The Law or the Career? Autocratic Judiciaries, Strategic Sentencing, and Political Repression

Howard Liu, Ching-Hsuan Su, and Yi-Ting Wang

2024-09-13

Session information

```
library(haven)
library(rdrobust)
library(rddensity)
library(ggplot2)
library(ggeffects)
library(dplyr)
library(scales)
library(stargazer)
library(fastDummies)
library(sjPlot)
library(fixest)
library(sjmisc)

trial<- read_dta("trial_replication.dta") #Load the full data
civilian<-trial[trial$category_e==0,] #The data including only civilian defendants
utils:::print.sessionInfo(sessionInfo()[-8],locale = FALSE)
```

```
## R version 4.2.2 (2022-10-31)
## Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin17.0 (64-bit)
## Running under: macOS Big Sur ... 10.16
##
## Matrix products: default
## BLAS:   /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.2/Resources/lib/libRblas.0.dylib
## LAPACK: /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.2/Resources/lib/libRlapack.dylib
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats     graphics  grDevices utils     datasets  methods   base
##
## other attached packages:
##  [1] sjmisc_2.8.10     fixest_0.11.2     sjPlot_2.8.16     fastDummies_1.7.3
##  [5] stargazer_5.2.3   scales_1.3.0      dplyr_1.1.4       ggeffects_1.6.0
##  [9] ggplot2_3.5.0     rddensity_2.5     rdrobust_2.2      haven_2.5.0
```

Variable description

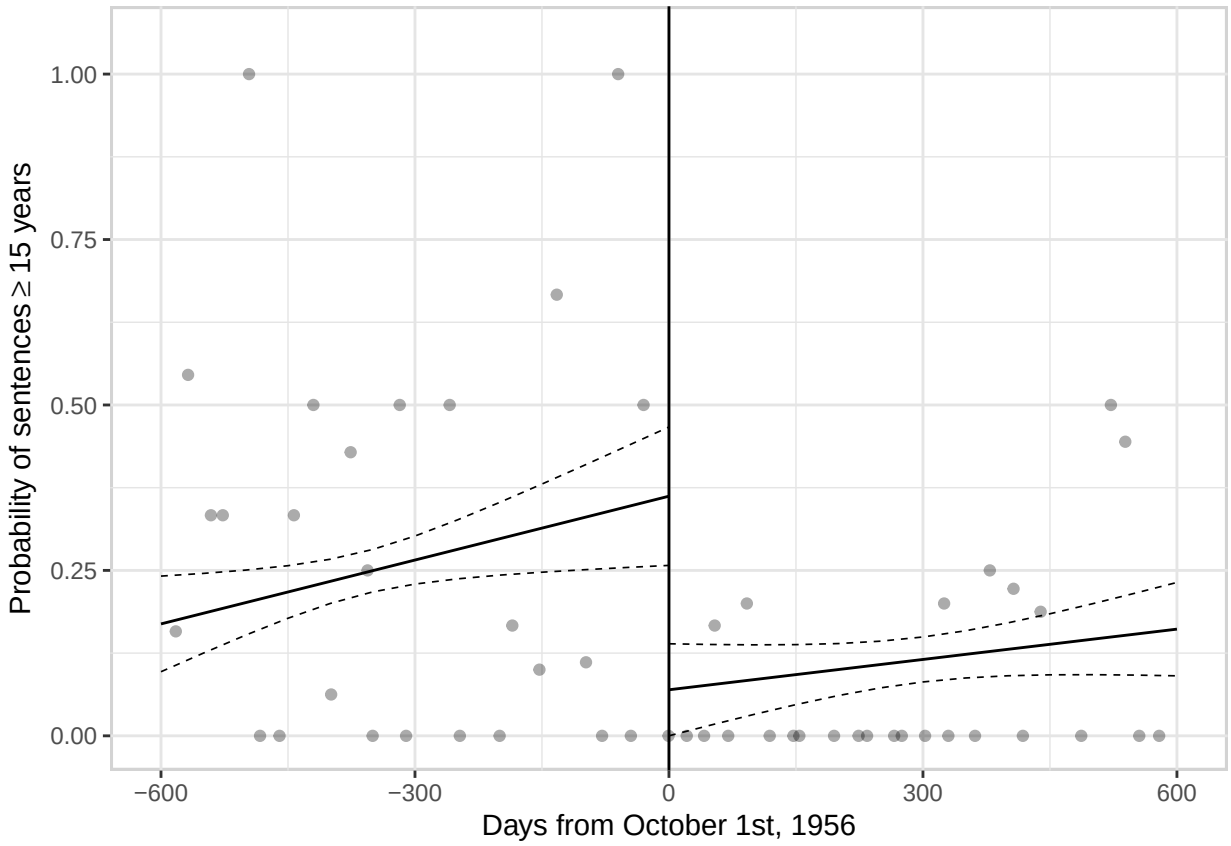
name: name of the defendant
minym: year and month of the first instance trial
minyy: year of the first instance trial
d2_per: number of codefendants
age: age of the defendant
d2_j1: name of the chief judge in the first instance trial
after1956: whether the trial took place after the 1956 reform (0=no, 1=yes)
subversion: whether the defendant was charged with committing subversion (0=no, 1=yes)
leakmilitary: whether the defendant was charged with leaking military intelligence (0=no, 1=yes)
weapon: whether the defendant was charged with having weapons (0=no, 1=yes)
presn: number of times the President overruled the judges' decisions in the defendant's case
islander: whether the defendant is Taiwanese (0=mainland Chinese, 1=Taiwanese)
male: 1=male, 0=female
lnd2per: number of codefendants (log)
presreyearr_l: the proportion of cases returned to judges due to Presidential dissatisfaction in his review in the previous year
timediff: the number of days from October 1st, 1956
category_e: occupation of the defendant (0=civilian, 1=other military, 2=colonel or major, 3=general)
d2h15: whether the sentence was more than 15 years (0=no, 1=yes)
d2_819: minor crime (0=no, 1=yes)
prepare: preparations without actual execution of subversive acts (0=no, 1=yes)
conspiracy: conspiracy without actual execution of subversive acts (0=no, 1=yes)
attemp: attempts without actual execution of subversive acts (0=no, 1=yes)
organize: involved in organizations of subversive acts (0=no, 1=yes)
connive: failing to report traitors (0=no, 1=yes)
d2_termmm: sentence length in months (0=no, 1=yes)
d2h15_lm: average dependent variable (more than 15yr sentence) lagged for one month
d1_crime1: court descriptions of the defendant's activities
d1_crime2: court descriptions of the defendant's activities (continued)
d1_crime3: court descriptions of the defendant's activities (continued)
d1_crime4: court descriptions of the defendant's activities (continued)
d1_crime5: court descriptions of the defendant's activities (continued)
d2_maj: major crime (0=no, 1=yes)
d2_mid: medium crime (0=no, 1=yes)

