# Woman's name right and marital records in the US

# Seiro Ito

# 2024年02月10日03:00

"functions.R" in c:/data/NameRight/program/ reading
Done.
(US 婚姻データの記述統計)
Seiro Ito
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Read marriage/divorce files
NBER marriage data
<pre>#### marriage m2 &lt;- qread(paste0(pathsave, "mar2.qs"))</pre>

```
setkey(m2, StateName, DateMarried)
m2[, .(StateName, DateMarried, race.g, agem.g, race.b, agem.b)]
          StateName DateMarried race.g agem.g race.b agem.b
       1:
            Alabama 1968-01-01
                                     1
                                           23
                                                    1
                                     2
                                           75
                                                    2
       2:
            Alabama 1968-01-01
                                                          58
       3:
            Alabama 1968-01-01
                                     1
                                           32
                                                    1
                                                          21
       4:
            Alabama 1968-01-01
                                     2
                                           26
                                                    2
                                                          18
       5:
           Alabama 1968-01-01
                                     1
                                           31
                                                    1
                                                          29
12055871:
                                                          18
            Wyoming 1990-12-31
                                     1
                                           18
                                                    1
            Wyoming 1990-12-31
12055872:
                                     1
                                           41
                                                    1
                                                          30
            Wyoming 1990-12-31
12055873:
                                     1
                                           29
                                                    1
                                                          30
12055874:
            Wyoming 1990-12-31
                                     1
                                           33
                                                    1
                                                          36
12055875:
            Wyoming 1990-12-31
                                     1
                                           36
                                                    1
                                                          36
m2[, YearMon := as.IDate(paste0(year, "-", month, "-01"),
 format = "%Y-%m-%d")]
m2ym \leftarrow m2[, .(
   Mar=.N,
   MedianAge.g = median(agem.g, na.rm = T),
   MedianAge.b = median(agem.b, na.rm = T), YM=YearMon[1]),
  by = .(StateName, year, month)]
```

Dunn v. Palermo of Tennessee (April 7, 1975) and neighbouring states

```
library(ggplot2)
ThisTheme <-
              theme(
  legend.position = "bottom",
  legend.direction = "horizontal",
  legend.text=element_text(size=6),
 legend.key.size=unit(.25, "cm"),
  legend.title = element_blank()
#### drop virginia "V.*a$" as it has a data problem
dunn <- m2ym[grepl("Ten|Ken|Missi|Ark|Alab|Geor|Nor.*C", StateName), ]</pre>
g <- ggplot(data = dunn, aes(x = YM, y = Mar, group = StateName,
    shape = StateName, colour = StateName)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_line() +
  scale y log10() +
  scale_shape_manual(values = 0:10) +
  geom_vline(xintercept = as.IDate("1975-04-01", format = "%Y-%m-%d"),
    colour = "red") +
  scale color manual(values = c(
    "Alabama" = "lightblue", "Arkansas" = "lightblue", "Georgia" = "lightblue",
    "Kentucky" = "lightblue", "Mississippi" = "lightblue",
    "North Carolina" = "lightblue", "Tennessee" = "darkblue")) + ThisTheme +
  guides(colour=guide_legend(ncol=2, byrow=F))
pdf(
 pasteO(pathsave, "NumberOfMarriagesDunnPalermo.pdf")
  , width = 14/2.54, height = 8/2.54)
print(g)
whatever <- dev.off()</pre>
```

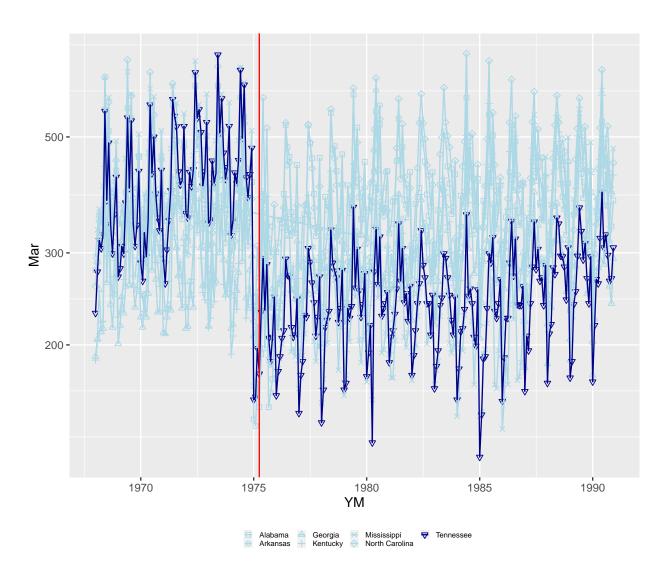


Figure 1: Number of marriages: Tennessee and contiguous states before and after Dunn v. Palermo

There is an obvious data problem with Tennessee in NBER data. The counts are almost halved after 1975. We cannot use it for analysis.

```
reshape(dunn[grepl("Tenn", StateName) & 1971 <= year & year <= 1976,
  .(StateName, year, month, Mar)],
  direction = "wide", idvar = c("StateName", "month"),
  timevar = "year", v.names = "Mar")
    StateName month Mar.1971 Mar.1972 Mar.1973 Mar.1974 Mar.1975 Mar.1976
 1: Tennessee
                  1
                          293
                                    357
                                             342
                                                       324
                                                                157
                                                                          160
 2: Tennessee
                          262
                                    350
                                             347
                                                       347
                                                                159
                                                                          178
3: Tennessee
                  3
                                    428
                                             450
                                                       427
                          304
                                                                197
                                                                          190
 4: Tennessee
                  4
                          346
                                    402
                                             408
                                                       407
                                                                176
                                                                          206
5: Tennessee
                  5
                          395
                                    433
                                             426
                                                       451
                                                                231
                                                                          213
6: Tennessee
                  6
                          590
                                    664
                                             718
                                                       671
                                                                293
                                                                          292
7: Tennessee
                  7
                          548
                                    543
                                             509
                                                       497
                                                                233
                                                                          272
8: Tennessee
                  8
                          523
                                    564
                                             592
                                                       629
                                                                285
                                                                          270
                  9
                                             466
                                                                206
9: Tennessee
                          429
                                    510
                                                       418
                                                                          216
                                    403
10: Tennessee
                 10
                          405
                                             415
                                                       383
                                                                186
                                                                          207
11: Tennessee
                                    429
                 11
                          412
                                             437
                                                       424
                                                                207
                                                                          209
12: Tennessee
                 12
                          524
                                    533
                                             524
                                                       476
                                                                247
                                                                          245
```

### NCH marriage data

```
#### marriage
ms <- fread(pasteO(pathsource, "CDC-NCHS/MarriageNCHS.prn"),</pre>
  header = T)
m8 <- lapply(list.files(paste0(pathsource, "CDC-NCHS/ocr./"),</pre>
  pattern = "8.c.*prn", full.names = T), fread, header = T)
m8 <- lapply(m8, function(x) x[, 1:6])
m8[[2]] \leftarrow m8[[2]][, -(2:3)]
m8 <- Reduce(function(...) merge(..., all = TRUE), m8)</pre>
m1 <- Reduce(function(...) merge(..., all = TRUE), list(ms, m8))</pre>
setnames(m1, grepout("^1", colnames(m1)),
  paste0("v.", grepout("^1", colnames(m1))))
m1L <- reshape(m1, direction = "long", idvar = "StateName",
  varying = grepout("^v", colnames(m1)))
setkey(m1L, time)
m1LW <- reshape(m1L, direction = "wide", idvar = "time",</pre>
  timevar = "StateName", v.names = "v")
setnames(m1LW, grepout("^v", colnames(m1LW)),
  gsub("^v.", "", grepout("^v", colnames(m1LW))))
#### divorce data, marriage rate data follow the same steps,
#### so omitted from markdown.
#### Tennessee: Halved in 1975? Check for NBER data integrity.
t(m1LW[1972 <= time & time <= 1978, .(time, Tennessee)])
           [,1] [,2] [,3]
                              [,4] [,5] [,6]
                                                 [,7]
time
           1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978
Tennessee 56164 56285 54606 51530 53270 55327 57529
```

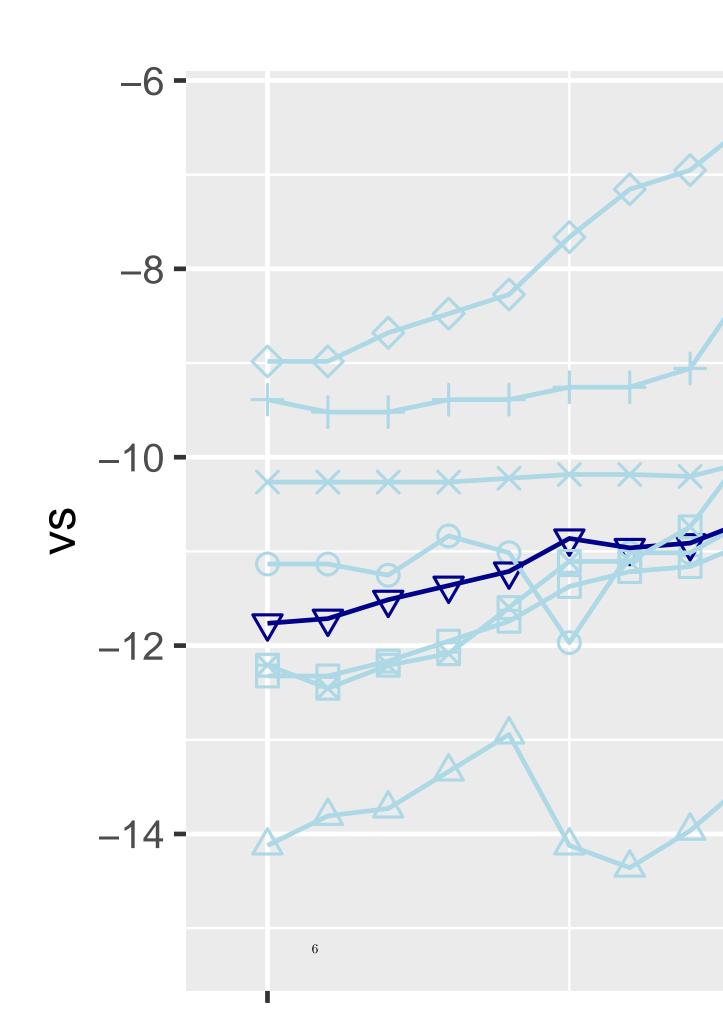
This shows NBER data for Tennessee has a problem.

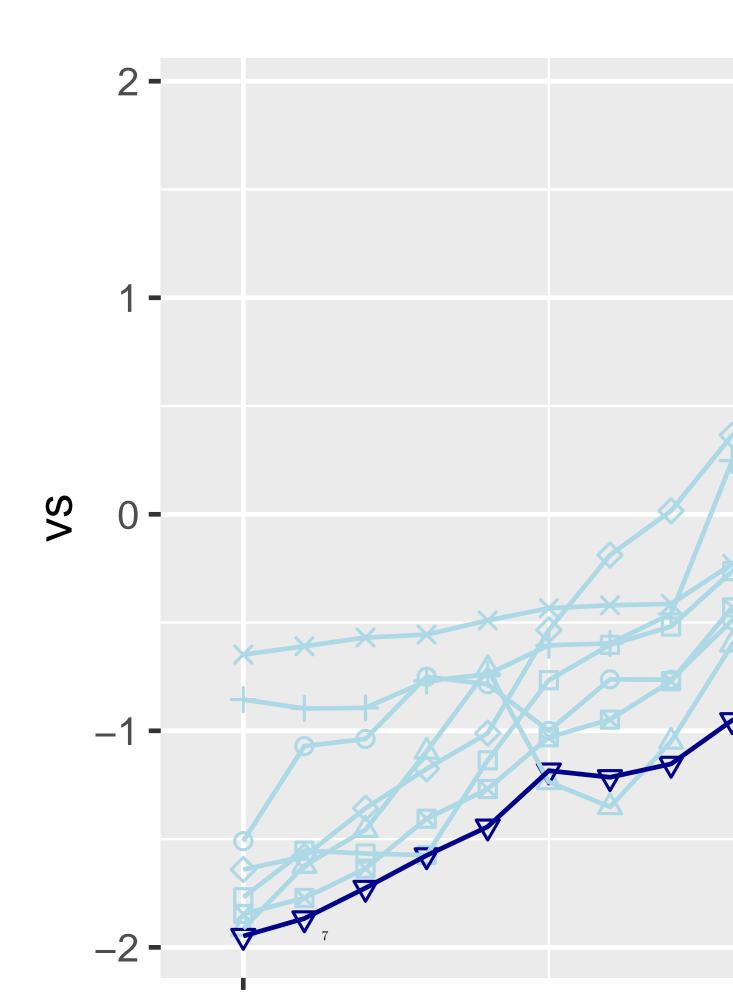
```
StateName time v vs LastNAYear

1: Illinois 1957 NA NA 1957

2: Indiana 1957 NA NA 1957
```

```
Kentucky 1958 NA NA
                                     1958
4:
        Louisiana 1958 NA NA
                                     1958
5: Massachusetts 1956 NA NA
                                     1956
         New York 1957 NA NA
                                     1957
7: North Carolina 1957 NA NA
                                     1957
8: West Virginia 1957 NA NA
                                     1957
#### implied population
library(qs)
m1L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "m1L.qs"))</pre>
m2L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "m2L.qs"))</pre>
m12L <- merge(m2L, m1L, by = c("StateName", "time"), all = T)</pre>
m12L[, pop := round(v.y/(v.x/100), 0)]
m12L <- m12L[, .(StateName, time, pop)]</pre>
#### compute divorce rate
d2L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "d2L.qs"))</pre>
d2L[, v := as.numeric(v)]
d12L <- merge(d2L, m12L, by = c("StateName", "time"))</pre>
setnames(d12L, "v", "case")
d12L[, v := round((case/pop)*100, 1)]
d12L[, vs := vs-vs[time==1974], by = .(StateName)]
d12L[, vs := v/var(v)^(.5), by = .(StateName)]
qsave(d12L, paste0(pathsave, "d12L.qs"))
```





Rate = marriages / 1000, where population is based on censuses (April 1 of 1960, 70, 80) and interpolated estimates of July 1 of each year.

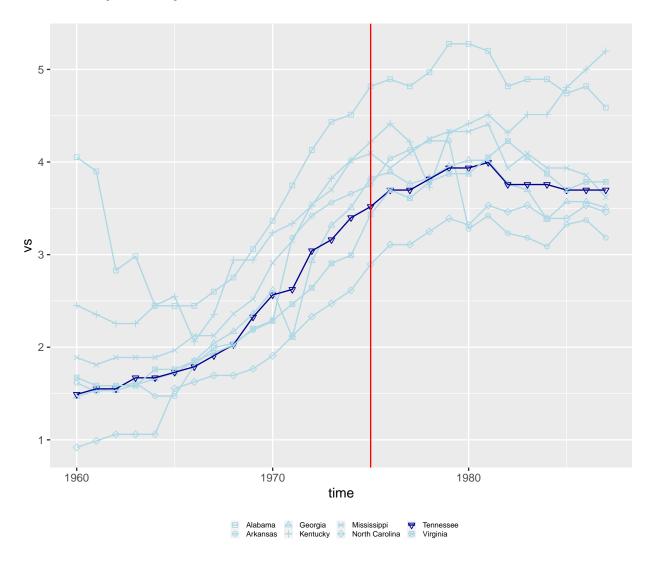


Figure 2: Divorce rates (standardized): Tennessee and contiguous states before and after Dunn v. Palermo

### History of woman's name rights in the US

### An overview

Most of the name right research starts with around 1900's, the period of no name right. Then proceeds to the 1970's when woman's name right was affirmed in various litigations.

There are many litigations that were negative on the right before the landmark Stuart v. Board of Directors (1972) and Dunn v. Palermo (1974) which gave affirmative decisions. In negating the right, many courts counted on Chapman v Phoenix National Bank (1881). As seen in below, however, Chapman is now regarded as an outlier that does not resonate well with historical legal precedents.\* This follows from the research on common law in even earlier years of England.

<sup>\*1</sup>In Davis and Roos (1976), the court writes: It is our conclusion that history or precedent fails to support the "Chapman" enunciations.

In *Davis v. Roos* (1976), the court noted the earliest case in the common law right on woman's name: the common law of England on July 4, 1776, did not by operation of law engraft the husband's surname upon the wife.

Similarly, in Malone v. Sullivan, 124 Ariz. 469, 470 (Ariz. 1980), the English court in 1823 is quoted as:

It has been asserted in the argument, that a married woman cannot legally bear any other name than that which she has acquired in wedlock; but the fact is not so; a married woman may legally bear a different name from her husband, and very many living instances might be quoted in proof of the fact. [The King v. The Inhabitants of St. Faith's Newton, 3 Dowling Ryland Reports 348, 352.]

Malone v. Sullivan (1980)

It would appear that the custom of the wife's taking the name of the husband at the time of marriage remained just that, custom, and never became law. It was and is a question of choice and reputation.

We do not believe that *Chapman* is persuasive.

Another good historical summary is given by *Opinion No. 75-281 (1975)*, AG (Ops.Okla.Atty.Gen. Nov. 14, 1975). The oldest case being quoted in this opinion dates back to 1897: "Also, in *Rice v. State (1897)*\*2, the Court quoted the following language with approval."

It is said, the husband being the head of a family, the wife and children adopt his family name, — by custom, the wife is called by the husband's name; but whether marriage shall work any change of name at all is, after all, a mere question of choice, and either may take the other's name, or they may join their names together.

The most important phrase in this quote is "either may take the other's name" part that indicates bloom and bride may take their own or other's name. It acknowledges the woman's name right to use her maiden name. The last part, "or they may join their names together", refers to double barrell, including the hyphenated name, to be used. Although affirmative to woman's name right, it is not evident if it also affirms a couple to use different surnames.

The opinion goes on: "In State v. Green (1961)\*3, the Court, in determining the validity of candidacy for office of a married woman who sought to have her maiden name listed on the ballot, examined the English common law, stating:"

It is only by custom, in English speaking countries, that a woman, upon marriage, adopts the surname of her husband in place of her father. . . . In England, from which came our customs with respect to names, a woman is permitted to retain her maiden surname upon marriage if she so desires.

M. Turner-Samuels, in his book on 'The Law of Married Women' at page 345 (Turner-Samuels 1957, 345), states: "In England, custom has long since ordained that a married woman takes her husband's name. This practice is not invariable; not compellable by law. A wife may continue to use her maiden, married, or any other name she wishes to be known by."

Lamber (1973, 781) notes on the practice in the England:

Men sometimes adopted their wives' surnames, and it was common for children of prominent or wealthy women to adopt their mother's surname.

#### No name right (-1960)

Spencer (1973, 677) writes that courts have consistently held that a woman automatically assumes husband's surname by operation of law, not merely as a matter of custom. For starters, Spencer (1973, p.667) cites

<sup>\*237</sup> Tex. Cr. R. 36, 38 S.W. 801 (1897)

<sup>\*3114</sup> Ohio App. 497, 177 N.E.2d 616 (1961)

NY Court of Appeals *Chapman v Phoenix National Bank No.85 NY (1881)* as the first important American case of not allowing woman's name rights:

. . . a woman, upon marriage, takes her husband's surname. That becomes her legal name, and she ceases to be known by her maiden name. ...(snip)... Her maiden name is absolutely lost, and she ceases to be known thereby.

