

Data Dictionary

This document provides a detailed overview of the four files that make up this dataset:

News Transcript Index

- Description: A sample of evening news transcripts sourced from NexisUni and Factiva that reference Supreme Court cases.
- Key Feature: Identifies specific Supreme Court cases mentioned in the transcripts and the stage at which they were discussed.

News Mention Sample

- Description: Offers granular information about mentions of Supreme Court cases in news transcripts.
- Key Feature: Indicates if multiple cases are referenced in a single transcript or mention, the context of the mention, and the various news formats in which the mention appeared.

News Emotion Sheet

- Description: Presents raw counts of emotional language instances derived from a [DocuScope](#) analysis.
- Key Feature: Quantitative data on the frequency of different emotional language used in news mentions.

Supreme Court Case Index

- Description: An index of Supreme Court cases that were the focus of the transcript search. These cases, spanning the Court's terms from 1990-2018, relate to four primary issue areas: abortion, the First Amendment, economic activity, and sex discrimination.
- Key Feature: Most data is sourced from the [Supreme Court Database](#), with case descriptions supplemented from [Oyez](#).

News Transcript Index

Column Name	Description
TranscriptID	A unique identifier for each transcript.
NewsProgram	The name of the news program where the transcript aired (e.g., WorldNewsTonight, SpecialReport, Hardball).
NexisUni	Indicator if the transcript was available in the Nexis Uni database (1 for Yes, 0 for No)
Factiva	Indicator if the transcript was available in the Factiva database (1 for Yes, 0 for No)
TranscriptDate	The date when the transcript was aired.
TitleOriginal	The title of the transcript as stored in the database.
CaseIDA-D	Unique identifier for the cases discussed in the transcript. Source: SCDB
CaseStageA-D	The stage of the case at the time it was mentioned (e.g., "Cert", "Decision").

News Mention Sample

Column Name	Description
MentionID	A unique identifier for each news mention in the dataset.
TranscriptID	Identifier for the specific transcript where the mention occurred.
NewsProgram	The name of the news program where the mention occurred (e.g., "WorldNewsTonight", "SpecialReport", "Hardball").
ChannelType	The type of news channel (e.g., "NetworkNews", "CableNews").
TimePeriod	The time period during which the mention occurred (e.g., "1990_1999", "2000_2018").
CaseID	A unique identifier for each case in the dataset. Source: Supreme Court Database
IssueArea	The issue are the case related to (e.g., abortion, economic activity, the First Amendment, sex discrimination). Source: Supreme Court Database.
CaseStage	The stage of the case at the time of the mention (e.g., "Cert", "Post-Cert", "Argument", "Post-Argument", "Decision", "PostDecision").
WordCountRAND	The word count for the mention, as determined by RANDLex.
MultiMention	Indicates whether multiple cases were referenced in the transcript the mention originates from (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
MultiMentionType	The type of multiple mentions, if applicable (e.g., "NA", "Secondary", "Separate", "Identical").

MentionContext	The context in which the mention occurred (1 for Same, 2 for Related, 3 for Different).
AnchorOnly	Indicates if the mention was by the anchor only (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
Correspondent	Indicates if the mention included a correspondent report (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
Debate	Indicates if the mention occurred during a debate segment or editorial interview (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
NewsInterview	Indicates if the mention occurred during a news interview (1 for Yes, 0 for No).

News Emotion Sheet

Column Name	Description
MentionID	A unique identifier for each news mention in the dataset.
TranscriptID	Identifier for the specific transcript where the mention occurred.
MultiMentionType	The type of multiple mentions, if applicable (e.g., "NA", "Secondary", "Separate", "Identical").
NewsProgram	The name of the news program where the mention occurred (e.g., "WorldNewsTonight", "SpecialReport", "Hardball").
ChannelType	The type of news channel (e.g., "NetworkNews", "CableNews").
TimePeriod	The time period during which the mention occurred (e.g., "1990_1999", "2000_2018").
IssueArea	The issue are the case related to (e.g., abortion, economic activity, the First Amendment, sex discrimination). Source: Supreme Court Database.
CaseStage	The stage of the case at the time of the mention (e.g., "Cert", "Post-Cert", "Argument", "Post-Argument", "Decision", "PostDecision").
WordCountRAND	The word count for the mention, as determined by RANDLex.
AnchorOnly	Indicates if the mention was by the anchor only (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
Correspondent	Indicates if the mention included a correspondent report (1 for Yes, 0 for No).

Debate	Indicates if the mention occurred during a debate segment or editorial interview (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
NewsInterview	Indicates if the mention occurred during a news interview (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
EmotionPresent	Indicator if any emotional language was present in the mention (1 for Yes, 0 for No).
NegativeEmotion	Count of instances of language referencing negative emotion in the mention.
PositiveEmotion	Count of instances of language referencing positive emotion in the mention.
[Specific Emotion Columns]	Count of specific types of emotions in the mention (e.g., NegativeEmotionFear, PositiveEmotionJoy, etc.).

Supreme Court Cases Index

Column Name	Description
CaseID	A unique identifier for each case.
DateCert	The date when the case was accepted for review. (not complete)
DateArgument	The date when oral arguments for the case were heard.
DateDecision	The date when the decision for the case was announced.
TimePeriod	A time range or period in which the case falls (e.g., "1990_1999" indicates the case occurred between 1990 and 1999).
CaseName	The official name of the case.
CaseSummary	A brief summary or description of the case and its main issues or points.
IssueArea	The primary legal or thematic area the case pertains to (e.g., "FirstAmendment" or "EconomicActivity").