Main text

Figure 1. The 1956 reform and the severity of sentences

```
a<-civilian %>%
  mutate(period
    ↪  =cut(timediff,breaks=seq(min(timediff,na.rm=T),max(timediff,na.rm=T),20))) %>%
```

```
  group_by(period) %>%
  summarise(md2l15 = mean(d2h15, na.rm = T),
            n=n(),
            timediff=median(timediff,na.rm=T))
#Aggregate the data into groups, each including civilian defendants tried within 20 days

before_p1 <-
  trial[trial$category_e==0,] %>%
  filter(timediff >=-800& timediff < 0&!is.na(timediff)) %>%
  mutate(weight = 1 - abs(timediff) / 800) #assign triangular weights
fit_before_cov<-lm(d2h15~timediff+age+male+islander+d2_per+
                     weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_1,
                   data = before_p1, weights = weight)
fit_before_covdata <- ggpredict(fit_before_cov,terms="timediff")
#Fit a linear weighted regression before the cutoff using the original non-aggregated
 ↪  data

after_p1 <-
  trial[trial$category_e==0,] %>%
  filter(timediff >0& timediff < 800&!is.na(timediff)) %>%
  mutate(weight = 1 - abs(timediff) / 800) #assign triangular weights
fit_after_cov<-lm(d2h15~timediff+age+male+islander+d2_per+
                    weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_1,
                  data = after_p1, weights = weight)
fit_after_covdata <- ggpredict(fit_after_cov,terms="timediff")
#Fit a linear weighted regression after the cutoff using the original non-aggregated data

ggplot(trial,aes(x=timediff, y=d2h15))+
  geom_point(a,alpha = 1/3,mapping=aes(x=timediff, y=md2l15))+
  geom_line(fit_before_covdata,mapping=aes(x, predicted))+
  geom_line(fit_before_covdata,mapping=aes(x, conf.low),linetype = 2,linewidth=0.3)+
  geom_line(fit_before_covdata,mapping=aes(x, conf.high),linetype = 2,linewidth=0.3)+
  geom_line(fit_after_covdata,mapping=aes(x, predicted))+
  geom_line(fit_after_covdata,mapping=aes(x, conf.low),linetype = 2,linewidth=0.3)+
  geom_line(fit_after_covdata,mapping=aes(x, conf.high),linetype = 2,linewidth=0.3)+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0)+
  scale_x_continuous(name = 'Days from October 1st, 1956',
                     limits = c( -600 , 600 ))+
  scale_y_continuous( name =expression(paste("Probability of sentences", """>="15
   ↪  years")),limits = c(0, 1.05))+
  theme( panel.grid.major =  element_line(colour = "grey90"),
         panel.grid.minor =  element_line(colour = "grey90"),legend.position="none",
         panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))
```

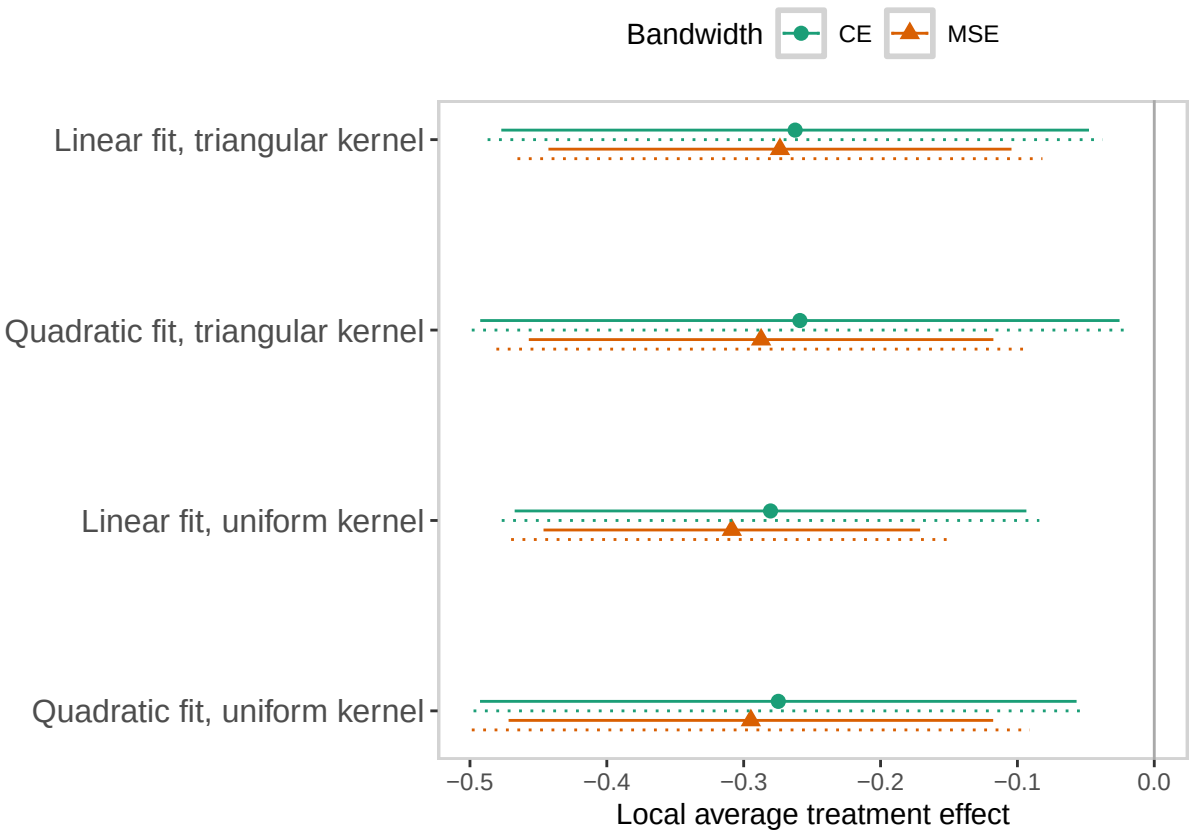



```
#Plot the fitted regression lines along with the aggregated data points
```

