What happens when a fact-checker checks a complex political claim?

**Claim:** Joe Biden stated on August 31, 2020 in a speech: “When I was vice president, violent crime fell 15% in this country. … The murder rate now is up 26% across the nation this year under Donald Trump.”

**Fact-checker writes justification:**

The statistics themselves are correct. However, Biden didn’t compare crime rates from the same time interval. The violent crime rate and murder rate are not directly comparable. Therefore, this is only half-true!

Checking the claim requires checking both explicit and implied facets! We decompose a claim into a comprehensive set of yes-no questions:

- **Can the claim be directly derived from the claim?**
- **Needs domain knowledge, more context, etc.**

Our contributions:
- An annotated dataset of decomposed claims into yes-no questions, including implicit aspects of the claims
- Automatic methods for claim decomposition
- Evaluation of automatic decomposition, claim veracity prediction, and evidence retrieval using decomposed questions

Dataset and code available at: [https://github.com/jifan-chen/subquestions-for-fact-checking](https://github.com/jifan-chen/subquestions-for-fact-checking)