In People ex rel. Rago v Lipsky (1941), the court sites Freeman and Chapman () that declares (Spencer 1973, p.671)

. . . it is well settled by common-law principles and immemorial custom that a woman upon marriage abandons her maiden name and takes her husband's surname.  $^{*4}$ 

However, the relationship between the law and the custom, where traditionally the law demands a woman to change the surname and is also accepted as a custom, began to switch in some courts. In Ohio, State ex rel. Bucher v Brower (1941) and State, ex rel. Krupa v. Green (1961), court holds that a woman takes her husband's surname as a matter of custom, rather than automatic operation of law.

In Forbush v. Wallace (Sep 28, 1971), Alabama District Court concludes that it is not a constitutional right for a woman to use her maiden name in the driver's license \*5, but it no longer refers it as an operation of law.

#### After 1971

After Forbush v. Wallace (Sep 28, 1971), the courts started to lean towards affirmative to woman's name right by referencing the common law stating anyone can chooses own name without a legal proceeding. This is under the pretext that the common law regarded the Christian name, with the sanction of baptism behind it, as all important (Rice v. Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services, 386 So. 2d 844 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1980)).

Legal experts started to question the restrictions imposed by statutes despite the common law name rights, as in Bysiewicz and MacDonnell (1972, 603):

The absence of name change requirement at the time of marriage should invalidate any other effort to compel adoption of the husband's surname. If the state wishes the two parties to take husband's surname at marriage, it can so provide; the only one that has done so is Hawaii.\*6

As stated in Matter of Halligan (1974),

Under the common law a person may change his or her name at will so long as there is no fraud, misrepresentation or interference with the rights of others (Smith v. United States Cas. Co., 197 N.Y. 420, 428-429; Matter of Wing, 4 Misc.2d 840). ... Under common law the change is accomplished by usage or habit.

Spencer (1973) notes that a challenge by woman's name right arises from incidental and accidental category where convenience of administrative procedure, such as court notification using husband's surname, is at issue, and the direct attack on marital surname rule category where the legal surname of woman is at issue, such as voter registration under the woman's maiden name.

The opinion also notes the divide in the legal decisions<sup>\*7</sup>.

<sup>\*4</sup>This is not an exact quote: Under common law principles and immemorial custom, upon marriage, woman abandons her maiden name and takes husband's surname, with which is used her own given name.

<sup>\*5. . . &</sup>quot;plaintiff's motion" (that the Alabama Department of Public Safety's regulation that requires a married woman to use her husband's surname in obtaining a driver's license in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution) " ... is hereby denied."

 $<sup>^{*6}</sup>$ Hawaii  $\S$  574-a: Every married woman shall adopt her husband's surname as a family name.

<sup>\*7&</sup>quot;A few courts have enunciated a common law rule that a woman, upon her marriage, takes her husband's surname by operation of law [Chapman v. Phoenix National Bank, 85 N.Y. 437 (1881); People ex rel. Rago v. Lipsky, 327 Ill. App. 63, 63 N.E.2d 462 (1945), Forbush v. Wallace, 341 F. Supp. 217 (N.D. Ala. 1971)]. However, the most comprehensive examination of the common law rule regarding a woman's surname upon marriage is Stuart v. Board of Supervisors of Elections (1972) [266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223, 225 (1972)], wherein the Court stated: 'What constitutes the correct legal name of a married woman

The opinion on the trends in 1970's notes that the *Stuart* case in 1972 marks the turnaround. It writes: "Of the recent decisions regarding a married woman's surname, the *Stuart* case is the better reasoned one. In it, the Court:"

. . . Recognized the common law right of any person, absent a statute to the contrary, . . . if a married woman could lawfully adopt an assumed name without legal proceedings, the Maryland law manifestly permitted a married woman to retain her birth given name by the same procedure of consistent, nonfraudulent use following her marriage.

Stuart's court also notes that the law does not automatically establish majority choice of using husband's surname as a law\*8.

Finally, the opinion decides on the Oklahoma case:\*9

The name that a woman assumes by marriage not being governed by statutory provisions, and the allowance by the exclusionary section of the Change of Name Act (viz., 1637, supra) of a change of name by marriage without formal court proceedings, permit a married woman to retain her maiden surname, or to assume her husband's surname and retain all or as much of her maiden name as she chooses.

Opinions of judges are found in https://law.justia.com/ or https://casetext.com/case/. Another great resource is https://commonlaw.name/ where legal cases of name changes are collected for each state.

### Creating event date file

```
LFlist <- lapply(list(
   paste0(pathsave, "Augustine1997Footnote18.tex")
   , paste0(pathsave, "MacDougallFootnote9.prn")
   , paste0(pathsave, "FirstYearAppearingInMacDougallFootnote9.prn")
   ), fread)
names(LFlist) <- c("Augustine", "MacDougall", "MacDougallYear")
setnames(LFlist[[2]], "reference", "ref")</pre>
```

MacDougall (1985, footnote9) and Augustine-Adams (1997, footnote18) list the legal cases in each state that women's name right was acknowledged for the first time in the judicial system.

```
sy <- merge(LFlist[[1]][, .(state, year, case, ref)], LFlist[[2]][,
    .(state, year, case, ref)],
by = c("state", "case"), all = T, suffixes = c(".A", ".M"))
setkey(sy, state, year.A, year.M)</pre>
```

Show code

In below, I add exerpts from various legal documents.

Click here to see code

under common law principles is a question which has occasioned a sharp split of authorities..."

<sup>\*8</sup>That a married woman's surname does not become that of her husband where . . . she evidences a clear intent to consistently and nonfraudulently use her birth given name subsequent to her marriage. Thus . . . the mere fact of the marriage does not, as a matter of law, operate to establish the custom and tradition of the majority as a rule of law binding upon all. (p. 227)

<sup>\*9&</sup>quot;With regard to voluntary name change, prior to the effective date of the Change of Name Act, supra, Oklahoma followed the common law rule stated in Syllabus 1 by the Court in *Huff v. State Election Board (1934)* [168 Okl. 277, 32 P.2d 920, 93 A.L.R. 906 (1934)]. A person may, at common law, change his or her name in good faith and for an honest purpose, by adopting a new name and transacting his or her business and holding himself or herself out under the new name, with the acquiescence and recognition of his or her friends and acquaintances, and this right is not abrogated by the Constitution or any statute of this state. The name that a woman assumes by marriage not being governed by statutory provisions, and the allowance by the exclusionary section of the Change of Name Act (viz., 1637, supra) of a change of name by marriage without formal court proceedings, permit a married woman to retain her maiden surname, or to assume her husband's surname and retain all or as much of her maiden name as she chooses."

```
sy[grepl("Alab", state), ref.M := paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/state-v-taylo
sy[grepl("Ari", state) & grepl("Laks", case), ref.M := paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.c
sy[grepl("Ari", state) & grepl("Mal", case), ref.M := paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com
sy[grepl("Ark", state) & grepl("Apr", ref.M), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/391/1395/149
sy[grepl("Ark", state) & grepl("Pamela", ref.M), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/391/1395/149
sy[grepl("Ark", state) & grepl("Walk", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/391/1395/149
sy[grepl("Cal", state), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[Seiro added: Judge noted, in a petition for a divorce, a woman has the right to use he
sy[grepl("Cal", state) & grepl("Wea", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/weathers-v-superior-court#:~:text=Accordingly
sy[grepl("Cal", state) & grepl("Wea", case), ref.A :=
 paste(ref.A, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/weathers-v-superior-court#:~:text=the%20issue
sy[grepl("Conn", state) & grepl("Custer", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/custer-v-bonadies) Since the plaintiff marrie-
sy[grepl("Dist", state) & grepl("Brown", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/brown-v-brown-423#:~:text=The%20case%20is%20r
sy[grepl("Flor", state) & grepl("Mar", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/marshall-v-state-133) Appellant, a married wo
sy[grepl("Fl", state) & grepl("Dav", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/davis-v-roos#:~:text=The%20decision%20in%20Fo
sy[grepl("Flo", state) & grepl("Hoop", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-hooper-2#p403:~:text=The%20right%20of%2
sy[grepl("Ge", state) & grepl("Att", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://commonlaw.name/GA-AG-Opinion-75-49.pdf) it is my official opini
sy[grepl("Ha", state) & grepl("Stat", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/466/714/2360
sy[grepl("Ill", state) & grepl("695", ref.M), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://ag.state.il.us/opinions/1974/S-695.pdf) It should be noted that
sy[grepl("Ill", state) & grepl("711", ref.M), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://ag.state.il.us/opinions/1974/S-711.pdf) if a woman upon marriag
sy[grepl("Ind", state) & grepl("Hau", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-hauptly) A woman has a common law righ
sy[grepl("Io", state) & grepl("1980", ref.M), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/AGO/1043259.pdf) This is a
sy[grepl("Jer", state) & grepl("Lawre", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:]() Plaintiff appeals from the denial of her application for a change of
sy[grepl("Mai", state) & grepl("Reben", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/maine/supreme-court/1975/342-a-2d-688-0.html
sy[grepl("Mary", state) & grepl("Klein", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/klein-v-klein-114#:~:text=Q.%20144%20(1958).-
####sy <- rbind(sy, data.table(state = "Maryland", year.M = 1972, case = "Stuart v Board of Elections",
#### ref.M = "266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (Md. 1972) [[This case is added by Seiro:](https://casetext.co.
sy[grepl("Mary", state) & grepl("Stu.*Boa", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/stuart-v-board-of-elections#:~:text=a%20woman
sy[grepl("Mass", state) & grepl("Lowe", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/massachusetts/supreme-court/1977/373-mass-
sy[grepl("Michi", state) & grepl("Pio", case), ref.M :=
 sy[grepl("Miss", state) & grepl("Natale", case), ref.M :=
 paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/missouri/court-of-appeals/1975/35880-0.htm
```

```
sy[grepl("Neb", state) & grepl("Simm", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/nebraska/supreme-court/1978/41739-1.html)
sy[grepl("New Hamp", state) & grepl("Mosk", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/moskowitz-v-moskowitz-12) The court affirms i
sy[grepl("New Yor", state) & grepl("Halli", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/matter-of-halligan-3) [Supreme Court's requir
sy[grepl("N.*Car", state) & grepl("Moh", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-mohlman-1) Court of Appeals denied the
sy[grepl("N.?Ca", state) & grepl("Brie", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/523/494/2298
sy[grepl("N.*Ca", state) & grepl("Brie", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/obrien-v-tilson#:~:text=3.-,North%20Carolina%
sy[grepl("Ok", state) & grepl("Op", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/sneed-v-sneed-3?__cf_chl_tk=GALYvgWoul0U8HLvq
sy[grepl("Ok", state) & grepl("Snee", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/sneed-v-sneed-3?__cf_chl_tk=GALYvgWoul0U8HLvq
sy[grepl("Oh", state) & grepl("Ball", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/ball-v-brown) n Ball v. Brown, 450 F. Supp. 4
sy[grepl("Rh", state) & grepl("Tra", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/traugott-v-petit) Woman appealed from a judgm
sy[grepl("^Vir", state) & grepl("Strik", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-strikwerda-and-antell#:~:text=should%20
sy[grepl("^Vir", state) & grepl("Mill", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-change-of-name-of-miller#:~:text=and%20
sy[grepl("Was", state) & grepl("Doe", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/doe-v-dunning#:~:text=the%20court%20saw-,%22n
sy[grepl("Wis", state) & grepl("Kru", case), ref.M :=
  paste(ref.M, "[[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/in-re-petition-of-kruzel) the issue presented
#### adding cases
sy <- rbind(sy, data.table(state = "New York", year.M = 1974, case = "Matter of Halligan",
   ref.M = "266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (Md. 1972) [[This case is added by Seiro:](https://casetext.com/c
sy <- rbind(sy, data.table(state = "South Dakota", year.M = 1975, case = "Ogle v. Cir. Ct., Tenth (Now )
 ref.M = "227 N.W.2d 621 (S.D. 1975) [[Seiro added:](https://casetext.com/case/ogle-v-cir-ct-tenth-now
  use.names = T, fill = T)
sy <- rbind(sy, data.table(state = "Texas", year.M = 1974, case = "Op. Att'y Gen. H-432 (October 25, 19
 ref.M = " [[Seiro added, page 4:](https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/opinion-fi
setkey(sy, state, year.A, year.M)
sy <- sy[state != "" & (year.M >= 1972 | year.A >= 1972), .(state, case, year.A, year.M, ref.A, ref.M)]
library(kableExtra)
# all cases
kbt <- kbl(sy, align = "lcccll",</pre>
  caption = "States with their first years in legal decisions : MacDougall and Augustine-Adams",
  format = "html")
kbt <- kable_styling(kbt, fixed_thead = T, full_width = F, position = "left")
kbt <- row_spec(kbt, seq(1, nrow(sy), 2), background="lightgray")</pre>
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = grep("case", colnames(sy)), width = "1.2cm")
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 1, width = "2cm")</pre>
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = grep("year.A", colnames(sy)), width = "1.0cm")
kbt <- column spec(kbt, column = grep("year.M", colnames(sy)), width = "1.0cm")
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = grep("ref.A", colnames(sy)), width = "5.5cm")</pre>
column_spec(kbt, column = grep("ref.M", colnames(sy)), width = "5.5cm")
```

States with their first years in legal decisions: MacDougall and Augustine-Adams state case year.A year.M ref.A ref.MAlabama State v. Taylor 1982 1982 415 So. 2d 1043, 1047 415 So. 2d 1043 (Ala. 1982) [Seiro added: a married woman's right to register to vote in her maiden name. ...(snip)... The Board of Registrars filed an answer ...(snip)... the legal name of a married woman is her husband's surname. ...(snip)... The trial judge held a hearing ...(snip)... The order directed the board to register Taylor and Theriot in their maiden surnames. ...(snip)... The judgment of the trial court is due to be affirmed. Alaska Op. Att'y. Gen. NA1976 NAAlaska (May 5, 1976) Arizona Laks v. Laks NA1975 NA25 Ariz. App. 58, 540 P.2d 1277 (1975) [Seiro added: Divorced mother's right to rename children as MotherMaidenName-FatherSurName was rejected by the court. [Seiro added: Appellant ... had, without appellee's consent, changed the surname of the three minor children ... to that of 'Eliot-Laks', Eliot being her maiden name. ...(snip)... the trial court found it was not in the best interest of the children to effectuate the name change. Primrock v. Wilson, 55 Ariz. 192, 100 P.2d 180 (1940). Affirmed.] Arizona Malone v. Sullivan 1980 1980

605 P.2d 447

124 Ariz. 469, 605 P.2d 447 (1980) [Seiro added: Did the commissioner abuse his discretion in refusing to consider petitioner's petition for dissolution of marriage because the petition was filed in petitioner's maiden or paternal surname rather than in her husband's surname? ...(snip)... Respondent's refusal to grant petitioner's petition solely because it was filed under her maiden surname was error.]

Arkansas Op. Att'y Gen. NA 1974

Ark. No. 74-123 (Oct. 8, 1974) [Seiro added: Under Arkansas law a married woman may retain her maiden name, and if Pamela Walker did not change her name when she married she was entitled to be registered under her maiden name. https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/391/1395/1494569/] [Seiro added:]

Arkansas

Op. Att'y Gen.

NA

NA

1974

NA

Ark. No. 74-75 (April 19, 1974) [Seiro added: an opinion from the Attorney General of Arkansas, rendered in April, 1974, to the effect that 'there is no Arkansas law which automatically changes a woman's name to that of her husband upon marriage.']

Arkansas

Walker v. Jackson

NA

1975

NA

391 F. Supp. 1395 (E.D. Ark. 1975) [Seiro added: Amendment 51 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, which amendment sets up a system of permanent registration for Arkansas voters ...(snip)... in the case of a woman her name as it appears on the affidavit must be prefixed by the word 'Miss' or 'Mrs.' so as to reflect her current or past marital status. There is no comparable requirement for male registrants. Plaintiffs claim that the section, as written and applied, is violative of the Ninth, Fourteenth and Nineteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. ...(snip)... We hold, therefore, that the prefix requirement violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; ...(snip)... 'The Court finds that plaintiffs are entitled under Arkansas law to use whatever name they care to use as long as the use is not for fraudulent purposes.' As has been seen, that is also the view of the Attorney General of Arkansas, and it is also the view of this full Court.]

California

Op. Atty Gen.

NA

1974

NA

Cal. (March 12, 1974) [Seiro added: Judge noted, in a petition for a divorce, a woman has the right to use her maiden name to file the case.]

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California
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Weathers v. Superior Court

1976

1976

126 Cal. Rptr. 547 Ct. App. [Seiro added: the right of a wife who during marriage used her maiden name to petition for a dissolution of marriage in that name rather than the surname of her husband. We conclude that the wife has the right so to file her petition. ...(snip)... Accordingly, when a woman marries, she may choose to be known by the surname of her husband or by her maiden surname. ...(snip)... Although married, she may maintain an action in court using the name by which she was known prior to marriage. (Cherrigan v. City etc. of San Francisco, 262 Cal.App.2d 643, 653, June 3, 1968])

54 Cal. App. 3d 286, 126 Cal. Rptr. 547 (1976) [Seiro added: Judge noted, in a petition for a divorce, a woman has the right to use her maiden name to file the case.] [Seiro added: Accordingly, when a woman marries, she may choose to be known by the surname of her husband or by her maiden surname. ... (snip) ... The trial court thus exceeded its jurisdiction in refusing to entertain wife's petition for dissolution of marriage solely because the petition was filed in wife's maiden name.]

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Connecticut
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Op. Att'y Gen.

NA

1975

NA

Conn. (Jan. 23, 1975)

Connecticut

Custer v. Bonadies

1974

1974

318 A.2d 639 Conn. Super. Ct.

30 Conn. Supp. 385, 318 A.2d 639 (Super. Ct. 1974) [Seiro added: Since the plaintiff married women established a clear legal right to register to vote under their maiden names, which they consistently use, and since no other adequate remedy exists, they are entitled to relief by mandamus.]

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Delaware
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Op. Att'y Gen.
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NA

1974

NA

Del. (Aug. 7, 1974)

District of Columbia

Op. Corp. Counsel D.C.

NA

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1975
NA
1975
District of Columbia
Brown v. Brown
1977
1978
384 A.2d 632, 632
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382 A.2d 1038 (D.C. 1978), vacating 384 A.2d 632 (D.C. 1977) [Seiro added:] In this appeal from a judgment of divorce, appellant claims that the trial court erred in denying her request that her maiden name be restored. We agree and remand to the trial court with directions that appellant's maiden name be restored.]

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Florida
1976 Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1976
NA
Fla. 076-66 (March 24, 1976)
Florida
Davis v. Roos
NA
1976
NA
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326 So. 2d 226 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1976) [Seiro added: The decision in Forbush was squarely bottomed upon the court's observation that: 'Alabama has adopted the common law rule that upon marriage the wife by operation of law takes the husband's surname.' (Emphasis supplied.) Such may well be the common law as construed by the Alabama courts, however, after reviewing the extensive authorities on the subject, we conclude that the common law of England on July 4, 1776, did not by operation of law engraft the husband's surname upon the wife. In Florida there is not statute or judicial decision requiring a woman to take her husband's surname upon marriage. Although it is the general custom for a woman to change her name upon marriage to that of the husband, the law does not compel her to do so.]