Figure 2. The 1956 reform and the severity of sentences

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15
timediff<-civilian$timediff
Z<-civilian[,c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
#DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models

m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust",bwcheck=280) #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE
              ↪  bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
```

```
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-rbind(r,cbind(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],get(paste0("m",
 ↪  i))$ci[2,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],
                   get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2]))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
colnames(r)<-c("resp","bclower","bcupper","rlower","rupper")
r$trt <-c(3,2,1,0,2.9,1.9,0.9,-0.1)
r$bw<-c("CE","CE","CE","CE","MSE","MSE","MSE","MSE")

ggplot(r, aes(resp,trt,color=bw))+
  geom_pointrange(aes(xmin = bclower, xmax = bcupper,shape=bw))+
  geom_linerange(aes(y=trt-0.05,xmin = rlower, xmax = rupper),linetype=3)+
  theme(panel.grid.major =element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor =element_blank(),
        legend.position="top",legend.direction = "horizontal",
        axis.text.y = element_text(size =12),
        strip.text = element_text(size =12),
        panel.background = element_rect(linewidth = 1,colour =
         ↪  "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_y_continuous("",breaks=c(2.95,1.95,0.95,-0.05),
                     labels=c("Linear fit, triangular kernel",
                              "Quadratic fit, triangular kernel",
                              "Linear fit, uniform kernel",
                              "Quadratic fit, uniform kernel"))+
  scale_color_brewer("Bandwidth",palette = "Dark2")+
  scale_shape_discrete("Bandwidth")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0, color = "darkgray")+
  scale_x_continuous("Local average treatment effect")
```



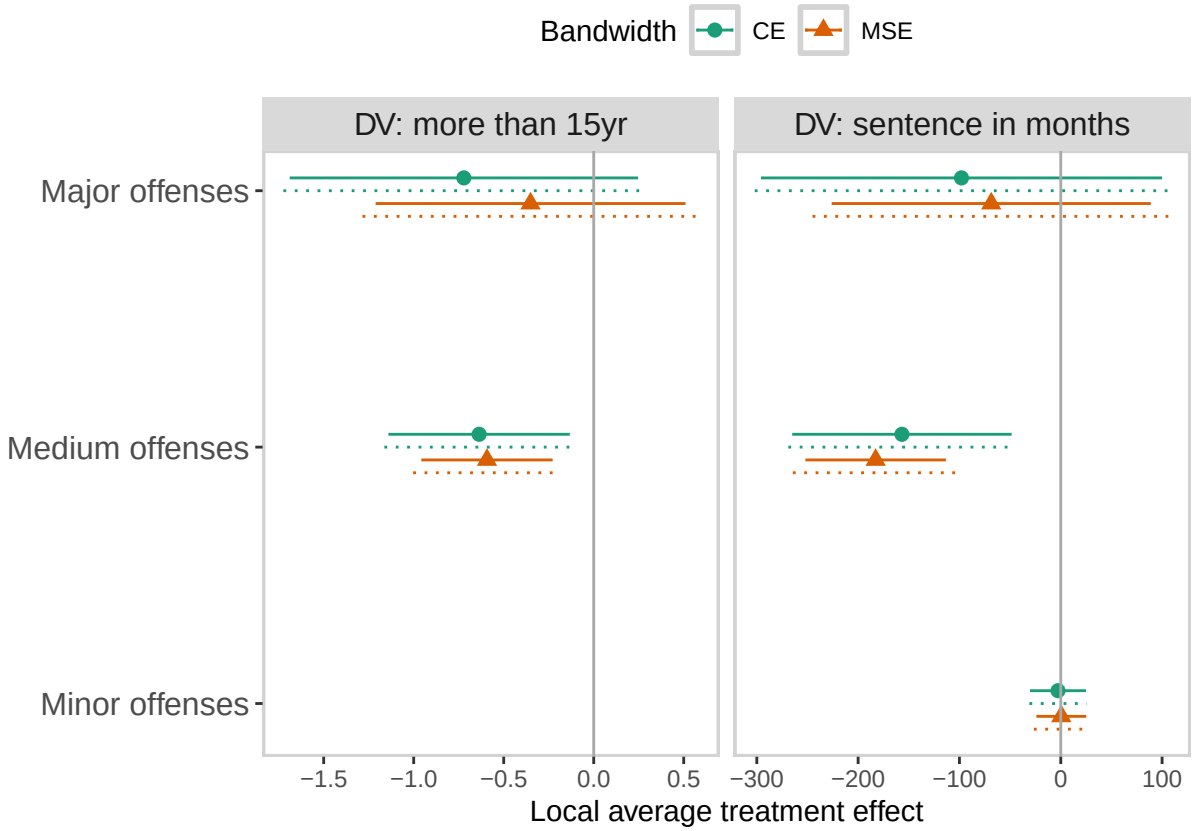

