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**Media Dataset:**

**Dataset Variable Codebook**

The media dataset is based on front page stories every Wednesday from 1960-2008 contained in *The Times (London).* There are several format changes as well as an extended strike over the course of this dataset that slightly change the nature of the data or make the data completely unavailable. These aspects of the data are as follows.

* From 1960 to May 1966, *The Times (London)* had a more traditional format with births, deaths, weddings and sports scores along with other news reported on the front page. The “front page” during this period includes all “News” stories up to and including the first full page of “News” in the paper.
* From May 1966 to November 2003 the paper was printed in a traditional broadsheet format with an associated front page.
* From 1 December to 1978 to 12 November 1979 the paper was shut down due to a strike.
* In November 2003 the paper switched to a Tabloid format with one or two stories on the front page. In order to gain a more accurate view of the front page media agenda the first page as well as the third and fourth pages are included in the dataset. The second page, which contains editorials is excluded.

ID: Counting variable from the start of the dataset for identification purposes.

Title: The title of the newspaper story.

Subtitle: The subtitle contained after a colon when included in a story’s title.

Date: The date the article was published in the DD-MM-YYYY format.

Speech\_Year: Counting variable based on the Speech from the Throne from the first speech in 1911 to the last speech in the dataset in 2008, by speech from 1 to 102.

Words: The number of words contained in the article.

Major\_Topic: Policy Agendas major topic code associated with the story and based on the story’s Title and Subtitle.

International: A dummy variable coded 1 when a story is primarily based outside the UK, such as news about the US stock market.

Duplicate: A dummy variable coded 1 when a story is a duplicate of a story listed previously that day.