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Florida
In re Hooper
NA
1983
NA
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436 So. 2d 401 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1983) [Seiro added: The right of a woman to her birth-given name, notwithstanding marriage, is established under Florida law. See Marshall v. State, 301 So.2d 477 (Fla. 1st DCA 1974); Davis v. Roos, 326 So.2d 226 (Fla. 3d DCA 1976). See also Egner v. Egner, 133 N.J. Super. 403, 337 A.2d 46 (N.J. 1975). ]

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Florida
  Pilch v. Pilch
  NA
  1984
  NA
  447 So. 2d 989 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1984)
  Florida
  Marshall v. State
  1974
  1974
  301 So. 2d 477 Fla. Dist. Ct. App.
  301 So. 2d 477 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1974) [Seiro added: Appellant, a married woman, filed a petition with
the Leon County Circuit Court seeking to establish her maiden or birth name as her legal name even though
she continued her marriage with her husband. There is nothing in Florida Statutes, § 62.031 which
prohibits a married woman from establishing her birth name as her legal name even though her marriage
relationship continues.]
  Florida
  FLA. ATr'y GEN. ANN. REP.
  1976
  NA
  §076-66 at 120
  NA
  Georgia
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1975
  NA
  Ga. No. 75-49 (June 3, 1975) [Seiro added: it is my official opinion that a married woman's surname is
that of her husband but that she may change her name for all legal purposes, including issuance of a driver's
license, by judicial decree or by consistent usage of another name without resort to judicial proceedings.
  Georgia
  Ga. Code Ann.
  NA
  1985
  NA
  §19-3-33.1 (Supp. 1985)
  Hawaii
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Hawaii Rev. Stat.

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NA
1976
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NA

§574-1 (1976) [Seiro added: Until 1975, it was required that every married woman shall adopt her husband's name as a 'family name.' H.R.S. § 574-1 (1968). This was changed in 1975 to allow a wife to retain her maiden name, or a husband to take his wife's surname, or either party to choose a hyphenated combination of both surnames, in either order. L.1975, ch. 114, § 1.]

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Hawaii
Jech v. Burch
NA
1979
NA
466 F. Supp. 714 (D. Hawaii 1979)
Illinois
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1974
NA
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Ill. No. S-711 (Feb. 25, 1974) [Seiro added: if a woman upon marriage does not assume her husband's surname but retains her maiden name, she is not required to notify the Secretary of State.]

Illinois

Op. Att'y Gen.

NA

1974

NA

Ill. S-695 (Feb. 13, 1974), both opinions indicating that Illinois does not follow Rago v. Lipsky, 327 Ill. App. 63, 63 N.E.2d 642 (1945) (country's sole case holding that a married woman takes her husband's surname as her "legal" name at common law) [Seiro added: It should be noted that in Illinois there is no statute which requires a woman to adopt assume, or change her own name to her husband's surname upon marriage. ]

Indiana

In re Hauptly

1974

1974

312 N.E.2d 857

262 Ind. 150, 312 N.E.2d 857 (1974) [Seiro added: A woman has a common law right to do business in a name other than her married name. ... a person may change his name at will without any legal proceedings by merely adopting another name. The mere speculation by the State that the appellant's decision to change her name might cause embarrassment to her child was not sufficient to justify the trial court's denial of the appellant's petition for a name change.]

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Iowa
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1980
  NA
  Iowa (March 25, 1980) [Seiro added: This is about hyphened names which the Assistant Attorney General
concurs to. ]
  Iowa
  Iowa Code Ann.
  NA
  1981
  NA
  §595.5 (West 1981)
  Kansas
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1973
  NA
  Kan. No. 73-47 (Feb. 1, 1973) following Gallop v. Shanahan No. 120, 456 (Dist. Ct. Shawnee County,
Nov. 2, 1972), noted in Note, Constitutional Law-Equal Protection and Right of Suffrage Prohibits State
From Cancelling Voter Registration of Newly Married Woman-Women Upon Marriage Do Not Necessarily
Abandon Maiden Name, 21 U. Kan. L. Rev. 588 (1972-73)
  Kentucky
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  Ky. No. 74-902 (Dec. 26, 1974)
  Kentucky
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  Ky. No. 74-349 (May 14, 1974)
  Kentucky
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
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1977
  NA
  Ky. No. 77-334 (May 23, 1977)
  Kentucky
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1977
  NA
  Ky. No. 77-239 (April 13, 1977)
  Kentucky
  Memorandum Ky. Dept. Transportation
  NA
  1981
  NA
  (Oct. 30, 1981) (Kentucky Department of Transportation relinquishes position that a married woman must
obtain driver's license in her husband's surname unless she has a court-ordered name "change")
  Louisiana
  Boothe v. Papale
  NA
  1975
  NA
  No. 74-939 (E.D. La. Feb. 12, 1975) (Order granting plaintiffs Motion for Summary Judgment) [Seiro
added: Affirms that, in Lousiana, it is customary for women to use the maiden name after marriage. (?, fn
54)
  Louisiana
  Pugh v. Theall
  NA
  1977
  NA
  342 So. 2d 274 (La. Ct. App. 1977), cert. denied 344 So. 2d 1055 (La. 1977) [Seiro added: Affirms that,
in Lousiana, it is customary for women to use the maiden name after marriage. https://www.casemine.com
/judgement/us/591494baadd7b049345c1e1e]
  Louisiana
  La. Rev. Stat. Ann.
  NA
  1984
  NA
  §40:34.A.(1)(a)(iii) (West 1984) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
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Maine
Op. Atty. Gen.
NA
1974
NA
Me. (April 12, 1974)
Maine
In re Reben
NA
1975
NA

342 A.2d 688 (Me. 1975) [Seiro added: the appellant first alleges that she has a right under the common law to choose any name she wishes, unless motivated by a fraudulent purpose, and that as the Judge of Probate found no fraudulent purpose, his denial of her petition was an abuse of discretion. ... (snip) ... We sustain her appeal. ... (snip) ... This opinion, also, will leave many questions unanswered, foremost, probably, the question whether a woman takes the surname of her husband at marriage by operation of law. Traditionally this has been the almost unanimous practice in this state, yet no statute has required it and no decision of this Court has ever affirmed it as being mandated by the common law.]

Maine Op. Att'y Gen. NA1978 NA Me. (April 4, 1978) Maine ME. Op. ATr'Y GEN. 1978 NAWL 33940 Me.A.G. NAMaryland Op. Att'y Gen. NA1972 NA Md. (Nov. 30, 1972) Maryland

Op. Att'y Gen.

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NA
1974
NA
Md. (May 7, 1974)
Maryland
Op. Atty. Gen.
NA
1974
NA
Md.(March 30, 1974)
Maryland
Klein v. Klein
NA
1977
NA
```

36 Md. App. 177, 373 A.2d 86 (Ct. Spec. App. 1977) [Seiro added: That Maryland follows the common law with respect to a name change is no longer open to question. Hardy v. Hardy, 269 Md. 412, 306 A.2d 244 (1973); Stuart v. Board of Supervisors, 266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (1972); Romans v. State, 178 Md. 588, 16 A.2d 642 (1940); Hall v. Hall, supra. ...(snip)... We hold that it is an abuse of discretion to deny a woman who requests it at the time of divorce the restoration of her prenuptial name, absent illegal, fraudulent, or immoral purposes.]

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Maryland
Goldin v. Goldin
NA
1981
NA
48 Md. App. 154, 426 A.2d 410 (Ct. Spec. App. 1981)
Maryland
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1983
NA
Md. (Jan. 20, 1983)
Maryland
Stuart v. Board of Supervisors
1972
1972
295 A.2d 223
```

266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (1972), noted in the right of a married woman to use her birth-given surname for voter registration, 32 Md. L. Rev. 409 (1973) [Seiro added: a woman may retain her birth name after marriage merely by consistently and nonfraudulently using it.]

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Massachusetts
Mass. Ann.
NΑ
1983
NA
Laws ch. 46 §1D (Law. Co-op. Supp. 1983)
Massachusetts
MAss. Op. ATr'y GEN.
1974
NA
Number 5 at 48
NA
Massachusetts
Secretary of the Commonwealth v. City Clerk of Lowell
1977
1977
366 N.E.2d 717
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373 Mass. 178, 366 N.E.2d 717 (1977) [Seiro added: In 1974 the Attorney General issued three opinions with respect to the recording and use of names. Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 105 (1974). Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 48 (1974). Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 72 (1974). Those opinions asserted and elaborated a common law principle that people may select or change their names freely if there is no fraudulent intent. The defendants, city and town clerks, refused to follow those opinions ...(snip)... We hold that the Attorney General is right and the city and town clerks are wrong, and order that the rights of the parties be declared accordingly. ...(snip)... A woman, regardless of her marital status, may change her name at will, without resorting to legal proceedings, provided it is done for an honest purpose. [187-189]]

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Michigan
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1974
NA
Mich. No. 4834 (Oct. 2, 1974)
Michigan
Piotrowski v. Piotrowski
NA
1976
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NA

71 Mich. App. 213, 247 N.W.2d 354 (1976) [Seiro added: There is no requirement that any person go through the courts to establish a legal change of name. ...(snip)... The circumstance that there is a minor child is not enough to support denial of the request. ...(znip)... Reversed and remanded for a decree to restore to plaintiff her maiden name.

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Michigan
Mich. Comp. Laws Ann.
NA
1980
NA
§333.2824(1) (West 1980) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
Michigan
Wood v. Detroit Edison
NA
1980
NA
409 Mich. 279, 294 N.W.2d 571 (1980)
Michigan
Jones v. Sanilac County Road Comm'n
NA
1983
NA
128 Mich. App. 569, 342 N.W.2d 532 (1983)
Minnesota
Minn. Stat. Ann.
NA
1985
NA
§517.08 (West Supp. 1985)
Missouri
In re Natale
NA
1975
NA
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527 S.W.2d 402 (Mo. Ct. App. 1975) [Seiro added: On August 21, 1973, the court entered its order and judgment denying the Petition for Change of Name on the ground that 'Petitioner is lawfully married and resides with her legal spouse' and 'that under such circumstances the granting of said petition could be detrimental to others in the future.' The court's order did not specify who the 'others' were, but at the hearing, the court had commented, 'Where a married couple who do have and in the future are likely to have many obligations for which they are liable, I can see circumstances that would be detrimental . . .'

It appears, therefore, that the trial court found that the fact of a woman's ongoing marriage is prima facie evidence of detriment to creditors sufficient to deny her petition for change of name. ...(snip)... Our research had disclosed no appellate decision in any state which affirmed the trial court's denial of a married woman's name change petition on the ground of an ongoing marriage. Petition of Hauptly, 312 N.E.2d 857 (Ind.1974); Marshall v. State, 301 So. 2d 477 (Fla.App.1974); Application of Halligan, 46 A.D.2d 170, 361 N.Y.S.2d 458 (1974); Application of Lawrence, 133 N.J.Super. 408, 337 A.2d 49 (Super.Ct.App. Div.1975). ...(snip)... The judgment is reversed and the trial court directed to issue its order changing petitioner's name as prayed.

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Missouri
Johnson v. Pacific Intermountain Expr. Co.
NA
1983
NA
662 S.W.2d 237 (Mo. 1983), cert denied 104 S. Ct. 2349 (1984)
Missouri
Miller v. Miller
NA
1984
NA
670 S.W.2d 591 (Mo. Ct. App. 1984)
Montana
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1974
NA
Mon. (May 1, 1974)
Montana
In re Natale
1975
NA
527 S.W.2d 402, 404-05 Mo. Ct. App.
NA
Nebraska
Neb. Rev. Stat.
NA
1984
§71-640.01 (1984) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
Nebraska
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Simmons v. O'Brien
1978
1978
272 N.W.2d 273
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201 Neb. 778, 272 N.W.2d 273 (1978) [Seiro added: District Court denying a decree of dissolution. We reverse and remand with directions. The sole and only issue is whether the District Court erred in refusing to grant a decree of dissolution on the ground that it lacked jurisdiction because of the form of name used in the petition for dissolution. ...(snip)... At common law a married woman could legally bear a different name from her husband. The King v. The Inhabitants of St. Faith's Newton (1823), 3 Dowling & Ryland's Reports 348, Kruzel v. Podell, 67 Wis.2d 138, 226 N.W.2d 458.]

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New Hampshire
Moskowitz v. Moskowitz
NA
1978
NA
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118 N.H. 199, 385 A.2d 120 (1978) [Seiro added: The court affirms its prior decree wherein it found as a fact that it would not be in the best interest of the family unit to permit said change of name. The recommendation was approved by Perkins, J (of probate court, added by seiro). ...(snip)... We (NH Supreme Court, added by Seiro) do not suggest that every petition for a change of name be granted, but rather hold that some substantial reason must exist for denying such a petition. The mere fact that there are children is not sufficient ground. ...(snip)... Remanded.]

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New Hampshire
N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann.
NA
1983
NA
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§126.6-a (1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth) [Seiro added: Until 1975, it was required that every married woman shall adopt her husband's name as a 'family name.' H.R.S. § 574-1 (1968). This was changed in 1975 to allow a wife to retain her maiden name, or a husband to take his wife's surname, or either party to choose a hyphenated combination of both surnames, in either order. L.1975, ch. 114, § 1.]

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New Jersey
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1975
NA
N.J. No. 20-1975 (Aug. 26, 1975)
New Jersey
In re Lawrence
1975
1975
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337 A.2d 49, 51 N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div.
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133 N.J. Super. 408, 337 A.2d 49 (1975) [Seiro added: Plaintiff appeals from the denial of her application for a change of name under N.J.S.A. 2A:52-1 from her married to her maiden name...(snip)... The trial judge, in an opinion published in 128 N.J. Super. 312 (Law Div. 1974), concluded: This court has great concern for the stability of the family and the marriage relationship. ...(snip)... an abuse of the trial judge's discretion. Reversed and remanded for entry of judgment in accordance herewith.

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New York
Matter of Halligan
NA
1974
NA
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266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (Md. 1972) [This case is added by Seiro: Supreme Court's requirement that petitioner show 'a compelling reason' for the change, improperly imposed a burden of persuasion upon her beyond that required by the statute...No reasonable objection appearing, appellant is entitled to her requested order declaring that she shall be known by her maiden name of Ryan, and no other.]

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New York
N.Y. Civ. Rights Law
NA
1985
NA
§§64, 65 (McKinney Supp. 1985)
New York
N.Y. Dom. Rel. Law
NA
1985
NA
§§14-a(1), 15(1), 240-a (McKinney Supp. 1985)
New York
In re Halligan
1974
1974
361 N.Y.S.2d 458 App. Div.
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46 A.D.2d 170, 361 N.Y.S.2d 458 (App. Div. 1974) [Seiro added: Supreme Court's requirement that petitioner show 'a compelling reason' for the change, improperly imposed a burden of persuasion upon her beyond that required by the statute. ...(snip)... The order should be reversed and the petition granted.]

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North Carolina
O'Brien v. Tilson
NA
1981
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NA

1975 NA

523 F. Supp. 494 (E.D.N.C. 1981) [Seiro added: North Carolina General Statute § 130-50(e) be, and the same is hereby adjudged and declared void and of no force or effect insofar as it precludes plaintiffs from recording the surnames of their choice on the birth certificates of their children called for under N.C.G.S. § 130-50(e).]

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North Carolina
  N.C. Gen.
  NA
  1983
  NA
  Stat. §130-A-101(c) (Supp. 1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
  North Carolina
  In re Mohlman
  1975
  1975
  216 S.E.2d 147 N.C. Ct. App.
  26 N.C. App. 220, 216 S.E.2d 147 (1975) [Seiro added: Court of Appeals denied the petition of a married
woman to use her maiden name. ..(snip)... To the extent that the court (of appeals), in denying relief and
dismissing the petition, based its action upon its finding that the relief sought is unnecessary, it did so
erroneously.
  North Dakota
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  N.D. (March 20, 1974)
  Ohio
  Ball v. Brown
  1977
  1977
  450 F. Supp. 4 N.D.
  450 F. Supp. 4 (N.D. Ohio 1977) [Seiro added: n Ball v. Brown, 450 F. Supp. 4, 10 (N.D.Ohio 1977), an
Ohio statute requiring automatic cancellation of a woman's registration form following a change in marital
status was found to violate the federal voting rights statute, 42 U.S.C. § 1971.]
  Oklahoma
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
```

Okla. (Nov. 14, 1975) [Seiro added: *Opinion No. 75-281 (1975)*, AG (Ops.Okla.Atty.Gen. Nov. 14, 1975) ... permit a married woman to retain her maiden surname, or to assume her husband's surname and retain all or as much of her maiden name as she chooses.]

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NA
  1978
  NA
  585 P.2d 1363 (Okla. 1978) [Seiro added: the trial court refused to restore Mrs. Sneed's maiden name
because she had a minor child ...(snip)... At common law a married woman was not compelled to adopt her
husband's surname. ... (snip)... Reversed and remanded with directions.]
  Oregon
  Ore. Rev. Stat.
  NA
  1983
  NA
  §106.220 (1983)
  Pennsylvania
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1973
  NA
  Pa. No. 72 (Oct. 25, 1973)
  Pennsylvania
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1973
  NA
  Pa. No. 62 (Aug. 20, 1973)
  Pennsylvania
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  Pa. No. 8 (Jan. 31, 1974)
  Rhode Island
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Oklahoma

Sneed v. Sneed

Traugott v. Petit

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1979
1979
404 A.2d 77
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122 R.I. 60, 404 A.2d 77 (1979) [Seiro added: Woman appealed from a judgment of the Superior Court, Providence and Bristol County, Needham, J., which decreed, *inter alia*, that married women who wished to register a motor vehicle or apply for operator's license must use their Christian names followed by their husband's surnames. Appeal sustained; judgment reversed; case remanded.]

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South Carolina
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  S.C. (Dec. 12, 1974)
  South Carolina
  Op. Atty. Gen.
  NA
  1975
  NA
  S.C. (June 6, 1975)
  South Dakota
  Ogle v. Cir. Ct., Tenth (Now 6th) Jud. Cir
  NA
  1975
  NA
  227 N.W.2d 621 (S.D. 1975) [Seiro added: we conclude that the trial court abused its discretion in denying
the petition without giving petitioner an opportunity to present further evidence.
  South Dakota
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1977
  NA
  S.D. No. 77-31 (April 15, 1977) (interpreting Ogle v. Circuit Court 89 S.D. 18, 227 N.W.2d 621 (1975))
  Tennessee
  Dunn v. Palermo
  NA
  1975
  NA
```