```
#Plot the LATE point estimates and 95% CI
```

Figure 3. The 1956 reform and the severity of sentences across different types of offenses

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_1")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_1")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_1")]
```

```
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m9<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m10<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m13<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m14<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_819==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_819==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_819==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for minor offenses
m17<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m18<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in c(1,2,5,6,9,10,13,14,17,18)){
  r<-rbind(r,cbind(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],get(paste0("m",
 ↪  i))$ci[2,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],
                   get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2]))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
colnames(r)<-c("resp","bclower","bcupper","rlower","rupper")
r$group<-c(rep("DV: more than 15yr",4),rep("DV: sentence in months",6))
r$bw<-rep(c("CE","MSE"),5)
r$trt <-c(3,2.9,2,1.9,3,2.9,2,1.9,1,0.9)
r$group<-factor(r$group, levels=c('DV: more than 15yr',"DV: sentence in months"))

ggplot(r, aes(resp,trt,color=bw))+
  geom_pointrange(aes(xmin = bclower, xmax = bcupper,shape=bw))+
  geom_linerange(aes(y=trt-0.05,xmin = rlower, xmax = rupper),linetype=3)+
  facet_grid(cols = vars(group),scales = "free")+
  theme( panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
         panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
         legend.position="top",legend.direction = "horizontal",
         axis.text.y = element_text(size =12),
         strip.text = element_text(size =12),
         panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_y_continuous("",
                     breaks=c(2.95,1.95,0.95),
                     labels=c("Major offenses",
                              "Medium offenses",
                              "Minor offenses"))+
  scale_color_brewer("Bandwidth",palette = "Dark2")+
```

```
  scale_shape_discrete("Bandwidth")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0, color = "darkgray")+
  scale_x_continuous("Local average treatment effect")
```




```
#Plot the LATE point estimates and 95% CI
```

Appendix

Table A.1. Descriptive statistics

```
t_a1<-data.frame(civilian[,c("timediff","d2h15","age","male","islander",
                             ↪  "d2_per","subversion","leakmilitary","weapon","presreyearr_1")])
stargazer(t_a1)
```

```
##
## % Table created by stargazer v.5.2.3 by Marek Hlavac, Social Policy Institute. E-mail: marek.hlavac a
## % Date and time: Fri, Sep 20, 2024 - 11:49:11
## \begin{table}[!htbp] \centering
##   \caption{}
##   \label{}
## \begin{tabular}{@{\extracolsep{5pt}}lccccc}
## \\[-1.8ex]\hline
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
## Statistic & \multicolumn{1}{c}{N} & \multicolumn{1}{c}{Mean} & \multicolumn{1}{c}{St. Dev.} & \multi
```

```
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
## timediff & 9,035 & 3,384.387 & 5,183.896 & $-$3,432 & 11,237 \\
## d2h15 & 5,259 & 0.197 & 0.398 & 0 & 1 \\
## age & 9,028 & 33.180 & 10.900 & 11 & 77 \\
## male & 9,033 & 0.969 & 0.174 & 0 & 1 \\
## islander & 9,011 & 0.692 & 0.462 & 0 & 1 \\
## d2\_per & 9,035 & 6.687 & 11.908 & 0 & 62 \\
## subversion & 9,035 & 0.105 & 0.306 & 0 & 1 \\
## leakmilitary & 9,035 & 0.005 & 0.072 & 0 & 1 \\
## weapon & 9,035 & 0.007 & 0.083 & 0 & 1 \\
## presreyearr\_l & 9,035 & 0.069 & 0.110 & 0.000 & 0.524 \\
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
## \end{tabular}
## \end{table}
```

