Senator Opposition to US Supreme Court Nominations Dataset *

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This file contains documentation in the form of variable descriptions, constructions, and sources for the values contained in the sc_nom_lsq.xls Excel file. These data are provided as is. Please cite the data source if used. Contact L.J Zigerell with questions or comments.

*Please contact L.J Zigerell for questions or if you find any errors. Suggested citation: Zigerell, L.J. 2009. Senator Opposition to US Supreme Court Nominations Dataset Codebook.

1 Medj Tab

1. The medj tab lists names of the justices on the natural Court prior to the vacancy, with corresponding Bailey scores drawn from the completed term immediately previous to the vacancy. Also listed are the Bailey score for the departing justice and the Bailey score for the nominee. For instances in which more than one nominee was confirmed in a term, the Common Space score of the confirmed nominee was placed into the justice array for subsequent nominations.

2 Bridge Tab

2. **BaileyImpute**
   Imputed Bailey scores based on a regression of Segal-Cover perceived nominee scores (NomScIdeo) and nominee Bailey scores for first-time confirmed nominees (Bailey FY).

   Source: Stata regression and Excel formula.

3 Individual Tab

3. **Org**
   Number denoting the original order of the observations (starting at 2073).

4. **NomNum**
   Nomination number, where Abe Fortas in 1968 is 22.

5. **Nominee**
   The full name of the nominee.

6. **SenAnn**
   A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator served at the time of the presidential announcement of a nomination.

   Source: Congressional Record, and the Congressional Biographical Directory.

7. **SenVote**
   A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator served at the time of the confirmation or cloture roll call vote.

   Source: Congressional Record, and the Congressional Biographical Directory.

8. **YrVote**
   The year that the Senate voted on the nomination.

   Source: Rutkus, Denis Steven, and Maureen Bearden. 2006. Supreme Court Nominations, 1789–2005: Actions by the Senate, the Judiciary Committee, and the President. CRS Report RL33225. Washington DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

9. **CongVote**
   The Congress that the Senate voted on the nomination.

   Source: US Senate website. Party Division in the Senate, 1789-Present. Retrieved on 13 Sept 2008 from: http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/history/one_item_and_teasers/partydiv.htm.

10. **State**
    The state of the senator.

11. **BaileyYrS**
    The year from which the Bailey ideal point was drawn for the confirmation or cloture vote.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

12. **BaileyID**
    Senator identification number for the Bailey ideal point data.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

13. **BaileySenName**
    Name of the senator

14. **BaileyS**
    The Bailey ideal point for the senator.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

15. **SenDem**
    A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator was a member of the Democratic Party.

Source: BL75109.dta file from the Common Space data page, retrieved on July 21, 2008, from: http://www.voteview.com/readmeb.htm.

16. **SenGOP**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator was a member of the Republican Party.

Source: BL75109.dta file from the Common Space data page, retrieved on July 21, 2008, from: http://www.voteview.com/readmeb.htm.

17. **SenOther**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator is neither a member of the Democratic Party nor a member of the Republican Party.

Source: BL75109.dta file from the Common Space data page, retrieved on July 21, 2008, from: http://www.voteview.com/readmeb.htm.

18. **RecordProT**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the senator supported the nomination, 0 if the senator opposed the nomination, and . if the senator's preferences could not be determined or if the senator voted present or if the senator was not in the Senate at the time of the confirmation or cloture vote.

Source: Zigerell, L.J. 2009. Senator Opposition to US Supreme Court Nominations (1937-2006): An Alternative to the Recorded Roll Call Vote. Working paper.

19. **RollCallPro**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 for senators voting for the nomination in the official roll call vote, and 0 for senators voting against the nomination in the official roll call vote.

Source: Congressional Record.

20. **StateOp**
The estimate of state public opinion for nominees O'Connor, Rehnquist (1986), Bork, Souter, Thomas, Ginsburg, Breyer, Roberts, and Alito.

Source: Kastellec, Johnathan P., Jeffrey R. Lax, and Justin Phillips. 2008. Public Opinion and Senate Confirmation of Supreme Court Nominees. paper prepared for the 2008 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 28-31.

21. **Pres**
The name of the nominating president.

Source: Rutkus, Denis Steven, and Maureen Bearden. 2006. Supreme Court Nominations, 1789–2005: Actions by the Senate, the Judiciary Committee, and the President. CRS Report RL33225. Washington DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

22. **PresDem**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nominating president was a member of the Democratic Party.

23. **PresAppVote**
Gallup Poll presidential approval ratings drawn from the poll conducted immediately prior to the Senate roll call vote, unless the roll call and the final date of the poll coincided. In that case, values were drawn from the poll that began before the date of the Senate roll call and ended on the date of the Senate roll call.

Source: The Roper Center, http://www.ropercenter.uconn.edu.