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522 S.W.2d 679 (Tenn. 1975)
  Tennessee
  Tenn. Code Ann.
  NA
  1983
  NA
  §68-3-305 (1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
  Texas
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  Tex. No. H-432 (Oct. 25, 1974)
  Op. Att'y Gen. H-432 (October 25, 1974) Re: Whether a woman is required to assume her husband's
surname as her own
  NA
  1974
  NA
  [Seiro added, page 4: under this statute a woman retained her common law right to choose at marriage
either to keep her name prior to marriage or to assume her husband's surname.]
  Texas
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1980
  NA
  Tex. No. MW-225 (Aug. 21, 1980) (says that a married woman may vote under a hyphenated last name,
of her "maiden name" and her husband's name)
  Vermont
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1974
  NA
  Vt. No. 179 (Feb. 4, 1974)
  Virginia
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
```

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1973
  NA
  Va. (June 6, 1973) (re voting)
  Virginia
  In re Strikwerda
  1975
  1975
  220 S.E.2d 245
  216 Va. 470, 220 S.E.2d 245 (1975) [Seiro added: Since husband supports wife's petition, there is little
likelihood that name change would have disruptive effect on the family, and it was abuse of discretion to
deny petition after finding that it was not filed for illegal, fraudulent or immoral purpose. ...(snip)... Reversed
and remanded.
  Virginia
  In re Miller
  1978
  1978
  243 S.E.2d 464
  218 Va. 939, 243 S.E.2d 464 (1978) [Seiro added: Married woman entitled to resume maiden name under
common law as applied to petitions under Code Sec. 8-577.1 (now with changes Sec. 8.01-217).]
  Washington
  Doe v. Dunning
  NA
  1976
  NA
  87 Wash. 2d 50, 549 P.2d 1 (1976) [Seiro added: no legal impediment which would prevent married parents
from giving the child the mother's surname.]
  West Virginia
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1975
  NA
  W. Va. (April 30, 1975)
  Wisconsin
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  NA
  1977
  NA
  Wis. No. 7-77 (Jan. 31, 1977)
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Wisconsin
Op. Att'y Gen.
NA
1982
NA
Wis. (Sept. 21, 1982)
Wisconsin
Kruzel v. Podell
1975
1975
226 N.W.2d 458,459
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67 Wis. 2d 138, 226 N.W.2d 458 (1975) [Seiro added: the issue presented was 'whether upon marriage a woman is required by law to assume the surname of her husband.' ...(snip)... Since we conclude in this case that Kathleen Rose Harney was never compelled to change her name, nor did she ever in fact adopt the surname Kruzel by usage, her petition, although ostensibly brought under sec. 296.36, Stats. 1971, amounted only to a request for judicial recognition that she had been correct in using her maiden surname in the past.]

Click here to see tables by match results

States with their first years in legal decisions: Matching in MacDougall and Augustine-Adams

state
year.M
case
ref.M
Alabama
1982

State v. Taylor

415 So. 2d 1043 (Ala. 1982) [Seiro added: a married woman's right to register to vote in her maiden name. ...(snip)... The Board of Registrars filed an answer ...(snip)... the legal name of a married woman is her husband's surname. ...(snip)... The trial judge held a hearing ...(snip)... The order directed the board to register Taylor and Theriot in their maiden surnames. ...(snip)... The judgment of the trial court is due to

be affirmed.]
Arizona

1980

Malone v. Sullivan

124 Ariz. 469, 605 P.2d 447 (1980) [Seiro added: Did the commissioner abuse his discretion in refusing to consider petitioner's petition for dissolution of marriage because the petition was filed in petitioner's maiden or paternal surname rather than in her husband's surname? ...(snip)... Respondent's refusal to grant petitioner's petition solely because it was filed under her maiden surname was error.]

California

1976

Weathers v. Superior Court

54 Cal. App. 3d 286, 126 Cal. Rptr. 547 (1976) [Seiro added: Judge noted, in a petition for a divorce, a woman has the right to use her maiden name to file the case.] [Seiro added: Accordingly, when a woman marries, she may choose to be known by the surname of her husband or by her maiden surname. ... (snip) ... The trial court thus exceeded its jurisdiction in refusing to entertain wife's petition for dissolution of marriage solely because the petition was filed in wife's maiden name.]

Connecticut

1974

Custer v. Bonadies

30 Conn. Supp. 385, 318 A.2d 639 (Super. Ct. 1974) [Seiro added: Since the plaintiff married women established a clear legal right to register to vote under their maiden names, which they consistently use, and since no other adequate remedy exists, they are entitled to relief by mandamus.]

District of Columbia

1978

Brown v. Brown

382 A.2d 1038 (D.C. 1978), vacating 384 A.2d 632 (D.C. 1977) [Seiro added:] In this appeal from a judgment of divorce, appellant claims that the trial court erred in denying her request that her maiden name be restored. We agree and remand to the trial court with directions that appellant's maiden name be restored.]

Florida

1974

Marshall v. State

301 So. 2d 477 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1974) [Seiro added: Appellant, a married woman, filed a petition with the Leon County Circuit Court seeking to establish her maiden or birth name as her legal name even though she continued her marriage with her husband. There is nothing in Florida Statutes, § 62.031 which prohibits a married woman from establishing her birth name as her legal name even though her marriage relationship continues.]

Indiana

1974

In re Hauptly

262 Ind. 150, 312 N.E.2d 857 (1974) [Seiro added: A woman has a common law right to do business in a name other than her married name. ... a person may change his name at will without any legal proceedings by merely adopting another name. The mere speculation by the State that the appellant's decision to change her name might cause embarrassment to her child was not sufficient to justify the trial court's denial of the appellant's petition for a name change.]

Maryland

1972

Stuart v. Board of Supervisors

266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (1972), noted in the right of a married woman to use her birth-given surname for voter registration, 32 Md. L. Rev. 409 (1973) [Seiro added: a woman may retain her birth name after marriage merely by consistently and nonfraudulently using it.]

Massachusetts

1977

Secretary of the Commonwealth v. City Clerk of Lowell

373 Mass. 178, 366 N.E.2d 717 (1977) [Seiro added: In 1974 the Attorney General issued three opinions with respect to the recording and use of names. Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 105 (1974). Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 48 (1974). Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 72 (1974). Those opinions asserted and elaborated a common law principle that people may select or change their names freely if there is no fraudulent intent. The defendants, city and town clerks, refused to follow those opinions ...(snip)... We hold that the Attorney General is right and the city and town clerks are wrong, and order that the rights of the parties be declared accordingly. ...(snip)... A woman, regardless of her marital status, may change her name at will, without resorting to legal proceedings, provided it is done for an honest purpose. [187-189]]

Nebraska

1978

Simmons v. O'Brien

201 Neb. 778, 272 N.W.2d 273 (1978) [Seiro added: District Court denying a decree of dissolution. We reverse and remand with directions. The sole and only issue is whether the District Court erred in refusing to grant a decree of dissolution on the ground that it lacked jurisdiction because of the form of name used in the petition for dissolution. ...(snip)... At common law a married woman could legally bear a different name from her husband. The King v. The Inhabitants of St. Faith's Newton (1823), 3 Dowling & Ryland's Reports 348, Kruzel v. Podell, 67 Wis.2d 138, 226 N.W.2d 458.]

New Jersey

1975

In re Lawrence

133 N.J. Super. 408, 337 A.2d 49 (1975) [Seiro added: Plaintiff appeals from the denial of her application for a change of name under N.J.S.A. 2A:52-1 from her married to her maiden name...(snip)... The trial judge, in an opinion published in 128 N.J. Super. 312 (Law Div. 1974), concluded: This court has great concern for the stability of the family and the marriage relationship. ...(snip)... an abuse of the trial judge's discretion. Reversed and remanded for entry of judgment in accordance herewith. ]

New York

1974

In re Halligan

46 A.D.2d 170, 361 N.Y.S.2d 458 (App. Div. 1974) [Seiro added: Supreme Court's requirement that petitioner show 'a compelling reason' for the change, improperly imposed a burden of persuasion upon her beyond that required by the statute. ...(snip)... The order should be reversed and the petition granted.]

North Carolina

1975

In re Mohlman

26 N.C. App. 220, 216 S.E.2d 147 (1975) [Seiro added: Court of Appeals denied the petition of a married woman to use her maiden name. ..(snip)... To the extent that the court (of appeals), in denying relief and dismissing the petition, based its action upon its finding that the relief sought is unnecessary, it did so erroneously.

Ohio

1977

Ball v. Brown

450 F. Supp. 4 (N.D. Ohio 1977) [Seiro added: n Ball v. Brown, 450 F. Supp. 4, 10 (N.D.Ohio 1977), an Ohio statute requiring automatic cancellation of a woman's registration form following a change in marital status was found to violate the federal voting rights statute, 42 U.S.C. § 1971.]

Rhode Island

1979

Traugott v. Petit

122 R.I. 60, 404 A.2d 77 (1979) [Seiro added: Woman appealed from a judgment of the Superior Court, Providence and Bristol County, Needham, J., which decreed, *inter alia*, that married women who wished to register a motor vehicle or apply for operator's license must use their Christian names followed by their husband's surnames. Appeal sustained; judgment reversed; case remanded.]

Virginia

1975

In re Strikwerda

216 Va. 470, 220 S.E.2d 245 (1975) [Seiro added: Since husband supports wife's petition, there is little likelihood that name change would have disruptive effect on the family, and it was abuse of discretion to deny petition after finding that it was not filed for illegal, fraudulent or immoral purpose. ...(snip)... Reversed and remanded.]

Virginia

1978

In re Miller

218 Va. 939, 243 S.E.2d 464 (1978) [Seiro added: Married woman entitled to resume maiden name under common law as applied to petitions under Code Sec. 8-577.1 (now with changes Sec. 8.01-217).]

Wisconsin

1975

Kruzel v. Podell

67 Wis. 2d 138, 226 N.W.2d 458 (1975) [Seiro added: the issue presented was 'whether upon marriage a woman is required by law to assume the surname of her husband.' ...(snip)... Since we conclude in this case that Kathleen Rose Harney was never compelled to change her name, nor did she ever in fact adopt the surname Kruzel by usage, her petition, although ostensibly brought under sec. 296.36, Stats. 1971, amounted only to a request for judicial recognition that she had been correct in using her maiden surname in the past.]

```
# only in MacDougall
sy2 <- sy[!is.na(year.M) & is.na(year.A), .(state, year.M, case, ref.M)]
kbt <- kbl(sy2, align = "rcll",
    caption = "States with their first years in legal decisions: Only in MacDougall",
    format = "html")
kbt <- kable_styling(kbt, fixed_thead = T, full_width = F, position = "left")</pre>
```

```
kbt <- row_spec(kbt, seq(1, nrow(sy2), 2), background="lightgray")
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 3, width = "2cm")
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 1, width = "2cm")
column_spec(kbt, column = 4, width = "10cm")</pre>
```

States with their first years in legal decisions: Only in MacDougall

```
state
year.M
case
ref.M
Alaska
1976
Op. Att'y. Gen.
Alaska (May 5, 1976)
Arizona
1975
Laks v. Laks
```

25 Ariz. App. 58, 540 P.2d 1277 (1975) [Seiro added: Divorced mother's right to rename children as MotherMaidenName-FatherSurName was rejected by the court.] [Seiro added: Appellant ... had, without appellee's consent, changed the surname of the three minor children ... to that of 'Eliot-Laks', Eliot being her maiden name. ...(snip)... the trial court found it was not in the best interest of the children to effectuate the name change. Primrock v. Wilson, 55 Ariz. 192, 100 P.2d 180 (1940). Affirmed.]

Arkansas

1974

Op. Att'y Gen.

Ark. No. 74-123 (Oct. 8, 1974) [Seiro added: Under Arkansas law a married woman may retain her maiden name, and if Pamela Walker did not change her name when she married she was entitled to be registered under her maiden name. https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/391/1395/1494569/] [Seiro added:]

Arkansas

1974

Op. Att'y Gen.

Ark. No. 74-75 (April 19, 1974) [Seiro added: an opinion from the Attorney General of Arkansas, rendered in April, 1974, to the effect that 'there is no Arkansas law which automatically changes a woman's name to that of her husband upon marriage.']

Arkansas

1975

Walker v. Jackson

391 F. Supp. 1395 (E.D. Ark. 1975) [Seiro added: Amendment 51 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, which amendment sets up a system of permanent registration for Arkansas voters ...(snip)... in the case of a woman her name as it appears on the affidavit must be prefixed by the word 'Miss' or 'Mrs.' so as to reflect her current or past marital status. There is no comparable requirement for male

registrants. Plaintiffs claim that the section, as written and applied, is violative of the Ninth, Fourteenth and Nineteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. ...(snip)... We hold, therefore, that the prefix requirement violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; ...(snip)... 'The Court finds that plaintiffs are entitled under Arkansas law to use whatever name they care to use as long as the use is not for fraudulent purposes.' As has been seen, that is also the view of the Attorney General of Arkansas, and it is also the view of this full Court.]

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Cal. (March 12, 1974) [Seiro added: Judge noted, in a petition for a divorce, a woman has the right to
use her maiden name to file the case.]
  Connecticut
  1975
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Conn. (Jan. 23, 1975)
  Delaware
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Del. (Aug. 7, 1974)
  District of Columbia
  1975
  Op. Corp. Counsel D.C.
  1975
  Florida
  1976
  1976 Op. Att'y Gen.
  Fla. 076-66 (March 24, 1976)
  Florida
  1976
  Davis v. Roos
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California

Op. Atty Gen.

1974

326 So. 2d 226 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1976) [Seiro added: The decision in Forbush was squarely bottomed upon the court's observation that: 'Alabama has adopted the common law rule that upon marriage the wife by operation of law takes the husband's surname.' (Emphasis supplied.) Such may well be the common law as construed by the Alabama courts, however, after reviewing the extensive authorities on the subject, we conclude that the common law of England on July 4, 1776, did not by operation of law engraft the husband's surname upon the wife. In Florida there is not statute or judicial decision requiring a woman to take her husband's surname upon marriage. Although it is the general custom for a woman to change her name upon marriage to that of the husband, the law does not compel her to do so.]

Florida 1983 In re Hooper

436 So. 2d 401 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1983) [Seiro added: The right of a woman to her birth-given name, notwithstanding marriage, is established under Florida law. See Marshall v. State, 301 So.2d 477 (Fla. 1st DCA 1974); Davis v. Roos, 326 So.2d 226 (Fla. 3d DCA 1976). See also Egner v. Egner, 133 N.J. Super. 403, 337 A.2d 46 (N.J. 1975).

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Florida
1984
Pilch v. Pilch
447 So. 2d 989 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1984)
Georgia
1975
Op. Att'y Gen.
```

Ga. No. 75-49 (June 3, 1975) [Seiro added: it is my official opinion that a married woman's surname is that of her husband but that she may change her name for all legal purposes, including issuance of a driver's license, by judicial decree or by consistent usage of another name without resort to judicial proceedings.]

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Georgia
1985
Ga. Code Ann.
§19-3-33.1 (Supp. 1985)
Hawaii
1976
Hawaii Rev. Stat.
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§574-1 (1976) [Seiro added: Until 1975, it was required that every married woman shall adopt her husband's name as a 'family name.' H.R.S. § 574-1 (1968). This was changed in 1975 to allow a wife to retain her maiden name, or a husband to take his wife's surname, or either party to choose a hyphenated combination of both surnames, in either order. L.1975, ch. 114, § 1.]

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Hawaii
1979
Jech v. Burch
466 F. Supp. 714 (D. Hawaii 1979)
Illinois
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
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Ill. No. S-711 (Feb. 25, 1974) [Seiro added: if a woman upon marriage does not assume her husband's surname but retains her maiden name, she is not required to notify the Secretary of State. ]

Illinois

1974

Op. Att'y Gen.

Ill. S-695 (Feb. 13, 1974), both opinions indicating that Illinois does not follow Rago v. Lipsky, 327 Ill. App. 63, 63 N.E.2d 642 (1945) (country's sole case holding that a married woman takes her husband's surname as her "legal" name at common law) [Seiro added: It should be noted that in Illinois there is no statute which requires a woman to adopt assume, or change her own name to her husband's surname upon marriage. ]

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Iowa
1980
Op. Att'y Gen.
Iowa (March 25, 1980) [Seiro added: This is about hyphened names which the Assistant Attorney General concurs to.]
Iowa
1981
Iowa Code Ann.
§595.5 (West 1981)
Kansas
1973
Op. Att'y Gen.
Kan. No. 73-47 (Feb. 1, 1973) following Gallop v. Shanahan No. 120, 456 (Dist. Ct. Shawnee County.
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Kan. No. 73-47 (Feb. 1, 1973) following Gallop v. Shanahan No. 120, 456 (Dist. Ct. Shawnee County, Nov. 2, 1972), noted in Note, Constitutional Law-Equal Protection and Right of Suffrage Prohibits State From Cancelling Voter Registration of Newly Married Woman-Women Upon Marriage Do Not Necessarily Abandon Maiden Name, 21 U. Kan. L. Rev. 588 (1972-73)

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Kentucky
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
Ky. No. 74-902 (Dec. 26, 1974)
Kentucky
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
Ky. No. 74-349 (May 14, 1974)
Kentucky
1977
Op. Att'y Gen.
Ky. No. 77-334 (May 23, 1977)
Kentucky
1977
Op. Att'y Gen.
Ky. No. 77-239 (April 13, 1977)
Kentucky
1981
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Memorandum Ky. Dept. Transportation

(Oct. 30, 1981) (Kentucky Department of Transportation relinquishes position that a married woman must obtain driver's license in her husband's surname unless she has a court-ordered name "change")

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Louisiana
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1975

Boothe v. Papale

No. 74-939 (E.D. La. Feb. 12, 1975) (Order granting plaintiffs Motion for Summary Judgment) [Seiro added: Affirms that, in Lousiana, it is customary for women to use the maiden name after marriage. (?, fn 54)]

Louisiana

1977

Pugh v. Theall

342 So. 2d 274 (La. Ct. App. 1977), cert. denied 344 So. 2d 1055 (La. 1977) [Seiro added: Affirms that, in Lousiana, it is customary for women to use the maiden name after marriage. https://www.casemine.com/judgement/us/591494baadd7b049345c1e1e]

Louisiana

1984

La. Rev. Stat. Ann.

§40:34.A.(1)(a)(iii) (West 1984) (statute relating to naming children at birth)

Maine

1974

Op. Atty. Gen.

Me. (April 12, 1974)

Maine

1975

In re Reben

342 A.2d 688 (Me. 1975) [Seiro added: the appellant first alleges that she has a right under the common law to choose any name she wishes, unless motivated by a fraudulent purpose, and that as the Judge of Probate found no fraudulent purpose, his denial of her petition was an abuse of discretion. ... (snip) ... We sustain her appeal. ... (snip) ... This opinion, also, will leave many questions unanswered, foremost, probably, the question whether a woman takes the surname of her husband at marriage by operation of law. Traditionally this has been the almost unanimous practice in this state, yet no statute has required it and no decision of this Court has ever affirmed it as being mandated by the common law.]

Maine

1978

Op. Att'y Gen.

Me. (April 4, 1978)

Maryland

1972

Op. Att'y Gen.

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Md. (Nov. 30, 1972)
Maryland
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
Md. (May 7, 1974)
Maryland
1974
Op. Atty. Gen.
Md.(March 30, 1974)
Maryland
1977
Klein v. Klein
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36 Md. App. 177, 373 A.2d 86 (Ct. Spec. App. 1977) [Seiro added: That Maryland follows the common law with respect to a name change is no longer open to question. Hardy v. Hardy, 269 Md. 412, 306 A.2d 244 (1973); Stuart v. Board of Supervisors, 266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (1972); Romans v. State, 178 Md. 588, 16 A.2d 642 (1940); Hall v. Hall, supra. ...(snip)... We hold that it is an abuse of discretion to deny a woman who requests it at the time of divorce the restoration of her prenuptial name, absent illegal, fraudulent, or immoral purposes.]

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Maryland
1981
Goldin v. Goldin
48 Md. App. 154, 426 A.2d 410 (Ct. Spec. App. 1981)
Maryland
1983
Op. Att'y Gen.
Md. (Jan. 20, 1983)
Massachusetts
1983
Mass. Ann.
Laws ch. 46 §1D (Law. Co-op. Supp. 1983)
Michigan
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
Mich. No. 4834 (Oct. 2, 1974)
Michigan
1976
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Piotrowski v. Piotrowski

71 Mich. App. 213, 247 N.W.2d 354 (1976) [Seiro added: There is no requirement that any person go through the courts to establish a legal change of name. ...(snip)... The circumstance that there is a minor child is not enough to support denial of the request. ...(znip)... Reversed and remanded for a decree to restore to plaintiff her maiden name.