Table A.2. Testing for discontinuities in covariates and types of offenses

```
m1<-rdrobust(civilian$age, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #age
m2<-rdrobust(civilian$male, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #male
m3<-rdrobust(civilian$islander, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #islander
m4<-rdrobust(civilian$d2_per, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #N of codefendants
m5<-rdrobust(civilian$weapon, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #weapon
m6<-rdrobust(civilian$subversion, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #committing subversion
m7<-rdrobust(civilian$leakmilitary, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p
 ↪  = 1,masspoints = "adjust") #leaking military intelligence
m8<-rdrobust(civilian$presreyearr_l, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd",
 ↪  p = 1,masspoints = "adjust") #president review t-1
m9<-rdrobust(civilian$d2_maj, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #major offenses
m10<-rdrobust(civilian$d2_mid, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #medium offenses
m11<-rdrobust(civilian$d2_819, civilian$timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p =
 ↪  1,masspoints = "adjust") #minor offenses

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:11){
  r<-rbind(r,cbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],4),"
                    ↪  ,",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],4),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
colnames(r)<-c("coefficient","robust CI", "bw","n")
r
```

```
##    coefficient         robust CI  bw   n
```

```
## 1         1.29 [-2.3467 ,4.9259] 598 490
## 2        0.033 [-0.0267 ,0.0936] 570 462
## 3         0.13 [-0.1328 ,0.3919] 375 228
## 4        0.181  [-0.0608 ,0.422]  99  79
## 5        0.003 [-0.0012 ,0.0064] 580 474
## 6        0.007 [-0.0674 ,0.0814] 728 671
## 7        0.011 [-0.0238 ,0.0461] 869 841
## 8       -0.002  [-0.0045 ,5e-04]  73  59
## 9        0.097 [-0.1199 ,0.3134] 393 143
## 10       0.042 [-0.2719 ,0.3567] 480 220
## 11      -0.158 [-0.5341 ,0.2178] 402 157
```

```
## density test ------------------------------------------------------------
summary(rddensity(civilian$timediff))
```

```
##
## Manipulation testing using local polynomial density estimation.
##
## Number of obs =       9035
## Model =               unrestricted
## Kernel =              triangular
## BW method =           estimated
## VCE method =          jackknife
##
## c = 0                 Left of c           Right of c
## Number of obs         4137                4898
## Eff. Number of obs    294                 185
## Order est. (p)        2                   2
## Order bias (q)        3                   3
## BW est. (h)           582.178             599.12
##
## Method                T                   P > |T|
## Robust                0.3131              0.7542
##
##
## P-values of binomial tests (H0: p=0.5).
##
## Window Length              <c     >=c    P>|T|
## 79.000    + 79.000         20      45    0.0026
## 134.909   + 136.791        36      56    0.0470
## 190.817   + 194.582        55      69    0.2429
## 246.726   + 252.373        61      80    0.1293
## 302.635   + 310.164        71      92    0.1170
## 358.544   + 367.955        98     107    0.5764
## 414.452   + 425.746       161     125    0.0383
## 470.361   + 483.537       197     151    0.0157
## 526.270   + 541.329       213     180    0.1064
## 582.178   + 599.120       294     185    0.0000
```

Table A.3. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15
timediff<-civilian$timediff
Z<-civilian[,c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
#DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models

m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust",bwcheck=280) #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE
              ↪  bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],3),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],3),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                 X1               X2               X3               X4
## 1           -0.262           -0.259           -0.28            -0.275
## 2 [-0.477, -0.048] [-0.492, -0.025] [-0.467, -0.093] [-0.493, -0.057]
## 3 [-0.487, -0.038] [-0.499, -0.019] [-0.477, -0.084] [-0.497, -0.052]
## 4              407              755              440              740
## 5              177              471              205              461
##                 X5               X6               X7               X8
## 1           -0.274           -0.287           -0.309           -0.295
## 2 [-0.443, -0.104] [-0.457, -0.118] [-0.446, -0.171] [-0.472, -0.118]
## 3 [-0.465, -0.082] [-0.481, -0.094]  [-0.47, -0.147] [-0.499, -0.091]
## 4              625             1232              675              945
## 5              322             1144              378              725
```

Table A.4. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents across different types of offenses

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1,c("age","male","islander
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses (based
 ↪  on crime description)
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$attemp==
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$at
Z<-civilian[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$attemp==1,c("age",
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses (based
 ↪  on crime description)
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],3),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],3),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                X1              X2              X3              X4
## 1          -0.721          -0.351          -0.649          -0.335
## 2 [-1.689, 0.246]  [-1.212, 0.51] [-1.424, 0.125] [-1.045, 0.376]
## 3 [-1.724, 0.281] [-1.285, 0.583] [-1.477, 0.178]  [-1.149, 0.48]
## 4             669             928             631             893
## 5              59             122              60             111
##                X5              X6              X7              X8
## 1          -0.637          -0.593          -0.732          -0.537
## 2 [-1.14, -0.133] [-0.958, -0.228] [-1.298, -0.166] [-0.972, -0.102]
## 3 [-1.163, -0.11] [-1.003, -0.183] [-1.318, -0.146] [-1.013, -0.061]
## 4             372             546             351             511
## 5              35              88              31              60
```

Table A.5. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence length for civilian dissidents across different types of crimes

```
d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m9<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m10<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$weapon==1|civilian$subversion==1|civilian$leakmilitary==1,c("age","male","islander"
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
 ↪  (based on crime description)
m11<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m12<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m13<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m14<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$a
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$att
Z<-civilian[civilian$organize==1|civilian$prepare==1|civilian$conspiracy==1|civilian$attemp==1,c("age",
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
 ↪  (based on crime description)
m15<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m16<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
```

```r
d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_819==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_819==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_819==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for minor offenses
m17<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m18<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$connive==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$connive==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$connive==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for minor offenses
 ↪  (based on crime description)
m19<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,bwcheck=15,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE
               ↪  bw
m20<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 9:20){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],2),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],2),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],2),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],2),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],2),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                   X1              X2               X3               X4
## 1             -97.98           -68.6           -58.64           -59.67
## 2  [-295.92, 99.97] [-226.1, 88.91] [-259.93, 142.66] [-246.32, 126.99]
## 3 [-302.04, 106.08]  [-245, 107.81] [-273.51, 156.24] [-274.62, 155.29]
## 4               867            1197              747             1054
## 5                91             165               76              149
##                   X5              X6               X7               X8
## 1           -156.77          -182.72          -201.07          -150.98
## 2 [-265.08, -48.46] [-252.07, -113.37] [-299.01, -103.14] [-228.39, -73.57]
## 3  [-268.9, -44.64] [-264.46, -100.98] [-302.04, -100.11]  [-236.06, -65.9]
## 4               315              459              543              788
## 5                28               60               52               98
##                  X9             X10              X11              X12
## 1             -2.71            0.57           -44.12           -35.55
## 2 [-30.31, 24.89]  [-24.06, 25.2]  [-135.74, 47.5] [-124.48, 53.38]
## 3 [-30.97, 25.55] [-26.54, 27.68] [-146.92, 58.68] [-145.31, 74.21]
## 4              201             285              386              395
## 5               24              38               21               21
```