24. **PresDisappVote**
Gallup Poll presidential disapproval ratings drawn from the poll conducted immediately prior to the Senate roll call vote, unless the roll call and the final date of the poll coincided. In that case, values were drawn from the poll that began before the date of the Senate roll call and ended on the date of the Senate roll call.

Source: The Roper Center, http://www.ropercenter.uconn.edu.

25. **PresAppNoVote**
Gallup Poll presidential "don't know / no opinion" approval ratings drawn from the poll conducted immediately prior to the Senate roll call vote, unless the roll call and the final date of the poll coincided. In that case, values were drawn from the poll that began before the date of the Senate roll call and ended on the date of the Senate roll call. Note: there was no "don't know" option for the first nomination in the dataset (Stanley Reed, 1938).

Source: The Roper Center, http://www.ropercenter.uconn.edu.

26. **SenCtrlDemVote**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the Democrats controlled the Senate at the time of the conformation or cloture vote.

Source: US Senate website. Party Division in the Senate, 1789-Present.
Retrieved on 13 Sept 2008 from:
http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/history/one_item_and_teasers/partydiv.htm

27. **PolDemVote**
The first dimension Democratic Party DW–Nominate Senate mean at the time of the confirmation or cloture vote.

Source: Retrieved on 21 May 2009 from: http://polarizedamerica.com/

28. **PolRepVote**
The first dimension Republican Party DW–Nominate Senate mean at the time of the confirmation or cloture vote.

    Source: Retrieved on 21 May 2009 from: http://polarizedamerica.com/

29. **Recess**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nomination was a recess nomination.

    Source: Garrett, R. Sam, and Denis Steven Rutkus. 2005. Speed of Presidential and Senate Actions on Supreme Court Nominations, 1900-2005. CRS Report RL33118 2005-10-18. Washington DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

30. **OverlapN**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nomination overlapped with another vacancy in which the identity of subsequent nominees were announced. This operationalization does not include the pairs Burger/Haynsworth and Roberts/Alito.

31. **OverlapNC**
A count of nominations where simultaneous nominations (based on the OverlapN criteria) are not considered unique.

32. **OverlapV**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nomination overlapped another nomination period. This operationalization includes the pairs Burger/Haynsworth and Roberts/Alito.

33. **OverlapVC**
A count of nominations where simultaneous nominations (based on the Overlap1v criteria) are not considered unique.

34. **ChiefN**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nomination is for the chief justiceship and the nominee is not a sitting associate justice.

35. **ChiefS**
A dichotomous variable coded 1 if the nomination is for the chief justiceship and the nominee is a sitting associate justice.

36. **IGPro**
The number of interest groups testifying in favor of a nomination.

Source: Epstein, Lee, Jeffrey A. Segal, Harold J. Spaeth, and Thomas G. Walker. 2007. The Supreme Court Compendium: Data, Decisions and Developments. Fourth edition. Washington DC: Congressional Quarterly Press. Table 4-17.

37. **IGCon**
The number of interest groups testifying against a nomination.

    Source: Epstein, Lee, Jeffrey A. Segal, Harold J. Spaeth, and Thomas G. Walker. 2007. The Supreme Court Compendium: Data, Decisions and Developments. Fourth edition. Washington DC: Congressional Quarterly Press. Table 4-17.

38. **DepjName**
The last name of the departing justice.

39. **BaileyDepj**
The Bailey score for the departing justice.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

40. **NomName**
The last name of the nominee.

41. **BaileyNom**
The Bailey score for the nominee.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

42. **FmedjName**
The last name of the median justice prior to the vacancy.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

43. **BaileyFmedj**
The Bailey score for the median justice prior to the vacancy.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

44. **NmedjName**
The last name of the potential median justice if the nomination would have been confirmed.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

45. **BaileyNmedj**
The Bailey score for the median justice if the nomination would have been confirmed.

    Source: Bailey, Michael A., and Forrest Maltzman. 2009. The Constrained Court. Manuscript. Personal correspondence with Michael Bailey, September 28, 2009.

46. **AgeNom**
The age of the nominee.

    Source: Epstein, Lee, Jeffrey A. Segal, Harold J. Spaeth, and Thomas G. Walker. 2007. The Supreme Court Compendium: Data, Decisions and Developments. Fourth edition. Washington DC: Congressional Quarterly Press. Table 4-10 (I think).

47. **NomSCQual**
The Segal-Cover qualifications score for the nominee.

    Source: Perceived Qualifications and Ideology of Supreme Court Nominees, 1937-2005. Retrieved on 13 September 2008 from: http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/polsci/jsegal/qualtable.pdf.

48. **NomScIdeo**
The Segal-Cover ideology score for the nominee.

    Source: Perceived Qualifications and Ideology of Supreme Court Nominees, 1937-2005. Retrieved on 13 September 2008 from: http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/polsci/jsegal/qualtable.pdf.