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Michigan
1980
Mich. Comp. Laws Ann.
§333.2824(1) (West 1980) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
Michigan
1980
Wood v. Detroit Edison
409 Mich. 279, 294 N.W.2d 571 (1980)
Michigan
1983
Jones v. Sanilac County Road Comm'n
128 Mich. App. 569, 342 N.W.2d 532 (1983)
Minnesota
1985
Minn. Stat. Ann.
§517.08 (West Supp. 1985)
Missouri
1975
In re Natale
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527 S.W.2d 402 (Mo. Ct. App. 1975) [Seiro added: On August 21, 1973, the court entered its order and judgment denying the Petition for Change of Name on the ground that 'Petitioner is lawfully married and resides with her legal spouse' and 'that under such circumstances the granting of said petition could be detrimental to others in the future.' The court's order did not specify who the 'others' were, but at the hearing, the court had commented, 'Where a married couple who do have and in the future are likely to have many obligations for which they are liable, I can see circumstances that would be detrimental . . .' It appears, therefore, that the trial court found that the fact of a woman's ongoing marriage is prima facie evidence of detriment to creditors sufficient to deny her petition for change of name. ...(snip)... Our research had disclosed no appellate decision in any state which affirmed the trial court's denial of a married woman's name change petition on the ground of an ongoing marriage. Petition of Hauptly, 312 N.E.2d 857 (Ind.1974); Marshall v. State, 301 So. 2d 477 (Fla.App.1974); Application of Halligan, 46 A.D.2d 170, 361 N.Y.S.2d 458 (1974); Application of Lawrence, 133 N.J.Super. 408, 337 A.2d 49 (Super.Ct.App. Div.1975). ...(snip)... The judgment is reversed and the trial court directed to issue its order changing petitioner's name as prayed.

```
Missouri
1983
Johnson v. Pacific Intermountain Expr. Co.
662 S.W.2d 237 (Mo. 1983), cert denied 104 S. Ct. 2349 (1984)
Missouri
```

```
1984
Miller v. Miller
670 S.W.2d 591 (Mo. Ct. App. 1984)
Montana
1974
Op. Att'y Gen.
Mon. (May 1, 1974)
Nebraska
1984
Neb. Rev. Stat.
§71-640.01 (1984) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
New Hampshire
```

Moskowitz v. Moskowitz

118 N.H. 199, 385 A.2d 120 (1978) [Seiro added: The court affirms its prior decree wherein it found as a fact that it would not be in the best interest of the family unit to permit said change of name. The recommendation was approved by Perkins, J (of probate court, added by seiro). ...(snip)... We (NH Supreme Court, added by Seiro) do not suggest that every petition for a change of name be granted, but rather hold that some substantial reason must exist for denying such a petition. The mere fact that there are children is not sufficient ground. ...(snip)... Remanded.]

New Hampshire

1983

1978

N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann.

§126.6-a (1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth) [Seiro added: Until 1975, it was required that every married woman shall adopt her husband's name as a 'family name.' H.R.S. § 574-1 (1968). This was changed in 1975 to allow a wife to retain her maiden name, or a husband to take his wife's surname, or either party to choose a hyphenated combination of both surnames, in either order. L.1975, ch. 114, § 1.]

```
New Jersey
1975
Op. Att'y Gen.
N.J. No. 20-1975 (Aug. 26, 1975)
New York
1974
Matter of Halligan
```

266 Md. 440, 295 A.2d 223 (Md. 1972) [This case is added by Seiro: Supreme Court's requirement that petitioner show 'a compelling reason' for the change, improperly imposed a burden of persuasion upon her beyond that required by the statute...No reasonable objection appearing, appellant is entitled to her requested order declaring that she shall be known by her maiden name of Ryan, and no other.]

New York

1985

```
N.Y. Civ. Rights Law
  §§64, 65 (McKinney Supp. 1985)
  New York
  1985
  N.Y. Dom. Rel. Law
  §§14-a(1), 15(1), 240-a (McKinney Supp. 1985)
  North Carolina
  1981
  O'Brien v. Tilson
  523 F. Supp. 494 (E.D.N.C. 1981) [Seiro added: North Carolina General Statute § 130-50(e) be, and the
same is hereby adjudged and declared void and of no force or effect insofar as it precludes plaintiffs from
recording the surnames of their choice on the birth certificates of their children called for under N.C.G.S. §
130-50(e).
  North Carolina
  1983
  N.C. Gen.
  Stat. §130-A-101(c) (Supp. 1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth)
  North Dakota
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  N.D. (March 20, 1974)
  Oklahoma
  1975
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Okla. (Nov. 14, 1975) [Seiro added: Opinion No. 75-281 (1975), AG (Ops.Okla. Atty. Gen. Nov. 14, 1975)
... permit a married woman to retain her maiden surname, or to assume her husband's surname and retain
all or as much of her maiden name as she chooses.
  Oklahoma
  1978
  Sneed v. Sneed
  585 P.2d 1363 (Okla. 1978) [Seiro added: the trial court refused to restore Mrs. Sneed's maiden name
because she had a minor child ...(snip)... At common law a married woman was not compelled to adopt her
husband's surname. ... (snip)... Reversed and remanded with directions.]
  Oregon
  1983
  Ore. Rev. Stat.
  §106.220 (1983)
  Pennsylvania
```

```
1973
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Pa. No. 72 (Oct. 25, 1973)
  Pennsylvania
  1973
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Pa. No. 62 (Aug. 20, 1973)
  Pennsylvania
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Pa. No. 8 (Jan. 31, 1974)
  South Carolina
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  S.C. (Dec. 12, 1974)
  South Carolina
  1975
  Op. Atty. Gen.
  S.C. (June 6, 1975)
  South Dakota
  1975
  Ogle v. Cir. Ct., Tenth (Now 6th) Jud. Cir
  227 N.W.2d 621 (S.D. 1975) [Seiro added: we conclude that the trial court abused its discretion in denying
the petition without giving petitioner an opportunity to present further evidence.
  South Dakota
  1977
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  S.D. No. 77-31 (April 15, 1977) (interpreting Ogle v. Circuit Court 89 S.D. 18, 227 N.W.2d 621 (1975))
  Tennessee
  1975
  Dunn v. Palermo
  522 S.W.2d 679 (Tenn. 1975)
  Tennessee
  1983
  Tenn. Code Ann.
```

§68-3-305 (1983) (statute relating to naming children at birth)

```
Texas
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Tex. No. H-432 (Oct. 25, 1974)
  Texas
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen. H-432 (October 25, 1974) Re: Whether a woman is required to assume her husband's
surname as her own
  Seiro added, page 4: under this statute a woman retained her common law right to choose at marriage
either to keep her name prior to marriage or to assume her husband's surname.]
  Texas
  1980
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Tex. No. MW-225 (Aug. 21, 1980) (says that a married woman may vote under a hyphenated last name,
of her "maiden name" and her husband's name)
  Vermont
  1974
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Vt. No. 179 (Feb. 4, 1974)
  Virginia
  1973
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Va. (June 6, 1973) (re voting)
  Washington
  1976
  Doe v. Dunning
  87 Wash. 2d 50, 549 P.2d 1 (1976) [Seiro added: no legal impediment which would prevent married parents
from giving the child the mother's surname.]
  West Virginia
  1975
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  W. Va. (April 30, 1975)
  Wisconsin
  1977
  Op. Att'y Gen.
```

Wis. No. 7-77 (Jan. 31, 1977)

Wisconsin

```
1982
  Op. Att'y Gen.
  Wis. (Sept. 21, 1982)
# only in Augustine
sy3 <- sy[is.na(year.M) & !is.na(year.A), .(state, year.A, case, ref.A)]</pre>
kbt <- kbl(sy3, align = "rcll",</pre>
  caption = "States with their first years in legal decisions: Only in Augustine-Adams",
 format = "html")
kbt <- kable_styling(kbt, fixed_thead = T, full_width = F, position = "left")
kbt <- row_spec(kbt, seq(1, nrow(sy3), 2), background="lightgray")</pre>
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 3, width = "3cm")</pre>
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 1, width = "2cm")</pre>
column spec(kbt, column = 4, width = "10cm")
  States with their first years in legal decisions: Only in Augustine-Adams
  state
  year.A
  case
  ref.A
  Florida
  1976
  FLA. ATr'y GEN. ANN. REP.
  §076-66 at 120
  Maine
  1978
  ME. Op. ATr'Y GEN.
  WL 33940 Me.A.G.
  Massachusetts
  1974
  MAss. Op. ATr'y GEN.
  Number 5 at 48
  Montana
  1975
  In re Natale
  527 S.W.2d 402, 404-05 Mo. Ct. App.
  In Arkansas case, the opinion of district attorney indicated that
     It appears from the materials before us that the controversy arose in the late summer or early
     fall of 1974 ... and immediately *1399 involved the plaintiffs, Walker and Scholle, who are both
```

lawyers.

She (Scholle) married in April, 1974 and retained her maiden name; since she had not changed her name she did not undertake to have her registration changed to reflect her marriage.

In Californian case of Weathers v Superior Court, State Court of Appeals Judge notes the opinion:

It raises the issue of the right of a wife who during marriage used her maiden name to petition for a dissolution of marriage in that name rather than the surname of her husband. We conclude that the wife has the right so to file her petition.

It also states such right is not implemented universally. Pleading for a divorce in 1975, the acting judge said:

On July 21, the petition was heard by Commissioner Russell R. Hermann sitting as a temporary judge of the court. Wife appeared in propria persona while Francisco Grippa made no appearance. Commissioner Hermann called the case as "Weathers versus Grippa." He asked wife if she had married Francisco Grippa. When wife answered that she had, the commissioner replied "All of your pleadings say 'Weathers versus Grippa.'" Informed by wife that she had at no time assumed Grippa's name, the commissioner replied, "That doesn't matter whether you have assumed it or not." Amplifying when wife responded that she had never used the Grippa name, the commissioner said, "The marriage certificate makes you Mrs. Grippa." When wife protested, "No, it doesn't," Commissioner Hermann responded, "They must have an awful novel wedding certificate in Oklahoma if it doesn't." Informed by wife that the marriage certificate simply read "Janet Lynn Weathers and Francisco Grippa," the commissioner replied, "I have never divorced people with two different names; never have."

In Florida Marshal v State case, one judge, although concurring the decision, worries the distruction of family and leaves an opinion piece:

I think it important that we here note that we are not called upon to decide whether it is requisite that upon marriage a wife assume the surname of her husband. That issue is not before us.

In Indiana, In re Hauptly case, the judge's opinion reveals that the State Attorney General attacked the plaintiff who filed to use her maidenname as:

"Perhaps she is claiming the woman's privilege that in an argument she does not have to use reason." (Page 6)

"It can be reasonably inferred that she believes that fact that she is the breadwinner of the family should be publicized so that all will know her husband has been emasculated and that she is the head of the family." (Page 7)

". . . indicating that perhaps Mrs. Hauply's need was not for a change of name but for a competent psychiatrist." (Pages 9 and 10)

"Namely, a sick and confused woman, unhappy and unsatisfied with her marriage, unable to determine what she wants to do with her life." (Page 10)

". . . because she was a kind of odd ball . . ." (Page 10)

"[In filing a claim for hospitalization] the computer would probably fail to function and the company refuse to pay on the grounds that it was not liable for hospitalization of a mistress under the terms of a family policy." (Page 11)

In Illinois case, Attorney General's opinion on early case states:

I do not believe that this appellate decision should control. The other Illinois decisions and cases elsewhere establish that a woman may in fact retain her own name upon marriage with or without court proceedings. (Ill. Op. Att'y Gen., February 13, 1974).

Tabulate earliest year entries:

```
ey <- sy[,
  .(yr.A = min(year.A, na.rm = T), yr.M = min(year.M, na.rm = T)),
  by = state]
ey[, yr := min(c(yr.A, yr.M)), by = state]
ey[yr.A == Inf, yr.A := NA]
ey[yr.M == Inf, yr.M := NA]
eytable <- ey[, .(State = paste(state, collapse = ", ")), by = yr]</pre>
setkey(eytable, yr)
library(kableExtra)
kbt <- kbl(eytable, align = "cl",</pre>
  caption = "States with their first years in legal decisions",
 format = "html")
kbt <- kable_styling(kbt, fixed_thead = T, full_width = F, position = "left")
kbt <- row_spec(kbt, seq(1, nrow(eytable), 2), background="lightgray")</pre>
kbt <- column_spec(kbt, column = 2, width = "12cm")</pre>
column spec(kbt, column = 1, width = "2cm")
  States with their first years in legal decisions
  yr
  State
  1972
  Maryland
  1973
  Kansas, Pennsylvania, Virginia
  1974
  Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts,
Michigan, Montana, New York, North Dakota, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont
  1975
  Arizona, District of Columbia, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma,
South Dakota, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin
  1976
  Alaska, Hawaii, Washington
  1977
  Ohio
  1978
  Nebraska, New Hampshire
  1979
  Rhode Island
  1980
  Iowa
  1982
  Alabama
```

1983

Oregon

1985

Minnesota

Kohout (1973) discusses the conditions up to 1973. She notes name rights of women are not universally guaranteed. Some states, like New York, may allow name changes of a married woman after filing for it, but the court has a certain degree of discretion to deny the petition. The paper also hilights the *Forbush* case in which Alabama court suggested that the procedure should be simple and inexpensive.

A federal case in  $Allen\ v\ Lovejoy\ 553\ F2d\ 522\ (6th\ Circuit\ Court\ 1977)$  decided that Title VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964 was violated when an employer suspended a female worker for her refusal to sign a form with post-marriage surname.

A common law interpretation of the matter, claimed by feminists, is the following:

- Each person has the right to use and to be known by the surname of his or her choice.
- Then, a woman to use husband's name just by using it, and similarly, to use her maiden name just by using it.

Despite the clarity of this argument, by misstating precedent and overemphasizing the frequency with which the change occurs, many courts and officials transformed womans's option of adopting her husband's surname into a legal requirement.

— Omi, 1997, p. 261

The Forbush court listed state interests that restrict women's name rights:

- 1. Custom\*10
- 2. Administrative convenience\*11
- 3. Prevention of fraud\*12
- 4. De minimis injury due to existence of statutory remedies\*13
- 5. Preservation of family unit\*14

In State v Taylor, the court acknowledged that Forbush's decision is inaccurately representing the common law of Alabama.

Daum (1974, 72–73) argues that while there is a move toward ensuring women's name rights, because there was no statute to deny or allow the women's name rights, the application of the right was inconsistent.

<sup>\*10</sup> Longevity cannot be a rationale.

 $<sup>^{*11}</sup>$ No administrative efficiency is gained by married women to change her surname upon marriage.

 $<sup>^{*12}\</sup>mathrm{Common}$  law name changes do not increase frauds.

 $<sup>^{*13}</sup>$ It is not a minimal cost to change a surname.

<sup>\*14</sup> Not well understood empirically.

## Estimation

# Identification strategy

Consider an event-study design for a unit i that starts being treated at  $\tau$ :

$$y_{i,t} = a_t + a_i + \sum_{s=-L}^G \gamma_j D_{i,t+s} + \mathbf{b}' \mathbf{x}_{i,t} + e_{i,t}, \label{eq:yith}$$

where  $D_{i,t+s}=0,1$  is an indicator function equalts to 1 if i is treated in t+s with  $s=-L,-L+1,\cdots,-1,0,1,2,\cdots,G-1,G$ . Given i starts getting treated at  $\tau$ ,  $D_{i,t-s}=0$  for  $\tau < t-s$ ,  $D_{i,t-a}=1$  for  $\tau \geqslant t-s$ . The indicator t measures the calendar time, s measures the event time (time-since-event). So we know that time-since-event s is equal to  $t-\tau$ , or  $s=t-\tau$  or  $t=s+\tau$ .  $\mathbf{x}_{it}$  is a vector of exogenous covariates.

Our data structure is the hybrid type based on the classification by Miller (2023):

- Treatment dates vary by units.
- There are never-treated units.

The key identifying assumptions are:

- 1. In the absence of treatments, all the units share the same time effects  $a_t$  (conditional on unit fixed effects  $a_i$  and covariates  $\mathbf{x}_{i,t}$ ).
- 2. Selection of treatment timing, selection of treated or never-treated (by the end of our observation period) units are as good as random, given time and unit fixed effects and covariates.

The treatment effect parameters  $\gamma$  need to give differences relative to a specific benchmark. It is common that to choose the benchmark of the mean pre-treatment effect, or setting  $\gamma_{-1} = 0$ .

To avoid multicollinearity, we need to drop one period FE from  $a_t$ , and one unit FE from  $a_i$ .

The number of pre-treatment periods need to balance efficiency and bias tradeoff. Longer perods provide efficiency, but it risks the inclusion of irrelevant periods, such as under marital market disruption immediately after the world war II (1946 onwards). Number of states reporting marriages (*Marriage Reporting Area*) increased from 32 (1957) to 37 (1964). Non MRA states also report data by using central files or survey estimation. In 1960, 33 MRA states, 8 states and DC hold central files of marriage records to construct data. In 1961-63, 35 MRA states 10 states with central files. In 1964, 37 MRA states, 7 states\*15 have central files.

46 states report number of marriages performed, 5 States and DC report the number of marriage licenses issued using central files. Texas only reports data for 10 counties.

To avoid the bias while not throwing away too much of efficiency, we choose 1961, 14 years before the landmark *Dunn v Palermo*, with 45 states in marriage data, as the starting year.

Miller (2023) recommends to base entire pre-period to be the reference period.

```
m2L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "m2L.qs"))</pre>
d12L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "d12L.qs"))</pre>
m2L <- m2L[!grepl("Cent|Mid|Mount|Eng|east|Pac|^South$|Atl?a|Unit|^West$", StateName), ]</pre>
d12L <- d12L[!grepl("Cent|Mid|Mount|Eng|east|Pac|^South$|Atl?a|Unit|^West$", StateName), ]
destat(m2L[, .(NumberOfStates=.N, NumberOfEntries=length(v[!is.na(v)])), by = time])
                  min 25\\% median 75\\% max mean std Os NAs n
                       1964
time
                 1956
                               1972
                                     1980 1988 1972 9.7
NumberOfStates
                   51
                         51
                                 51
                                       51
                                             51
                                                  51 0.0
                                                          0
                                                              0 33
NumberOfEntries
                   51
                         51
                                 51
                                       51
                                             51
```

 $<sup>^{*15}</sup>$ Why decreased?

Miller (2023) recommends to base entire pre-period to be the reference period. In the paper's accompanying code, he uses cnsreg of stata. This is to impose a linear restriction on the estimated parameters in OLS using minimization of the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = SSE + \lambda [\bar{\gamma}_{pre}].$$

Stata's manual on cnsreg states that it uses a linear formula which should be similar to Hansen (2022),  $8.8.^{*16}$ 

However, in the current case, constrained least squares is not necessary. One can impose a set of nonzero constraints on  $\gamma_s$  for s < 0. Setting and substituting  $\bar{\gamma}_{pre} = 0$  changes the estimating equation:

$$\bar{\gamma}_{pre} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \gamma_{-L} = -\sum_{s=-(L-1)}^{-1} \gamma_s,$$

SO

$$\begin{split} y_{i,t} &= a_t + a_i + \sum_{s=-L}^G \gamma_s D_{i,t+s} + \mathbf{b}' \mathbf{x}_{i,t} + e_{i,t}, \\ &= a_t + a_i - \left( \gamma_{-(L-1)} + \dots + \gamma_{-1} \right) D_{i,t-L} + \gamma_{-(L-1)} D_{i,t-(L-1)} + \dots + \gamma_{-1} D_{i,t-1} \\ &+ \gamma_0 D_{i,t} + \dots + \gamma_G D_{i,t+G} + \mathbf{b}' \mathbf{x}_{i,t} + e_{i,t}, \\ &= a_t + a_i + \gamma_{-(L-1)} \left( D_{i,t-(L-1)} - D_{i,t-L} \right) + \dots + \gamma_{-1} \left( D_{i,t-1} - D_{i,t-L} \right) \\ &+ \gamma_0 D_{i,t} + \dots + \gamma_G D_{i,t+G} + \mathbf{b}' \mathbf{x}_{i,t} + e_{i,t}, \\ &= a_t + a_i + \sum_{s=-(L-1)}^{-1} \gamma_s \left( D_{i,t+s} - D_{i,t-L} \right) + \sum_{s=0}^{G} \gamma_s D_{i,t+s} + \mathbf{b}' \mathbf{x}_{i,t} + e_{i,t}. \end{split}$$

## Checking data problems

Click here to see data problem checks.

