As Neil Gorsuch tests the waters of where he would fit into the dynamic of the SCOTUS, it would be interesting to see where the late Justice Scalia faired when it came time to rule on cases. President Trump would be wise to select a justice that could support and help him pass his agenda, which is primarily conservative.

The Supreme Court of the United States may not be the ones who create or pass laws. However, more importantly they are the ones who interpret the laws. Their interpretation is the final say. It is for this reason that it is extremely important to understand how Neil Gorsuch can potentially use his vote to swing the ruling of laws in a certain way.

Finding patterns of how the current justices have voted on past cases in regards to themselves would give great insight into what the absence of Justice Scalia means and where Neil Gorsuch could potentially make up for that absence if at all.

The data I will be using for this project will be from <http://scdb.wustl.edu/>

It is justice-centered data, which includes a set of justice votes for each dispute, along with the case information. The unit of analysis is the vote. The cases are organized by issue/ legal provision. The data set includes one set of justice votes for each issue and legal provision dealt with by the Court for each docket. The formats available for the data include: CSV, DTA, POR, RDATA, SAV, XLSX, and XPT.

I plan on using this data set to find a pattern of how the justices vote amongst each other on different issues/ legal provisions to understand how Justice Scalia voted and how Judge Gorsuch could affect the outcome of future cases.