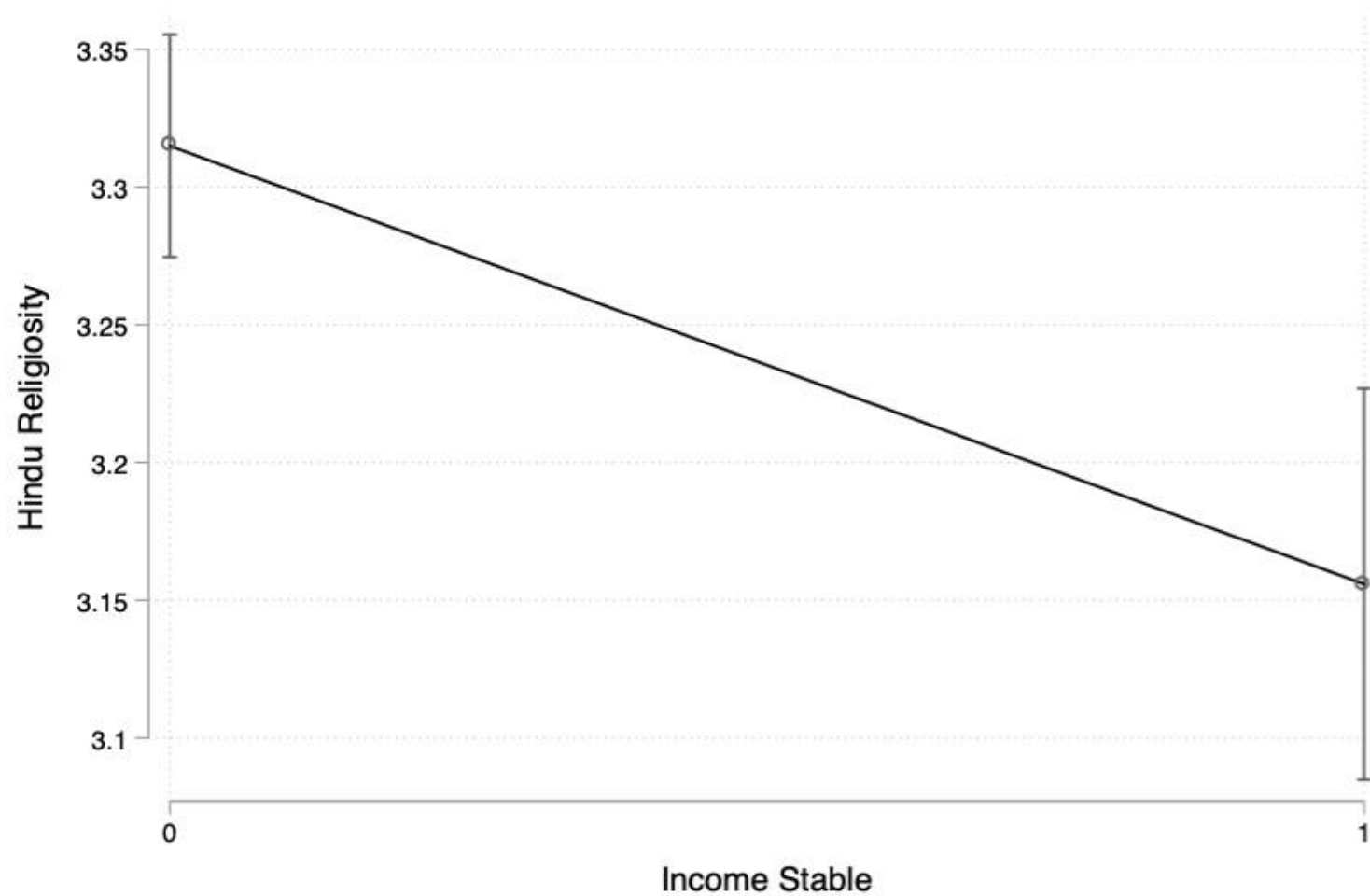
	Model 7	Model 8	Model 9	Model 10	Model 11	Model 12
Age						
Male						
Caste Rank						
Education						
Income Stability	---	---	---	---	---	---
Health						-
English Speaking		---				
Internet at Home						
Internet on Phone				-		
Own a TV						
Non-Hindu Neighbor						



SUBSTANTIVE EFFECT



SUBSTANTIVE EFFECT

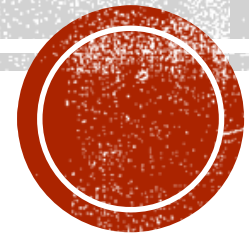


CONCLUSION

1. Secularization should be tested outside the western world
2. In order to do so, we need new ways of thinking about religiosity in the traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Shinto, etc.
3. Most Hindus in Bihar are very religious, but personal security correlates with secular attitudes



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