Anomalous entries.

```
d12L[abs(vs)> 3, ][order(StateName, time)]
```

```
StateName time
                     case
                                      pop
       Alabama 1959 14975 3.51769 323389 4.6
  1:
  2:
       Alabama 1960 17320 4.05299 325612 5.3
       Alabama 1961 17715 3.90005 344112 5.1
  3:
  4:
       Alabama 1969 14146 3.05886 354366 4.0
       Alabama 1970 15109 3.36475 345287 4.4
  5:
838:
       Wyoming 1984
                    3705 4.63383
                                    49007 7.6
       Wyoming 1985
                     3807 4.57286
839:
                                    50739 7.5
840:
       Wyoming 1986
                     3536 4.14606
                                    51675 6.8
841:
       Wyoming 1987
                     3202 3.84120
                                    51177 6.3
842:
       Wyoming 1988
                    3316 3.96315
                                    50811 6.5
```

### m2L[abs(vs)> 3, ][order(time, StateName)]

```
StateName time v vs

1: Alabama 1956 6.6 -14.01325

2: Alaska 1956 8.5 -10.15001

3: Arizona 1956 25.1 -3.44959

4: Arkansas 1956 7.9 -12.56501
```

 $<sup>^{*16}</sup>$ Because this code is proprietary, one cannot see what it does.

```
5: California 1956 6.4 -8.36534
---

1679: Virginia 1988 11.5 -9.76000
1680: Washington 1988 9.9 -12.36056
1681: West Virginia 1988 7.3 -10.10529
1682: Wisconsin 1988 8.5 -7.43784
1683: Wyoming 1988 10.6 -12.97132
```

Data in 1956-1958 are unreliable that they use estimates. Drop from data.

```
d3L <- d12L[time >= 1959, ]
m3L <- m2L[time >= 1959, ]
d3L[, vs := v/var(v)^(.5), by = .(StateName)]
d3L[, vs := vs-mean(vs[1961 <= time & time <= 1965]), by = .(StateName)]
m3L[, vs := v/var(v)^(.5), by = .(StateName)]
m3L[, vs := vs-mean(vs[1961 <= time & time <= 1965]), by = .(StateName)]
qsave(d3L, paste0(pathsave, "d3L.qs"))
qsave(m3L, paste0(pathsave, "m3L.qs"))</pre>
```

Anomalous entries.

```
d3L[abs(vs)> 3, ][order(StateName, time)]
```

```
StateName time case vs pop v

1: Colorado 1977 20557 3.17652 268420 7.7

2: District of Columbia 1979 4488 3.14189 65865 6.8

3: District of Columbia 1980 4682 3.43942 63975 7.3

4: Illinois 1959 22700 3.32992 423648 5.4

5: Nevada 1959 9509 4.21927 14004 67.9
```

#### d3L[vs < -.5, ][order(StateName, time)]</pre>

```
StateName time case
                                vs
                                      pop
1:
      Arizona 1960 4780 -1.566809 130167 3.7
2:
       Hawaii 1966
                    897 -0.613358 71506 1.3
3:
      Indiana 1959 8228 -0.964599 452607 1.8
4:
       Nevada 1970 9138 -0.742205
                                   48876 18.7
5:
       Nevada 1971 9474 -0.742205
                                    50708 18.7
       Nevada 1973 9975 -0.792626
6:
                                   54792 18.2
7:
       Nevada 1974 10045 -0.863216
                                   57286 17.5
8:
       Nevada 1975 10542 -0.832964
                                   59184 17.8
9:
       Nevada 1976 10298 -1.024565
                                   64689 15.9
10:
       Nevada 1977 10280 -1.095156
                                   67782 15.2
11:
       Nevada 1978 11213 -1.054818
                                    71878 15.6
12:
       Nevada 1979 11787 -1.074987
                                   76525 15.4
13:
       Nevada 1980 13842 -0.883385
                                   80065 17.3
14:
       Nevada 1981 14925 -0.853132 84600 17.6
15:
       Nevada 1982 13092 -1.125408 87598 14.9
16:
       Nevada 1983 13438 -1.115324 89726 15.0
17:
       Nevada 1984 13822 -0.984228 84600 16.3
18:
       Nevada 1985 13318 -1.095156
                                   87598 15.2
19:
       Nevada 1986 13470 -1.115324 89726 15.0
20:
       Nevada 1987 13936 -1.085071
                                   91078 15.3
       Nevada 1988 13922 -1.125408 93674 14.9
21:
22: New Mexico 1967 1545 -0.827416 100402 1.5
23: Utah 1959 1336 -1.035568 87455 1.5
```

```
StateName time case
                                        pop
m3L[abs(vs)> 3, ][order(time, StateName)]
       StateName time
                       v
1: Rhode Island 1959 8.8 3.20044
     New Mexico 1968 7.6 -3.48848
        Nebraska 1970 10.6 3.06216
 4:
         Arizona 1973 12.7 3.12131
 5: Pennsylvania 1973 8.5 3.09598
        Virginia 1973 12.1 3.02976
 6:
7:
        Arizona 1974 12.6 3.06128
         Wyoming 1974 16.8 3.14669
8:
9:
       Delaware 1983 9.2 3.05812
        Arkansas 1988 14.6 3.39000
10:
11:
        Kentucky 1988 13.3 3.24121
 Stationarity tests.
library(tseries)
  d3L[, outcome := "divorce"]
  m3L[, outcome := "marriage"]
  dm3L <- rbind(d3L, m3L, use.names = T, fill = T)</pre>
      if (nrow(dm3L[is.na(v), ]) > 0)
   dm3L2 <- dm3L[!is.na(v), ] else</pre>
   dm3L2 <- dm3L
  stt <- dm3L2[, .(
      kpss = kpss.test(v, null = "Trend")$p.value,
      adf = adf.test(v, alternative = "stationary", k = 5)$p.value),
      by = .(outcome, StateName)][kpss < .1 & adf < .1, ]
  print(
    sttW <- reshape(stt, direction = "wide", idvar = "StateName",</pre>
      timevar = "outcome", v.names = grepout("k|adf", colnames(stt)))
```

```
StateName kpss.divorce adf.divorce kpss.marriage adf.marriage

1: North Dakota 0.0445779 0.01 NA NA

2: North Carolina NA NA 0.0331327 0.021744
```

#### Drop:

- North Dakota from divorce rate estimation.
- North Carolina from marriage rate estimation.

```
d3L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "d3L.qs"))
m3L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "m3L.qs"))
dvdrop <- sttW[!is.na(kpss.divorce), StateName]
mrdrop <- sttW[!is.na(kpss.marriage), StateName]
d4L <- d3L[!(StateName %in% dvdrop),]
m4L <- m3L[!(StateName %in% mrdrop),]
qsave(d4L, paste0(pathsave, "d4L.qs"))
qsave(m4L, paste0(pathsave, "m4L.qs"))</pre>
```

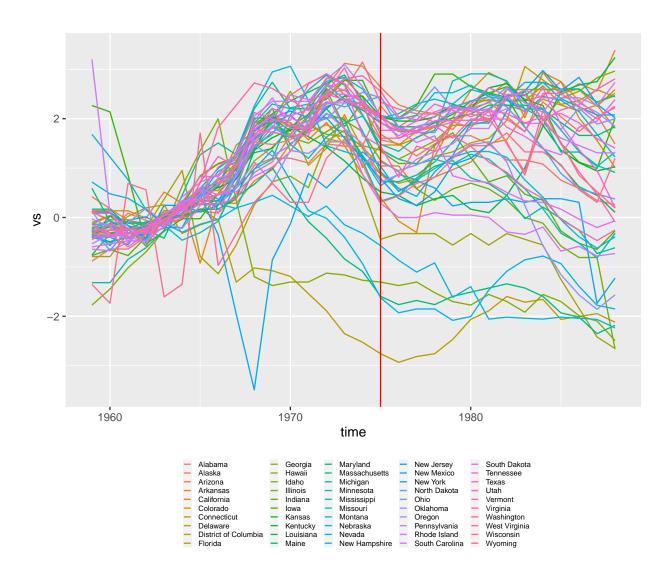


Figure 3: Marriage rates (standardized with overall std and means of 1961-1965)

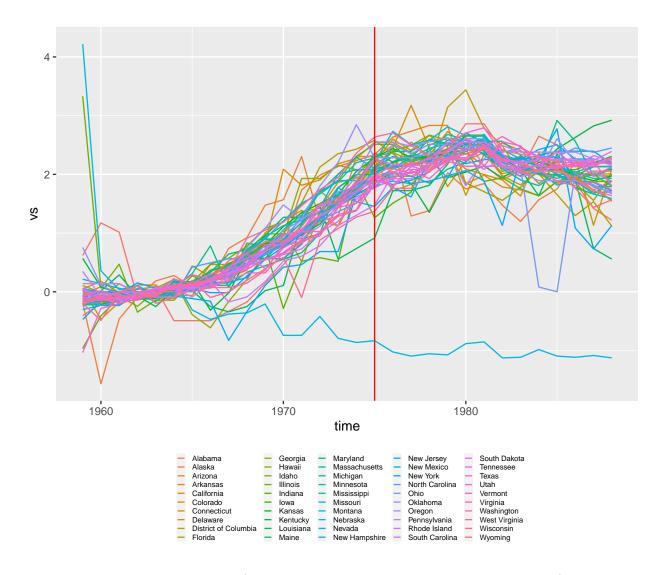


Figure 4: Divorce rates (standardized with overall std and means of 1961-1965)

# Marriage rates and divorce rates

## Event dates

```
fy <- fread(paste0(pathsource, "FirstYearCompiledBySeiro.prn"))
d4L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "d4L.qs"))
m4L <- qread(paste0(pathsave, "m4L.qs"))
setnames(fy, "state", "StateName")
fy2 <- fy[, .(StateName, year, month)]
mr <- merge(m4L, fy2, by = "StateName", all = T)
dv <- merge(d4L, fy2, by = "StateName", all = T)</pre>
```

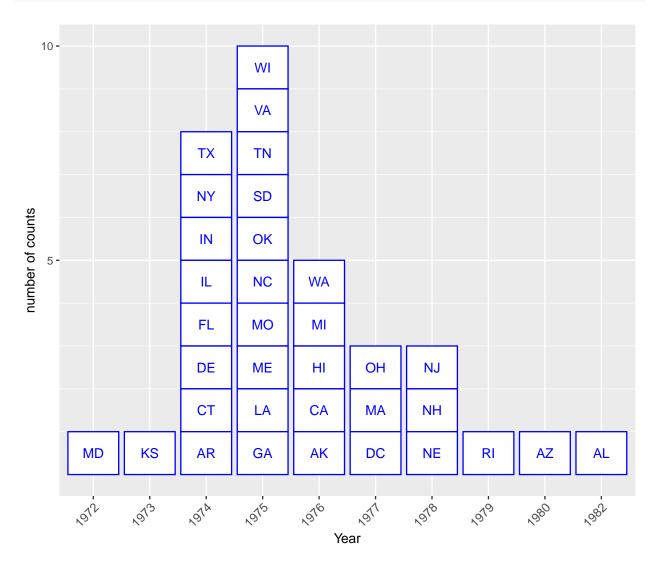


Figure 5: Event year distribution

```
for (ob in c("mr", "dv")) {
  obj = copy(get(ob))
  obj <- obj[!is.na(year), ]
  obj[, year := as.numeric(as.character(year))]
  obj[, time := as.numeric(as.character(time))]</pre>
```

```
obj[, trend := time - min(time)+1, by = StateName]
obj[, trend2 := trend^(2)]
obj[, trend3 := trend^(3)]
#### Normalization: At t-1, zero effect
#### year is the year of first case in each state
obj[, start := (year == time-1)]
obj[, et := 1:.N, by = StateName]
obj[, et := et-et[start], by = StateName]
obj[, ptrend := trend]
obj[, ptrend0 := trend[et==0], by = StateName]
obj[et >= 0, ptrend := ptrend0]
obj[, ptrend2 := trend2]
obj[, ptrend20 := trend2[et==0], by = StateName]
obj[et >= 0, ptrend2 := ptrend20]
obj[, ptrend3 := trend3]
obj[, ptrend30 := trend3[et==0], by = StateName]
obj[et >= 0, ptrend3 := ptrend30]
obj[, c("ptrend0", "ptrend20", "ptrend30") := NULL]
qsave(obj, paste0(pathsave, ob, ".qs"))
#### Normalization: mean of trend at event time < -1 is zero
#### For this operation, keep dummy data matrix separately as etdum.
etdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, et]), nameprefix = "et")</pre>
 #### change to easier-to-handle names
setnames(etdum, grepout("-", colnames(etdum)),
 gsub("-", "N", grepout("-", colnames(etdum))))
 #### Subtract t-L, L=10 period to impose \frac{t-L}{s<0} = 0
negtime <- grepout("N", colnames(etdum))</pre>
etdum[, (negtime) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-etN10), .SDcols = negtime]
etdum[, etN10 := NULL]
#### Forcing mannually a specific order in factor levels.
#### lm drops the first factor level as a reference.
#### (can also be done using library(forcats), but not necessary)
obj[, et := factor(et, levels = c(-1, unique(et)[!(unique(et) %in% -1)]))]
obj[, time := factor(time,
 levels = c(1988, unique(time)[!(unique(time) %in% c(1988, 1987))], 1987))]
obj[, StateName := factor(StateName,
 levels = c("Hawaii",
    unique(StateName)[!(unique(StateName) %in% c("Hawaii", "Florida"))], "Florida"))]
assign(ob, obj)
assign(paste0(ob, "et"), etdum)
```

### Estimated results

## Choice of reference normalization

In regression with no intercept, 1m keeps all levels if we use it as the first factor variable in the formula, drops 1st levels in the second factor variable in the formula, drops 1st and last levels in the third factor variable in the formula, and so on.

If we use et variable as the first regressor, it overparameterises and gives rise to multicollinearity. In such case, we need to drop one more event time manually.

Click here to see how reference period choice affects estimated results.

```
obj = copy(dv)
#### In regression with no intercept,
#### lm keeps all levels in the 1st factor variable in the formula.
#### lm drops 1st levels in the 2nd factor variable in the formula.
#### 1m drops 1st and last levels in the 3rd factor variable in the formula.
r10a <- lm(v ~ -1+et+StateName+time, data = obj)
r10b <- lm(v ~ -1+StateName+et+time, data = obj)
r10c <- lm(v ~ -1+StateName+time+et, data = obj)
obj[, time := factor(time,
    levels = c(1988, levels(time)[!(levels(time) %in% c(1988, 1959:1961))], 1961:1959))]
r22a <- lm(v ~ -1+et+trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+time, data = obj)
r22b <- lm(v ~ -1+trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+et+time, data = obj)
r22c <- lm(v ~ -1+trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+time+et, data = obj)
etdumpre <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, et]), nameprefix = "et")</pre>
setnames(etdumpre, grepout("-", colnames(etdumpre)),
 gsub("-", "N", grepout("-", colnames(etdumpre))))
 #### Subtract t-L, L=10 period to impose \bar{gamma}_{s<0} = 0
negtime <- grepout("N", colnames(etdumpre))</pre>
etdumpre[, (negtime) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-etN10), .SDcols = negtime]
etdumpre[, etN10 := NULL]
ettermspre <- paste(colnames(etdumpre), collapse = "+")</pre>
#obj[, StateName := factor(StateName, exclude=c('Hawaii', 'Florida', 'District Of Columbia'))]
obj3 <- data.table(obj, etdumpre)</pre>
form1 <- paste0("v ~ -1+StateName+time+", ettermspre)</pre>
form2 <- paste0("v ~ -1+trend+StateName+time+", ettermspre)</pre>
form3 <- paste0("v ~ -1+trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+", ettermspre)</pre>
r31 <- lm(as.formula(form1), data = obj3)
r32 <- lm(as.formula(form2), data = obj3)
r33 <- lm(as.formula(form3), data = obj3)
  Compare r10a, r10b, r10c, r22a, r22b, r22c, r31, r32, r33.
  "et+StateName+time", "StateName+et+time", "StateName+time+et",
  "et+trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+time".
  "trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+et+time",
  "trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+time+et",
  "StateName+time+eterms",
  "trend+StateName+time+eterms",
  "trend+trend2+trend3+StateName+time+eterms")
forder <- c(paste(rep(c("TWFE", "TWFE trend"), each = 3),</pre>
  c("et is 1/3", "et is 2/3", "et is 3/3")),
  "TWFE premean = 0", "TWFE trend premean = 0",
  "TWFE trend3 premean = 0")
normalization <- c(rep(c("TWFE", "TWFE trend"), each = 3),</pre>
  rep("TWFE trend premean = 0", 3))
nums \leftarrow c(rep(c(10, 22), each =3), 31:33)
Ci <- NULL
for (i in 1:9) {
  if (i < 7)
    rr \leftarrow get(paste0("r", nums[i], rep(letters[1:3], 2)[i])) else
    rr <- get(c("r31", "r32", "r33")[i-6])
  clus <- data.table(rr$model)[, StateName]</pre>
 rrc <- clx(rr, cluster = clus, returnV = T)</pre>
```

```
clxci <- data.table(cbind(Coef = rownames(rrc$ci), rrc$est, rrc$ci))</pre>
  clxci \leftarrow rbind(clxci, t(c(-1, 0, rep(NA, 5))), use.names = F)
  clxci[, FormulaOrder := forder[i]]
  clxci[, normalisation := normalization[i]]
  Ci <- rbind(Ci, clxci)
Ci[, period := gsub("et", "", Coef)]
Ci <- Ci[grepl("^.?\\d", period), ]</pre>
Ci[, period := gsub("N", "-", period)]
Ci[, period := as.numeric(period)]
setcolorder(Ci,
c("Coef", "Estimate", "Std. Error", "t value", "Pr(>|t|)", "2.5 %", "97.5 %", "period"))
setnames(Ci, c("Estimate", "2.5 %", "97.5 %"), c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U"))
numcols <- c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U", "period")</pre>
Ci[, (numcols) := lapply(.SD, as.numeric), .SDcols = numcols]
strcols <- colnames(Ci)[!(colnames(Ci) %in% numcols)]</pre>
Ci[, (strcols) := lapply(.SD, factor), .SDcols = strcols]
```

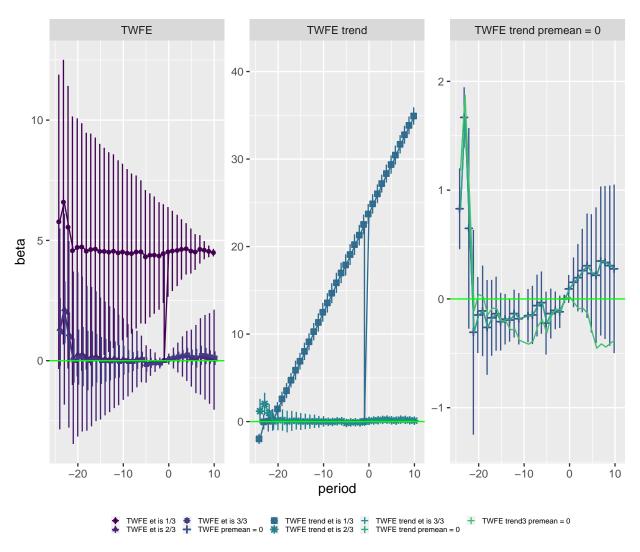


Figure 6: Impacts on divorce rates: Baseline with different normalization

Compare r10a, r10b, r10c, r22a, r22b, r22c.