Table A.6. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents across different types of offenses (alternative model specifications)

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m9<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m10<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m11<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m12<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:12){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],2),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],2),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],2),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],2),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##              X1            X2            X3            X4            X5
## 1        -1.033        -0.253        -0.285        -0.664        -0.075
## 2 [-2.53, 0.47] [-1.09, 0.58] [-1.32, 0.75]  [-1.83, 0.5] [-0.53, 0.38]
```

```
## 3 [-2.57, 0.51] [-1.12, 0.61] [-1.36, 0.79] [-1.94, 0.61] [-0.68, 0.53]
## 4           759           823          1163          1104          1142
## 5            72            86           165           148           158
##               X6            X7            X8            X9           X10
## 1        -0.315        -0.576          -0.6        -0.573        -0.656
## 2 [-1.11, 0.48] [-1.07, -0.09] [-1.07, -0.13] [-1.07, -0.07] [-1.04, -0.27]
## 3 [-1.28, 0.65] [-1.08, -0.07] [-1.09, -0.11] [-1.08, -0.06] [-1.09, -0.22]
## 4          1692           725           334           643          1124
## 5           369           128            35           103           336
##               X11           X12
## 1        -0.674        -0.572
## 2 [-1.03, -0.31] [-1.03, -0.12]
## 3 [-1.08, -0.27] [-1.08, -0.07]
## 4           490           785
## 5            82           146
```

Table A.7. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence length for civilian dissidents across different types of crimes (alternative model specifications)

```
d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m13<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m14<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m15<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m16<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m17<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m18<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m19<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m20<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m21<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=90,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m22<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m23<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m24<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
```

```r
d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_819==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_819==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_819==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_1")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for minor offenses
m25<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m26<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m27<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m28<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m29<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m30<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 13:30){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],2),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],1),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],1),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],1),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],1),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##               X1              X2              X3              X4
## 1        -214.47           -74.1          -74.85         -132.44
## 2 [-512.1, 83.2]   [-264.2, 116] [-294.6, 144.9] [-378.5, 113.7]
## 3 [-520.4, 91.5] [-270.9, 122.7] [-305.3, 155.6] [-398.2, 133.3]
## 4            741             801            1222            1071
## 5             69              78             170             130
##                X5              X6              X7              X8              X9
## 1          -49.88         -101.33         -182.92         -167.47         -176.07
## 2    [-171, 71.2] [-275.5, 72.8] [-334.5, -31.4] [-291.6, -43.4] [-344.9, -7.3]
## 3 [-200.2, 100.5]  [-312, 109.3] [-342.2, -23.7] [-296.5, -38.5] [-349.3, -2.8]
## 4            1106            1767             475             204             461
## 5             134             371              60              23              60
##               X10             X11             X12             X13             X14
## 1         -160.94         -138.34         -157.27            3.66           -3.01
## 2 [-247.3, -74.6] [-255.8, -20.9] [-256.4, -58.1] [-26.8, 34.1] [-34.4, 28.4]
## 3 [-263.2, -58.7]   [-264, -12.7] [-271.9, -42.6] [-28.1, 35.4] [-35.6, 29.6]
## 4             733             298             598             462             261
## 5             116              26              81              79              36
##              X15             X16             X17             X18
## 1          -9.48           14.94           -2.43           28.01
## 2 [-51.8, 32.9]  [-9.7, 39.6] [-26.5, 21.6] [-0.9, 56.9]
## 3 [-52.5, 33.6] [-12.2, 42.1] [-28.6, 23.7]   [-3, 59.1]
## 4           317             689             370             472
```

```
## 5            43           111            49           79
```

Table A.8. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents (donut-hole test)

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[abs(civilian$timediff) >= 31]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[abs(civilian$timediff) >= 31]
Z<-civilian[abs(civilian$timediff) >= 31,
            c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
              "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
m1<-rdrobust(d2h15,timediff,kernel = "tri",p = 1,covs=Z,bwselect="cerrd",
 ↪  bwcheck=250,masspoints = "adjust")
# 1 month donut-hole

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[abs(civilian$timediff) >= 91]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[abs(civilian$timediff) >= 91]
Z<-civilian[abs(civilian$timediff) >=91,
            c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
              "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15,timediff, kernel = "tri",p = 1, covs=Z,bwselect="cerrd",
 ↪  bwcheck=250,masspoints = "adjust")
# 3 months donut-hole

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:2){
  r<-rbind(r,cbind(round(get(paste0("m",i))$coef[1],3),

                   ↪  paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m",i))$ci[3,1],3),",",round(get(paste0("m",i))$ci[3
                   ↪
                  round(get(paste0("m",i))$bws[1,1]),
                  sum(get(paste0("m",i))$N_h)))
           }
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##       X1              X2  X3  X4
## 1 -0.257 [-0.483,-0.065] 525 256
## 2 -0.417 [-0.748,-0.176] 509 222
```

Table A.9. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents (with lagged dependent variable)

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15
timediff<-civilian$timediff
Z<-civilian[,c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l","d2h15_lm")]
#include monthly average of the dependent variable in t - 1 as a covariate

m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
```

```
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust",bwcheck=250) #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE
              ↪  bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],3),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],3),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                 X1               X2               X3               X4
## 1           -0.253           -0.259           -0.247           -0.296
## 2 [-0.465, -0.042] [-0.495, -0.023] [-0.453, -0.042] [-0.526, -0.067]
## 3 [-0.475, -0.031] [-0.502, -0.017] [-0.461, -0.034] [-0.531, -0.061]
## 4              419              753              393              697
## 5              175              447              149              395
##                 X5               X6               X7               X8
## 1           -0.277           -0.294          -0.277           -0.281
## 2 [-0.453, -0.101] [-0.474, -0.115] [-0.44, -0.113] [-0.467, -0.095]
## 3 [-0.475, -0.079] [-0.498, -0.091] [-0.464, -0.09] [-0.496, -0.066]
## 4              642             1227             602              958
## 5              314             1110             291              712
```

Table A.10. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for civilian dissidents (with judge fixed effects)

