

## **Codebook for Gill & Eugenis (2019)**

### *Election-Centered Dataset*

This dataset includes information about elections in states with judges elected through partisan and non-partisan elections. Partisan election states include Alabama, Illinois, Louisiana, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, and West Virginia. Non-partisan election states include Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. We exclude Michigan from the analysis because state supreme court justices are selected in multimember district races. This compromises our ability to compare vote shares in Michigan races to those in other states. Several elections from Pennsylvania are excluded for the same reason; when there are multiple seats open on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the seats are filled via an election for a multimember district. We collected information about these elections from the official websites of the relevant state government offices (usually the secretary of state websites).

Information about gender presentation and law school rank, as well as many of the additional variables in the analysis, were collected from several publicly-available sources, most importantly official candidate biographies, Martindale's database of lawyers, and newspaper articles. We do not use a race variable in our analysis because there are few minority candidates running for office. For the law school rankings, we have used the 2015 U.S. News and World Report law school rankings to construct our measure. All schools that are given a numerical ranking are included as ranked in our measure. Law school rankings are relatively stable over time, and few law schools move between the broad categories we have used in our measure.

Campaign contribution data were drawn from state campaign finance websites and the National Institute on Money in State Politics. The relevant data are linked on the organization's main website, <http://www.followthemoney.org>. We include as a key variable the amount of money raised by the challenger. The log transformation controls for the fact that the variable is highly skewed and likely has a nonlinear relationship with vote share.

We also include a measure of media coverage of each candidate. Data on the number of media mentions come from Google News. We used the search engine at <http://news.google.com>. To construct this measure, we searched news archives for the candidate's name from the filing date until the election date. We include this measure because media mentions may drive voting behavior directly by increasing the candidate's name recognition. This variable is the log of the number of articles in the major newspapers in the state that featured the candidate in advance of the election. Although Google News tailors a user's homepage according to the viewing habits of that user, the program does not exclude search results based on these algorithms. To assess the news coverage of each candidate, we typed their name (in quotes) and their state (to avoid getting results from people with similar names) into the search engine and specified the date range as the time between the filing date of the primary election.

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Our measure of murder rates comes from the United States Department of Justice. Crime data is located on the Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics website maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, <http://www.ucrdatatool.gov/Search/Crime/State/StatebyState.cfm>. Murder rates are lagged one year to reflect knowledge voters would have while standing in the voting booth. Data on the number of lawyers in each state comes from the American Bar Association. These data are available on the American Bar Association's website, <http://www.americanbar.org>. We use a log transformation of each of these variables in our models.

Variable Name	Variable Label	Explanation
id	Unique Election ID	Unique number identifying the election instance.
stateid	State ID	Two digit number representing the state
year	Year (Even Years Only)	Off year elections were included with the previous even-year cycle for the purposes of this analysis.
c1name	Candidate 1 Name	Name of candidate 1 (usually the incumbent)
c2name	Candidate 2 Name	Name of candidate 2
c1vshare	Candidate 1 Vote Share	Numeric vote share received by the candidate 0-100
c2vshare	Candidate 2 Vote Share	Numeric vote share received by the candidate 0-100
chnumber	Number of Challengers in Race	Number of candidates running against candidate 1
c1Incash	Candidate 1 Cash (log)	Log of the total amount of money raised by candidate 1. Campaign totals come from the National Institute on Money in State Politics.
c2Incash	Candidate 2 Cash (log)	Log of the total amount of money raised by candidate 2. Campaign totals come from the National Institute on Money in State Politics.
c1lastopp	C1 Vote Share in Previous Election	Numeric vote share received by the incumbent in their previous general election. 0-100
c1Inmedia	C1 Media Coverage (log)	Log of the total number of articles mentioning Candidate 1 from the filing deadline to election day. Number of articles comes from searching the candidate's name in Google News.
murderlog	Log of Murder Rate (Lagged)	Log of the state murder rate according to the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting database (number of victims per 100,000 inhabitants), lagged one year.
lawyerlog	Log of Lawyers in State (Lagged)	Log of the number of lawyers in the state according to the American Bar Association, lagged one year.
c1fem	Candidate 1 is a Woman	1 = Candidate 1 is a woman 0 = Candidate 1 is a man

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Variable Name	Variable Label	Explanation
c2fem	Candidate 2 is a Woman	1 = Candidate 2 is a woman 0 = Candidate 2 is a man
c1ranked	C1 Ranked Law School	1 = Candidate 1 went to a law school ranked on the 2015 US News Report 0 = Candidate 1 did not go to a ranked law school
c2ranked	C2 Ranked Law School	1 = Candidate 2 went to a law school ranked on the 2015 US News Report 0 = Candidate 2 did not go to a ranked law school
c1prior	C1 Prior Elected Office	1 = Candidate 1 has won a prior election 0 = Candidate 1 has not won a prior election
c2prior	C2 Prior Elected Office	1 = Candidate 2 has won a prior election 0 = Candidate 2 has not won a prior election
partisan	Partisan Elections	1 = Candidates are identified on the ballot with partisan labels 0 = Candidates are not publically affiliated with a political party
openseat	Open Seat Election	1 = The election is for an open seat (no incumbent) 0 = The incumbent is running for election
challenger	Challenger in Race	1 = The election is contested 0 = The candidate is running for office uncontested
c1inc	Candidate 1 is an Incumbent	1 = Candidate 1 is an incumbent 0 = Candidate 1 is not an incumbent
c1negpln	C1 Negative Press Before Filing	Log of the total number of negative news articles about the candidate from the previous election through the filing date. Number of articles comes from searching the candidate's name in Google News and then determining if the article spoke negatively of the candidate or linked them to a scandal.
c1win	Candidate 1 Wins	1 = Candidate 1 won election 0 = Candidate 1 did not win election
c2win	Candidate 2 Wins	1 = Candidate 2 won election 0 = Candidate 2 did not win election
c1app	Candidate 1 First Appointed	1 = Candidate 1 was first appointed to office 0 = Candidate 1 was first elected to office or is not an incumbent