- r10a: One sees that keeping all levels adds a value equivalent to the intercept to all estimates. This gives a problem when we force a normalisation  $\gamma_{-1} = 0$  as the estimates jump around it. Another noticeable characteristic is that standard errors decrease as event time progresses. We also note that estimates on time dummies are of too large magnitude which may be due to the use of higher order trending terms. We may need to use only a linear trend.
- r10b: When the first (s = -1) level is dropped, the level of estimates are relative to it and the estimates are scattered around 0. Yet, there still is add an noticeable effect on estimated standard errors that they show reduction and increase before and after s = -1.
- r10c: When the first and the last (s = 15) levels are dropped, the standard errors get more sensible with no noticeable pattern. Point estimates show no pre or post trends.

The same pattern arises with trend t included, and as we include t,  $t^2$ ,  $t^3$ , we need to drop 3 time dummies in addition of default 1988 dummy from covariates.

- r22a: Even dropping 1988, 1959:1961 from time dummies, if we use et as the first in regressors, event time variables are kept for all values and gives estimates that hovers around the intercept value.
- r22b: -1 is dropped from et and  $\gamma_s$  are closer to zero.
- r22c: -1 and 15 are dropped from et and  $\gamma_s$  are closer to zero, and the same as r22b.

So the general idea for normalisation is:

- Manually drop -1 from et if normalization  $\gamma_{-1} = 0$  is used.
- Manually drop -L from et if normalization  $\bar{\gamma}_{s<0}=0$  is used and use -L as the period to be substituted, after setting  $\operatorname{et}_{t<0}=\operatorname{et}_{t<0}-\operatorname{et}_{-L}$ .
- Manually drop 2 periods (start and last periods of data) from time to incorporate time FE and a linear trend.
- Manually drop 1 state ("Hawaii") from StateName to incorporate state FE with a restriction  $\bar{a} = 0$ , after setting  $a_i = a_i a_{Hawaii}$ .

Click here to see dropping N1 and 15.

```
obj = copy(dv)
etdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, et]), nameprefix = "et")</pre>
 #### change to easier-to-handle names
setnames(etdum, grepout("-", colnames(etdum)),
  gsub("-", "N", grepout("-", colnames(etdum))))
 #### Subtract t-L, L=10 period to impose \frac{t-L}{s<0} = 0
negtime <- grepout("N", colnames(etdum))</pre>
etdumpre <- etdum
etdumpre[, (negtime) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-etN10), .SDcols = negtime]
etdumpre[, etN10 := NULL]
etterms <- paste(colnames(etdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
#### Drop -1 and 15 from et
etterms <- gsub("\\+etN1\\+", "+", etterms)
ettermspre <- gsub("\\+et15", "", etterms)</pre>
#obj[, StateName := factor(StateName, exclude=c('Hawaii', 'Florida', 'District Of Columbia'))]
obj2 <- data.table(obj, etdum)</pre>
obj3 <- data.table(obj, etdumpre)</pre>
form1 <- paste0("v ~ -1+StateName+time+", etterms)</pre>
```

```
form2 <- paste0("v ~ -1+trend+StateName+time+", etterms)</pre>
form3 <- paste0("v ~ -1+trend+StateName+time+", ettermspre)</pre>
r11 \leftarrow lm(form1, data = obj2)
r21 \leftarrow lm(form2, data = obj2)
r31 \leftarrow lm(form3, data = obj3)
normalization <- c("TWFE", "TWFE trend", "TWFE trend pre-mean=0")
Ci <- NULL
for (i in 1:3) {
  rr <- get(paste0("r", i, 1))
  clus <- data.table(rr$model)[, StateName]</pre>
  rrc <- clx(rr, cluster = clus, returnV = T)</pre>
  clxci <- data.table(cbind(Coef = rownames(rrc$ci), rrc$est, rrc$ci))</pre>
  clxci <- rbind(clxci, t(c(-1, 0, rep(NA, 5))), use.names = F)</pre>
  clxci[, normalisation := normalization[i]]
  Ci <- rbind(Ci, clxci)</pre>
}
Ci[, period := gsub("et", "", Coef)]
Ci <- Ci[grepl("^.?\\d", period), ]</pre>
Ci[, period := gsub("N", "-", period)]
Ci[, period := as.numeric(period)]
setcolorder(Ci,
c("Coef", "Estimate", "Std. Error", "t value", "Pr(>|t|)", "2.5 %", "97.5 %", "period"))
setnames(Ci, c("Estimate", "2.5 %", "97.5 %"), c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U"))
numcols <- c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U", "period", "Std. Error", "t value", "Pr(>|t|)")
Ci[, (numcols) := lapply(.SD, as.numeric), .SDcols = numcols]
strcols <- colnames(Ci)[!(colnames(Ci) %in% numcols)]</pre>
Ci[, (strcols) := lapply(.SD, factor), .SDcols = strcols]
Ci[grepl("mea", normalisation) & period < 0, mean(beta)]</pre>
[1] 0.00562091
```

### Veryfying the code with simulated data

#### Using Bacon data

```
#### https://lost-stats.github.io/Model_Estimation/Research_Design/event_study.html#r
  #### Load and prepare data
####dat = fread("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/LOST-STATS/
#####LOST-STATS.github.io/master/Model_Estimation/Data/Event_Study_DiD/
##### bacon example.csv")
dat <- fread(paste0(pathsource, "bacon_example.csv"))</pre>
  #### Let's create a more user-friendly indicator of which states received treatment
dat[, treat := ifelse(is.na(`_nfd`), 0, 1)]
  #### Create a "time_to_treatment" variable for each state, so that treatment is
  #### relative for all treated units. For the never-treated (i.e. control) units,
  #### we'll arbitrarily set the "time_to_treatment" value at 0. This value
  #### doesn't really matter, since it will be canceled by the treat==0 interaction
  #### anyway. But we do want to make sure they aren't NA, otherwise feels would drop
  #### these never-treated observations at estimation time and our results will be
  #### off.
dat[, time to treat := ifelse(treat==1, year - ` nfd`, 0)]
library(fixest)
twfe1 = feols(asmrs ~ i(time_to_treat, treat, ref = -1) |
    #### Our key interaction: time × treatment status
```

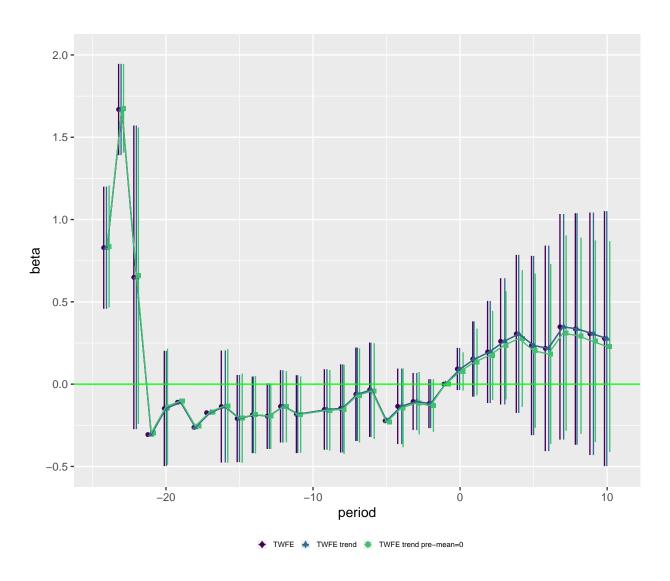


Figure 7: Impacts on divorce rates: Baseline with different normalisation

```
stfips + year,
                        #### FEs
     cluster = ~stfips, #### Clustered SEs
     data = dat)
ttdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(dat[, time_to_treat]),</pre>
  nameprefix = "tt", reference = NULL)
setnames(ttdum, colnames(ttdum), gsub("-", "N", colnames(ttdum)))
ttterms <- paste(colnames(ttdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
ttterms2 <- gsub("\\+ttN1\\+", "+", ttterms)</pre>
ttterms3 <- gsub("ttN21\\+", "", ttterms)
dat[, time := factor(year)]
dat[, id := factor(stfips)]
dt <- data.table(dat, ttdum)</pre>
#### 2: no intercept, drop et=-1
#### 3: with intercept, none dropped (so N21 gets to drop)
#### 4: with intercept, drop et=-1
twfe2 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ -1+id+time+", ttterms2)), data = dt)
twfe3 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+time+", ttterms3)), data = dt)</pre>
twfe4 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+time+", ttterms2)), data = dt)</pre>
tc1 <- twfe1$coeff
names(tc1) <- gsub("ti.*::", "tt", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub(":treat", "", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub("-", "N", names(tc1))</pre>
for (i in 1:4) {
  if (i > 1) {
    tw <- get(paste0("twfe", i))</pre>
    tc <- tw$coeff</pre>
 } else tc <- tc1
 tc <- tc[grep("tt", names(tc))]</pre>
 tc <- data.table(spec = c("fixest", "no int, -1", "int, -21", "int, -1")[i],
    coef = names(tc), val = tc)
  assign(paste0("tcf", i), tc)
}
tcf <- rbindlist(list(tcf1, tcf2, tcf3, tcf4))</pre>
tcf[, et := gsub("tt", "", coef)]
tcf[, et := gsub("N", "-", et)]
tcf[, et := as.numeric(et)]
tcf[et == -21,]
         spec coef
                       val et
1:
       fixest ttN21 -22.8576 -21
2: no int, -1 ttN21 -22.8576 -21
      int, -1 ttN21 -22.8576 -21
tcf[et == -1,]
                      val et
       spec coef
1: int, -21 ttN1 22.8576 -1
```

We see that fixest, "with intercept, drop t=-1" are equivalent, "with intercept, drop t=-21" gives the same estimates but without t = -21 coefficient  $\gamma_{-21}$ , and "no intercept, drop t=-1" is pararell shift to the above.

## Using Bacon data with trend

Let us see how trend alters the above equivalence result.

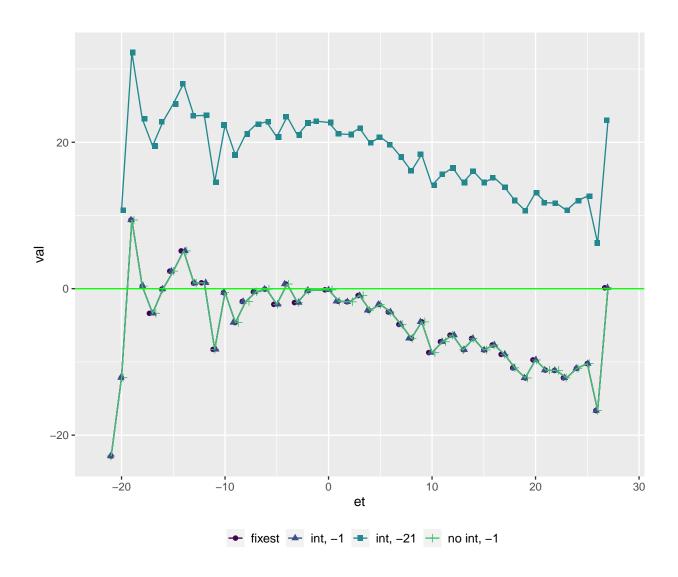


Figure 8: Parameter estimates: 'fixest' and other specifications

```
dat[, trend := 1:.N, by = stfips]
twfet1 = feols(asmrs ~ i(time_to_treat, treat, ref = -1) +
  i(year, ref = 1996) + trend | stfips,
                                               #### FEs
  cluster = ~stfips, data = dat)
tdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(dat[, year]), nameprefix = "y")</pre>
setnames(tdum, colnames(tdum), gsub("19", "", colnames(tdum)))
tterms <- paste(colnames(tdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
tdum[, y96 := NULL]
tterms2 <- paste(colnames(tdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
tterms3 <- gsub("\\+y95", "", tterms2)
ttdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(dat[, time_to_treat]),</pre>
 nameprefix = "tt", reference = NULL)
\tt setnames(ttdum, colnames(ttdum), gsub("-", "N", colnames(ttdum)))
ttterms <- paste(colnames(ttdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
ttterms2 <- gsub("\\+ttN1\\+", "+", ttterms)</pre>
ttterms3 <- gsub("ttN21\\+", "", ttterms)
dt <- data.table(dat, tdum, ttdum)</pre>
#### 2: no intercept, drop et=-1 (ttterms2), y96
#### 3: with intercept, drop et=21 (ttterms3), y95, y96 (tterms3)
#### 4: with intercept, drop et=-1 (ttterms2), y95, y96 (tterms3)
twfet2 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ -1+id+trend+", ttterms2, "+", tterms2)), data = dt)
twfet3 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+trend+", ttterms3, "+", tterms3)), data = dt)
twfet4 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+trend+", ttterms2, "+", tterms3)), data = dt)
tc1 <- twfet1$coeff</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub("ti.*::", "tt", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub(":treat", "", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub("-", "N", names(tc1))</pre>
for (i in 1:4) {
  if (i > 1) {
   tw <- get(paste0("twfet", i))</pre>
   tc <- tw$coeff
 } else tc <- tc1
 tc <- tc[grep("tt", names(tc))]</pre>
 tc <- data.table(spec = c("fixest", "no int, -1", "int, -21", "int, -1")[i],
    coef = names(tc), val = tc)
  assign(paste0("tcf", i), tc)
tcf <- rbindlist(list(tcf1, tcf2, tcf3, tcf4))</pre>
tcf[, et := gsub("tt", "", coef)]
tcf[, et := gsub("N", "-", et)]
tcf[, et := as.numeric(et)]
tcf[et == -21,]
         spec coef
                     val et
       fixest ttN21 -22.8576 -21
2: no int, -1 ttN21 -22.8576 -21
3: int, -1 ttN21 -22.8624 -21
tcf[et == -1,]
       spec coef
                      val et
1: int, -21 ttN1 22.8624 -1
```

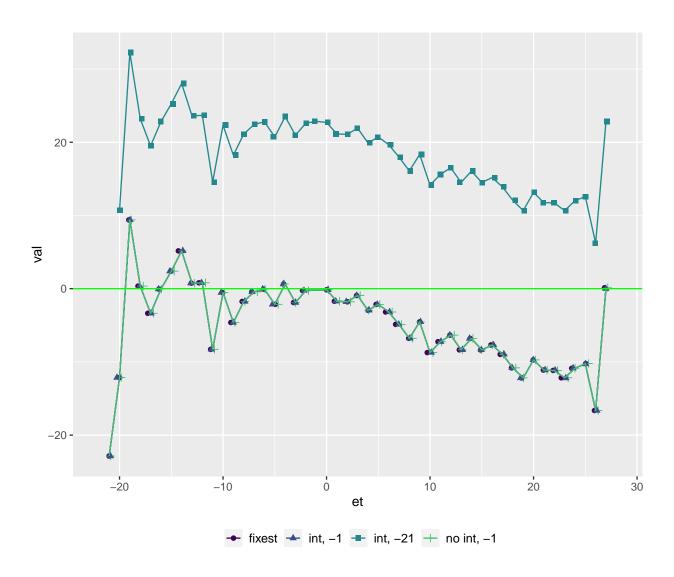


Figure 9: Parameter estimates with trend: 'fixest' and other specifications

#### Using Miller data

```
#### Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(10103)
#### Function to generate data (Miller)
gendata <- function(ctrl, trends)</pre>
  #### trends: Set of treatment timing. Format: "10 11" (treated at 10, 11)
  #### ctrl: Existence of never-treated units, 0 or 1
  #### Number of observations
  numobs <- 48
  #### Number of treated unit types
  treatedunittypes <- length(unlist(strsplit(trends, " ")))</pre>
  #### Determine the number of treated and untreated observations
  numtreatedobs <- round(numobs / (1 + ctrl))</pre>
  numuntreatedobs <- numobs - numtreatedobs</pre>
  #### Calculate the number of observations per treated unit type
  obspertype <- floor(numtreatedobs / treatedunittypes)</pre>
  #### Extract event dates from the trends argument
  eventdates <- as.numeric(strsplit(trends, " ")[[1]])</pre>
  #### Create data.table
  dt <- data.table(id = 1:numobs)</pre>
  #### Create treated indicator
  dt[, treated := id > numuntreatedobs]
  #### Initialize Ei
  dt[, Ei := as.numeric(NA)]
  #### Fill in Ei values based on treated unit types
  for (ii in 1:treatedunittypes) {
    start <- (ii - 1) * obspertype + numuntreatedobs + 1
    stop <- ii * obspertype + numuntreatedobs</pre>
    dt[start <= id & id <= stop, Ei := eventdates[ii]]</pre>
  }
  #### Fill in Ei value for the last treated unit type
  if (max(dt[, id]) > stop) dt[id > stop, Ei := eventdates[treatedunittypes]]
  #### Expand time periods
  dt \leftarrow dt[, .(treated, Ei, t = 1:20), by = id]
  #### Set key for sorting
  setkey(dt, id, t)
  #### Make variables that determine the DGP
  dt[, etime := t - Ei] #### Event time
  dt[, TE := ifelse(etime >= 0, etime + 1, 0)] #### Endless ramp function for treatment effect
  dt[is.na(Ei), TE := 0]
  dt[, Y0_pure := 0] #### Simplest counterfactual
  #### Other counterfactuals (commented out)
  #### dt[, Y0_pure := 4 * treated + 0.3 * treated * t] #### Treated have a pre-trend...
  #### dt[, Y0_pure := 4 * treated + 0.1 * treated * (t - 10) * (Ei - 9)] #### Pre-trend based on Ei..
  dt[, eps := sqrt(0.2) * rnorm(n = .N)]
  dt[, actual := Y0_pure + TE * treated]
  dt[, y := actual + eps] ####s Observed Y
 return(dt)
}
gendata2 <- function(ctrl, trends) #### Edited</pre>
  #### trends: number of groups with same treatment timing
```

```
#### ctrl: number of never treated units
  #### Number of observations
  numobs <- 48
  #### Number of treated unit types
  treatedunittypes <- length(trends)</pre>
  #### Determine the number of treated and untreated observations
  numtreatedobs <- round(numobs * (1 - ctrl/numobs))</pre>
  numuntreatedobs <- numobs - numtreatedobs</pre>
  #### Calculate the number of observations per treated unit type
  obspertype <- floor(numtreatedobs / treatedunittypes)</pre>
  #### Extract event dates from the trends argument
  eventdates <- as.numeric(trends[[1]])</pre>
  #### Create data.table
  dt <- data.table(id = 1:numobs)</pre>
  #### Create treated indicator
  dt[, treated := id > numuntreatedobs]
  #### Initialize Ei
  dt[, Ei := OL]
  #### Fill in Ei values based on treated unit types
  for (ii in 1:treatedunittypes) {
    start <- (ii - 1) * obspertype + numuntreatedobs + 1
    stop <- ii * obspertype + numuntreatedobs</pre>
    dt[start <= id & id <= stop, Ei := eventdates[ii]]</pre>
  #### Fill in Ei value for the last treated unit type
  if (max(dt[, id]) > stop) dt[id > stop, Ei := eventdates[treatedunittypes]]
  #### Expand time periods
  dt \leftarrow dt[, .(treated, Ei, t = 1:20), by = id]
  #### Set key for sorting
  setkey(dt, id, t)
  #### Make variables that determine the DGP
  dt[, etime := t - Ei] #### Event time
  #### Step function treatment effect
  #### dt[, TE := 1 * (etime >= 0)] #### Commented out in Stata
  dt[, TE := (etime >= 0) * (etime + 1)] #### Endless ramp function for treatment effect
  dt[is.na(Ei), TE := 0]
  ####dt[, TE := ifelse(etime >= 0, etime + 1, 0)]
  dt[, Y0 pure := 0] #### Simplest counterfactual
  #### Other counterfactuals (commented out)
  #### dt[, YO_pure := 4 * treated + 0.3 * treated * t] #### Treated have a pre-trend...
  #### dt[, Y0_pure := 4 * treated + 0.1 * treated * (t - 10) * (Ei - 9)] #### Pre-trend based on Ei..
  #### Error term
  dt[, eps := sqrt(0.2) * rnorm(.N)]
  #### Actual and observed outcome
  dt[, actual := Y0 pure + TE * treated]
  dt[, y := actual + eps]
 return(dt)
}
#### Run the gendata function
dt <- gendata2(ctrl=1, trends=10:11)</pre>
#### Create event time dummies and drop if all entries are zero
for (ii in 0:10) {
```

```
dt[, paste("D_p", ii, sep = "") := as.integer(etime == ii)]
dt[, paste("D_m", ii, sep = "") := as.integer(etime == -ii)]
dropme <- mean(dt[, eval(parse(text=pasteO("D_p", ii)))], na.rm = T) == 0
if (dropme) {
   cat(pasteO("D_p", ii), "dropped due to all zero among treated.\n")
   dt[, (paste("D_p", ii, sep = "")) := NULL]
}
dropme <- mean(dt[, eval(parse(text=pasteO("D_m", ii)))], na.rm = T) == 0
if (dropme) {
   cat(pasteO("D_m", ii), "dropped due to all zero among treated.\n")
   dt[, (paste("D_m", ii, sep = "")) := NULL]
}
}</pre>
```