```
civilian <- dummy_cols(civilian, select_columns = 'd2_j1')
somejudges <- civilian %>%
  group_by(d2_j1) %>%
  filter(all(1%in% after1956)) %>%
  ungroup()
#generate dummies of judges

d2h15<-somejudges$d2h15
```

```
timediff<-somejudges$timediff
Z<-somejudges[,c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
                 "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l",
                 grep('d2_j1_', names(somejudges), value = TRUE))]
Z$d2_j1_<-NULL
Z$d2_j1_NA<-NULL
#include judge fixed effects as covariates

m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust",bwcheck=235) #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE
              ↪  bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],3),"]"),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],3),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                X1              X2              X3              X4
## 1          -0.241          -0.254          -0.326          -0.263
## 2 [-0.418, -0.065] [-0.485, -0.022] [-0.528, -0.125] [-0.498, -0.027]
## 3 [-0.428, -0.055] [-0.493, -0.014] [-0.535, -0.118] [-0.503, -0.022]
## 4             428             635             341             598
## 5             174             321             117             302
##                X5              X6              X7              X8
## 1          -0.222          -0.269          -0.261          -0.283
## 2 [-0.376, -0.069] [-0.446, -0.093]   [-0.423, -0.1] [-0.486, -0.081]
## 3 [-0.397, -0.047] [-0.473, -0.066] [-0.441, -0.082] [-0.501, -0.066]
## 4             644            1013             514             741
## 5             325             815             240             443
```

Table A.11. Regression discontinuity of the 1956 reform on sentence severity for military cases involving generals

```
d2h15<-trial$d2h15[trial$category_e==3]
timediff<-trial$timediff[trial$category_e==3]
Z<-trial[trial$category_e==3,c("age","male","islander","d2_per","weapon","subversion",
                               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
#DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for generals

m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
r<-NULL
for(i in 1:8){
  r<-cbind(r,rbind(round(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],3),
                   paste0("[",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],3),",
                    ↪  ",round(get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2],3),"]"),
                   round(get(paste0("m", i))$bws[1,1]),
                   sum(get(paste0("m", i))$N_h)))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
r
```

```
##                X1              X2             X3              X4             X5
## 1          -0.538           0.536         -0.268           0.089         -0.534
## 2 [-1.133, 0.058] [-0.515, 1.586] [-0.89, 0.354] [-0.942, 1.121] [-1.13, 0.063]
## 3            3346            3375           1965            1926           4382
## 4             214             214             52              43            218
##                X6              X7             X8
## 1           0.251          -0.466         -0.604
## 2 [-0.742, 1.243] [-1.141, 0.209] [-1.503, 0.294]
## 3            4594            2574           2621
## 4             218             201            201
```

Table A.12. Difference-in-differences analyses on the effect of the 1956 reform on sentence severity

```
trial$no_military=NA
trial$no_military[trial$category_e==3&!is.na(trial$category_e)]<-0
```

```r
trial$no_military[trial$category_e==0&!is.na(trial$category_e)]<-1
# generate a group dummy for civilian/military

shift_year <- function(year, month) {
  adjusted_year <- if (month %in% c(10, 11, 12)) year + 1 else year
  return(adjusted_year)
}
trial <- trial %>%
  mutate(year = as.numeric(format(as.Date(paste0(minym, "-01")), "%Y")),
         month = as.numeric(format(as.Date(paste0(minym, "-01")), "%m")),
         shift_year = mapply(shift_year, year, month))

gdat<-trial %>%
  group_by(no_military, shift_year, minym) %>%
  summarize(d2h15 = mean(d2h15,na.rm=T),
            age = mean(age,na.rm=T),
            male = mean(male,na.rm=T),
            islander = mean(islander,na.rm=T),
            lnd2per= mean(lnd2per,na.rm=T),
            weapon = mean(weapon,na.rm=T),
            subversion = mean(subversion,na.rm=T),
            leakmilitary = mean(leakmilitary,na.rm=T),
            presreyearr_l = mean(presreyearr_l,na.rm=T))
#aggregate all variables to yearly data, with each year running from the previous October
 ↪  to September of the current year

gdat<-gdat[gdat$shift_year>=1950&gdat$shift_year<=1972,] #include only data under
 ↪  Chiang's reign from 1950 to 1972
gdat$after1956<-0
gdat$after1956[gdat$shift_year>=1957]<-1 #dummy of post reform
gdat$after1956<- factor(gdat$after1956, labels=c("Before 1956","After 1956"))
gdat$no_military<- factor(gdat$no_military, labels=c("Military","Civilian"))

m1<-lm(d2h15~after1956*no_military+age+male+islander+lnd2per+
         weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_l,data=gdat) #with group FE
m2<-lm(d2h15~after1956*no_military+age+male+islander+lnd2per+
         weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_l+factor(shift_year),data=gdat) #with
 ↪  group FE + year FE
stargazer(m1,m2)
```