D\_m10 dropped due to all zero among treated.

```
dt[, D_m0 := NULL] # Drop D_m0
dt[, group2 := Ei == 11]
dt[, trend_group2 := t * group2]
destat(dt, signif = 2) # Display summary statistics
```

```
std Os NAs
             min 25\\% median 75\\%
                                     max mean
                       24.50 36.25 48.00 24.50 13.86
                                                          0 960
id
             1.0 12.75
                                                      0
             0.0 1.00
                        1.00 1.00 1.00 0.98
                                                          0 960
treated
                                               0.14
                                                     20
Εi
             0.0 10.00
                       10.00 10.00 10.00 9.58
                                               2.00
                                                     20 480 960
                       10.50 15.25 20.00 10.50
             1.0 5.75
                                               5.77
                                                          0 960
t
                                                      0
                        1.00 6.00 20.00 0.92
etime
            -9.0 - 4.00
                                               6.11
                                                     23 480 960
                              2.00 21.00
ΤE
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00
                                         1.82
                                               3.50 687
                                                          0 960
                        0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 960
             0.0 0.00
                                                          0 960
Y0_pure
eps
            -1.4 -0.28
                        0.01 0.30 1.56
                                         0.01 0.44
                                                      0
                                                          0 960
             0.0 0.00
                        0.00 1.00 11.00
                                         1.58 3.10 707
                                                          0 960
actual
            -1.4 - 0.19
                         0.17 1.29 11.95
                                         1.59
                                               3.16
                                                      0
                                                          0 960
V
D_p0
             0.0 0.00
                        0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.21 457 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.22 456 480 960
D_p1
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.21 457 480 960
D_m1
D_p2
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.21 457 480 960
D_m2
D_p3
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.22 456 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.21 457 480 960
D_m3
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
D_p4
D_m4
             0.0 0.00
                        0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.21 457 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.22 456 480 960
D p5
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.21 457 480 960
D m5
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
D_p6
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.21 457 480 960
D_m6
D_p7
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05 0.22 456 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.21 457 480 960
D_m7
             0.0 0.00
                        0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
D_p8
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.21 457 480 960
D_m8
D_p9
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00 1.00 0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                                   1.00
                                         0.05
D_m9
                         0.00
                              0.00
                                               0.21 457 480 960
D_p10
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00 0.00
                                   1.00
                                         0.05
                                               0.22 456 480 960
             0.0 0.00
                         0.00
                              0.00
                                    0.00
                                         0.00
                                               0.00 480 480 960
group2
                         0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
                                               0.00 480 480 960
trend_group2 0.0 0.00
```

```
# Normalize event time -1 to be zero
dt[D_m1 == 1, D_m1 := OL]
dat = copy(dt)
#### Need to work on how Miller generated data, error: asmrs is missing
dat[, trend := 1:.N, by = id]
library(fixest)
twfet1 = feols(y \sim i(etime, treated, ref = -1) +
  i(t, ref = c(1, 20)) + trend | id,
  cluster = ~id, data = dat)
if (length(twfet1$collin.var) > 0) twfet1$collin.var
tdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(dat[, t]),</pre>
 reference = NULL, nameprefix = "y")
tterms <- paste(colnames(tdum), collapse = "+")
tterms2 <- gsub("y1\\+", "", tterms2)
tterms3 <- gsub("\\+y20", "", tterms2)
dt <- data.table(dat, tdum, ttdum)</pre>
#### 2: no intercept, drop et=-1 (ttterms2), y1 (tterms2)
#### 3: with intercept, drop et=21 (ttterms3), y1, y20 (tterms3)
#### 4: with intercept, drop et=-1 (ttterms2), y1, y20 (tterms3)
twfet2 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ -1+id+trend+", ttterms2, "+", tterms2)), data = dt)
twfet3 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+trend+", ttterms3, "+", tterms3)), data = dt)</pre>
twfet4 <- lm(as.formula(paste0("asmrs ~ id+trend+", ttterms2, "+", tterms3)), data = dt)</pre>
tc1 <- twfet1$coeff
names(tc1) <- gsub("ti.*::", "tt", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub(":treat", "", names(tc1))</pre>
names(tc1) <- gsub("-", "N", names(tc1))</pre>
for (i in 1:4) {
  if (i > 1) {
    tw <- get(paste0("twfet", i))</pre>
    tc <- tw$coeff
 } else tc <- tc1
 tc <- tc[grep("tt", names(tc))]</pre>
  tc <- data.table(spec = c("fixest", "no int, -1", "int, -21", "int, -1")[i],
    coef = names(tc), val = tc)
  assign(paste0("tcf", i), tc)
tcf <- rbindlist(list(tcf1, tcf2, tcf3, tcf4))</pre>
tcf[, et := gsub("tt", "", coef)]
tcf[, et := gsub("N", "-", et)]
tcf[, et := as.numeric(et)]
tcf[et == -21,]
tcf[et == -1,]
```

### Data preparation and estimation

We need to manually drop -1 (for baseline) or -L=-10 (for zero mean pre-period effects) from event time variables, Hawaii from State dummy variables (for linear independence), 1960, 1988 from time dummy variables (for accommodating a linear trend). In below, this is done by creating a dummy matrix from a factor variable and dropping the chosen reference. In using restrictions  $\bar{\gamma}_{s<0}=0$  or  $\bar{a}_i=0$ , we will subtract the chosen reference from each columns of a dummy matrix.

```
for (ob in c("mr", "dv")) {
  obj <- gread(paste0(pathsave, ob, ".gs"))</pre>
  obj <- obj[, time2 := as.numeric(time)]</pre>
  obj <- obj[time2 >= 1960 & time2 <= 1988, ]
  #### State dummies
  stdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, StateName]), nameprefix = "")</pre>
    #### Subtract Hawaii to impose \bar{a}_{i} = 0
  stnames <- colnames(stdum)</pre>
  setnames(stdum, stnames, gsub(" ", "", stnames))
  stdum[, (stnames) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-Hawaii), .SDcols = stnames]
  stdum[, Hawaii := NULL]
  stterms <- paste(colnames(stdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
  #### Time dummies
  tdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, time]), nameprefix = "y")</pre>
    #### Drop 1961, 1987 for accommodating trend and keep linear independence
  setnames(tdum, colnames(tdum), gsub("19", "", colnames(tdum)))
  tnames <- colnames(tdum)</pre>
  tdum[, paste0("y", c(61, 87)) := NULL]
  tterms <- paste(colnames(tdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
  etdum <- makeDummyFromFactor(factor(obj[, et]), nameprefix = "et")</pre>
  #### Event time dummies
    #### change to easier-to-handle names
  setnames(etdum, grepout("-", colnames(etdum)),
    gsub("-", "N", grepout("-", colnames(etdum))))
  etdumpre = copy(etdum)
  etprepost = copy(etdum)
    #### Subtract t=-L, L=10 period to impose \frac{1}{s<0} = 0
  negtime <- grepout("N", colnames(etdum))</pre>
  etdumpre[, (negtime) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-etN10), .SDcols = negtime]
  etdumpre[, etN10 := NULL]
    #### Subtract t=-1 period to impose
    #### \bar{gamma}_{0} = 0, \gamma_{s\neq 0} = \gamma_{s}-\gamma_{0}
  preposttime <- colnames(etdum)</pre>
  etprepost[, (preposttime) := lapply(.SD, function(x) x-etN1),
    .SDcols = preposttime]
  etterms <- paste(colnames(etdum), collapse = "+")</pre>
    #### Drop -1 and -10 from et
  etterms1 <- gsub("\\+etN1\\+", "+", etterms)</pre>
  etterms2 <- gsub("\\+etN10", "", etterms)</pre>
  obj1 <- data.table(obj, stdum, tdum, etdum)
  obj1a <- data.table(obj, stdum, tdum, etprepost)</pre>
  obj2 <- data.table(obj, stdum, tdum, etdumpre)
    #### A: TWFE, B: TWFE+trend
  formA. <- paste0("v ~ -1+", stterms, " + ", tterms)</pre>
  formB. <- paste0("v ~ -1 + trend +", stterms, " + ", tterms)
  formC. \leftarrow pasteO("v \sim -1 + trend + I(trend^(2)) + I(trend^(3))+",
    stterms, " + ", tterms)
  formA1 <- paste(formA., "+", etterms1)</pre>
  formB1 <- paste(formB., "+", etterms1)</pre>
  formC1 <- paste(formC., "+", etterms1)</pre>
  formA2 <- paste(formA., "+", etterms2)</pre>
  formB2 <- paste(formB., "+", etterms2)</pre>
  formC2 <- paste(formC., "+", etterms2)</pre>
```

```
obj1[, id := 1:.N]
obj2[, id := 1:.N]
rAO <- lm(as.formula(formA.), data = obj1)
rBO <- lm(as.formula(formB.), data = obj1)
rC0 <- lm(as.formula(formC.), data = obj1)</pre>
rA1 <- lm(as.formula(formA1), data = obj1)
rB1 <- lm(as.formula(formB1), data = obj1)
rC1 <- lm(as.formula(formC1), data = obj1)
rA2 <- lm(as.formula(formA2), data = obj2)
rB2 <- lm(as.formula(formB2), data = obj2)
rC2 <- lm(as.formula(formC2), data = obj2)</pre>
#### All coefficients are relative to t=-1 (which is set to zero)
rAOa <- lm(as.formula(formA.), data = obj1a)
rBOa <- lm(as.formula(formB.), data = obj1a)
rCOa <- lm(as.formula(formC.), data = obj1a)
rA1a <- lm(as.formula(formA1), data = obj1a)
rB1a <- lm(as.formula(formB1), data = obj1a)
rC1a <- lm(as.formula(formC1), data = obj1a)
assign(pasteO(ob, "reg"), list(
  "TWFE"=rAO, "TWFE+t"=rBO, "TWFE+t3"=rCO,
  "TWFE+et"=rA1, "TWFE+t+et"=rB1, "TWFE+t3+et"=rC1,
 "TWFEa"=rA0a, "TWFEa+t"=rB0a, "TWFEa+t3"=rC0a,
 "TWFEa+et"=rA1a, "TWFEa+t+et"=rB1a, "TWFEa+t3+et"=rC1a,
  "TWFE+et, pre-period"=rA2, "TWFE+t+et, pre-period"=rB2,
  "TWFE+t3+et, pre-period"=rC2
 ))
#### CI
normalizationABC <- c("TWFE", "TWFE trend", "TWFE trend3")</pre>
normalization123 <- c("no et", "-1", "pre-mean=0")</pre>
Ci <- NULL
for (ch in 1:3) {
 for (i in 0:2) {
    for (j in c("", "a")) {
      if (i==2 & j == "a") next
      rr <- get(paste0("r", LETTERS[ch], i, j))</pre>
      id <- as.numeric(names(rr$resid))</pre>
      clus <- obj1[id, StateName]</pre>
      #clus <- data.table(rr$model)[, StateName]</pre>
      rrc <- clx(rr, cluster = clus, returnV = T)</pre>
      clxci <- data.table(cbind(Coef = rownames(rrc$ci), rrc$est, rrc$ci))</pre>
      clxci[, normalABC := gsub("FE", pasteO("FE", j), normalizationABC[ch])]
      clxci[, normal123 := normalization123[i+1]]
      Ci <- rbind(Ci, clxci)</pre>
 }
}
Ci[, period := gsub("et", "", Coef)]
Ci <- Ci[grepl("^.?\\d", period), ]</pre>
Ci[, period := gsub("N", "-", period)]
Ci[, period := as.numeric(period)]
setcolorder(Ci, c("Coef", "Estimate", "Std. Error", "t value", "Pr(>|t|)",
  "2.5 %", "97.5 %", "period"))
setnames(Ci, c("Estimate", "2.5 %", "97.5 %"), c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U"))
```

Table 1: Trend terms in two-way FEs of event study estimates

					Divorce rates		
	TWFE+t+et	TWFE+t3+et	TWFEa+t	TWFEa+t3	TWFEa+t+et	TWFEa+t3+et	
Linear trend \$t\$	0.220***	0.619*	0.177***	1.892***	0.233***	0.625**	
	(0.007)	(0.253)	(0.004)	(0.157)	(0.004)	(0.224)	
Squared trend $t^{2}$ \$		-0.121		-0.403***		-0.120	
		(0.078)		(0.063)		(0.073)	
Cubic trend $t^{3}$		0.004		0.012***		0.004	
		(0.002)		(0.002)		(0.002)	
Num.Obs.	986	986	986	986	986	986	
R2	0.989	0.989	0.976	0.988	0.989	0.989	

<sup>+</sup> p < 0.1, \* p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\* p < 0.001

```
numcols <- c("beta", "CI_L", "CI_U", "period", "Std. Error", "t value", "Pr(>|t|)")
Ci[, (numcols) := lapply(.SD, as.numeric), .SDcols = numcols]
strcols <- colnames(Ci)[!(colnames(Ci) %in% numcols)]
Ci[, (strcols) := lapply(.SD, factor), .SDcols = strcols]
Ci[grepl("mea", normal123) & period < 0, mean(beta), by = normalABC]
qsave(Ci, pasteO(pathsave, ob, "ci.qs"))
}</pre>
```

Trend terms:

```
library(modelsummary)
Results <- list("Divorce rates"=dvreg, "Marriage rates"=mrreg)
ii <- as.vector(which(unlist(lapply(dvreg,</pre>
 function(x) any(grepl("tre", names(coef(x))))))))
ii <- ii[ii > 3]
res <- c(Results[[1]][ii], Results[[2]][ii])</pre>
ms <- modelsummary(res,
  ####output = "gt",
  output = "kableExtra",
  stars = TRUE,
  title = "Trend terms in two-way FEs of event study estimates",
  ####coef_omit = "Sta|time|^et.?[123][1-9]|[23]0",
  #### Need single quotes, double quotes give an error
  coef_map = c('trend' = 'Linear trend $t$', 'I(trend^(2))' = 'Squared trend $t^{2}$',
    'I(trend^{(3)})' = 'Cubic trend $t^{3}$'),
  gof omit = 'IC|Adj|F|RMSE|Log')
#### column labels
###library(gt)
###ms <- tab_spanner(data = ms, label = 'Divorce rates', columns = 2:6)
###ms <- tab_spanner(data = ms, label = 'Marriage rates', columns = 7:11)
library(kableExtra)
ms <- add_header_above(ms, c(" " = 1, "Divorce rates" = 8, "Marriage rates" = 8))
kable_styling(ms, bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F, position = "left")
```

When trending terms (and their cubic terms) are included (and their interactions with state dummies in the richest specifications), event study estimates also tend to have trends similar to gross trends, declining in marriage rates. In the case of divorce rates, use of trend terms breaks down estimation and event study

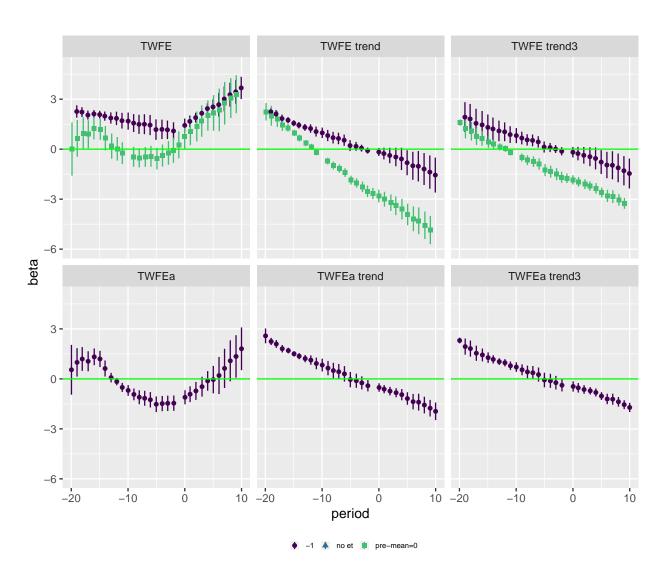


Figure 10: Impacts on divorce rates

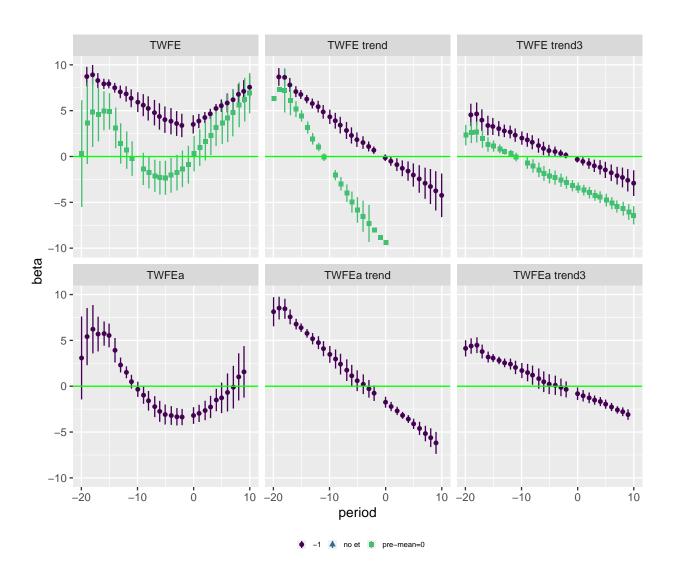


Figure 11: Impacts on marriage rates

estimates have the magnitude of thousands. This suggests possible collinearity bewteen linear trend and the time-to-event variable. In below, I will use TWFE and + only squared linear trend.

Placeholder (you should not see this)

I can win an argument on any topic, against any opponent. People know this, and steer clear of me at parties. Often, as a sign of their great respect, they don't even invite me.

— Dave Barry

Marriage Registration Area was established in January, 1957. In 1959, 32 States and 4 other areas participated. Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (excluding New York City), Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and the independent registration area of New Orleans.

Divorce Registration Area was established in January, 1958.

In 1959, the DRA included 17 States and 2 other areas: Alabama, Alaska, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Hawaii, and the Virgin Islands. See page 24 of **Vital Statistics of the United States, 1959, Volume 1** 

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