```
##
## % Table created by stargazer v.5.2.3 by Marek Hlavac, Social Policy Institute. E-mail: marek.hlavac a
## % Date and time: Fri, Sep 20, 2024 - 11:50:48
## \begin{table}[!htbp] \centering
##   \caption{}
##   \label{}
## \begin{tabular}{@{\extracolsep{5pt}}lcc}
## \\[-1.8ex]\hline
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
##  & \multicolumn{2}{c}{\textit{Dependent variable:}} \\
## \cline{2-3}
## \\[-1.8ex] & \multicolumn{2}{c}{d2h15} \\
## \\[-1.8ex] & (1) & (2)\\
```

```
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
##  after1956After 1956 & 0.052 & $-$0.030 \\
##   & (0.075) & (0.099) \\
##   & & \\
##  no\_militaryCivilian & $-$0.172$^{***}$ & $-$0.154$^{***}$ \\
##   & (0.050) & (0.052) \\
##   & & \\
##  age & 0.005$^{***}$ & 0.006$^{***}$ \\
##   & (0.002) & (0.002) \\
##   & & \\
##  male & 0.081 & 0.042 \\
##   & (0.115) & (0.120) \\
##   & & \\
##  islander & 0.078$^{**}$ & 0.100$^{**}$ \\
##   & (0.038) & (0.041) \\
##   & & \\
##  lnd2per & $-$0.024$^{*}$ & $-$0.037$^{**}$ \\
##   & (0.014) & (0.016) \\
##   & & \\
##  weapon & $-$0.164 & $-$0.207 \\
##   & (0.233) & (0.243) \\
##   & & \\
##  subversion & 0.630$^{***}$ & 0.656$^{***}$ \\
##   & (0.055) & (0.057) \\
##   & & \\
##  leakmilitary & 0.316$^{*}$ & 0.252 \\
##   & (0.191) & (0.199) \\
##   & & \\
##  presreyearr\_l & 0.037 & 0.032 \\
##   & (0.064) & (0.112) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1951 &  & $-$0.080 \\
##   &  & (0.055) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1952 &  & $-$0.087 \\
##   &  & (0.058) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1953 &  & $-$0.084 \\
##   &  & (0.061) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1954 &  & $-$0.112$^{*}$ \\
##   &  & (0.066) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1955 &  & $-$0.098 \\
##   &  & (0.071) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1956 &  & $-$0.116$^{*}$ \\
##   &  & (0.067) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1957 &  & 0.016 \\
##   &  & (0.072) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1958 &  & 0.088 \\
##   &  & (0.068) \\
```

```
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1959 &  & 0.039 \\
##   &  & (0.070) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1960 &  & $-$0.010 \\
##   &  & (0.062) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1961 &  & $-$0.041 \\
##   &  & (0.062) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1962 &  & 0.052 \\
##   &  & (0.075) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1963 &  & $-$0.003 \\
##   &  & (0.067) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1964 &  & $-$0.003 \\
##   &  & (0.062) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1965 &  & $-$0.071 \\
##   &  & (0.069) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1966 &  & $-$0.037 \\
##   &  & (0.077) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1967 &  & $-$0.060 \\
##   &  & (0.067) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1968 &  & $-$0.002 \\
##   &  & (0.064) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1969 &  & $-$0.084 \\
##   &  & (0.063) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1970 &  & $-$0.004 \\
##   &  & (0.062) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1971 &  & $-$0.056 \\
##   &  & (0.062) \\
##   & & \\
##  factor(shift\_year)1972 &  &  \\
##   &  &  \\
##   & & \\
##  after1956After 1956:no\_militaryCivilian & $-$0.209$^{***}$ & $-$0.216$^{***}$ \\
##   & (0.078) & (0.081) \\
##   & & \\
##  Constant & 0.061 & 0.110 \\
##   & (0.140) & (0.152) \\
##   & & \\
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
## Observations & 287 & 287 \\
## R$^{2}$ & 0.485 & 0.521 \\
## Adjusted R$^{2}$ & 0.464 & 0.461 \\
## Residual Std. Error & 0.150 (df = 275) & 0.150 (df = 254) \\
```

```
## F Statistic & 23.529$^{***}$ (df = 11; 275) & 8.649$^{***}$ (df = 32; 254) \\
## \hline
## \hline \\[-1.8ex]
## \textit{Note:}  & \multicolumn{2}{r}{$^{*}$p$<$0.1; $^{**}$p$<$0.05; $^{***}$p$<$0.01} \\
## \end{tabular}
## \end{table}
```

Figure A.1. Frequency of civilian dissident cases around Oct. 1st, 1956

```
freq<-civilian[!is.na(civilian$d2h15),]
freq<-freq[!is.na(freq$minyy),]

case<-freq %>%
  group_by(minyy,minym) %>%
  summarize(d2_all = n(),

            ↪  d2_maj=sum(d2_maj,na.rm=T),d2_mid=sum(d2_mid,na.rm=T),d2_min=sum(d2_819,na.rm=T))
#aggregate data to monthly frequencies, divided by types of offenses

case<-as.data.frame(case)
r<-names(table(case$minym))
case$minym<-factor(case$minym, levels=r)
long<-reshape(data=case,idvar="minym",varying=names(case[,3:6]),
              timevar="type",direction="long",sep="_")
long$type<-factor(long$type, labels=c("All","Major", "Medium","Minor"))

ggplot(long[case$minyy>=1955&case$minyy<=1958&!case$minym%in%c("1958-11","1958-12"),],
       aes(minym,d2))+geom_col(col="black")+facet_grid(rows = vars(type),scales = "free",
        ↪  space = "free")+
  theme( panel.grid.major =  element_line(colour = "grey90"), panel.background =
   ↪  element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'),
         axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, vjust = 1, hjust=1.5))+
  scale_x_discrete("")+scale_y_continuous("Count",breaks = breaks_extended(8))+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 20.5, color = "#E66100")
```

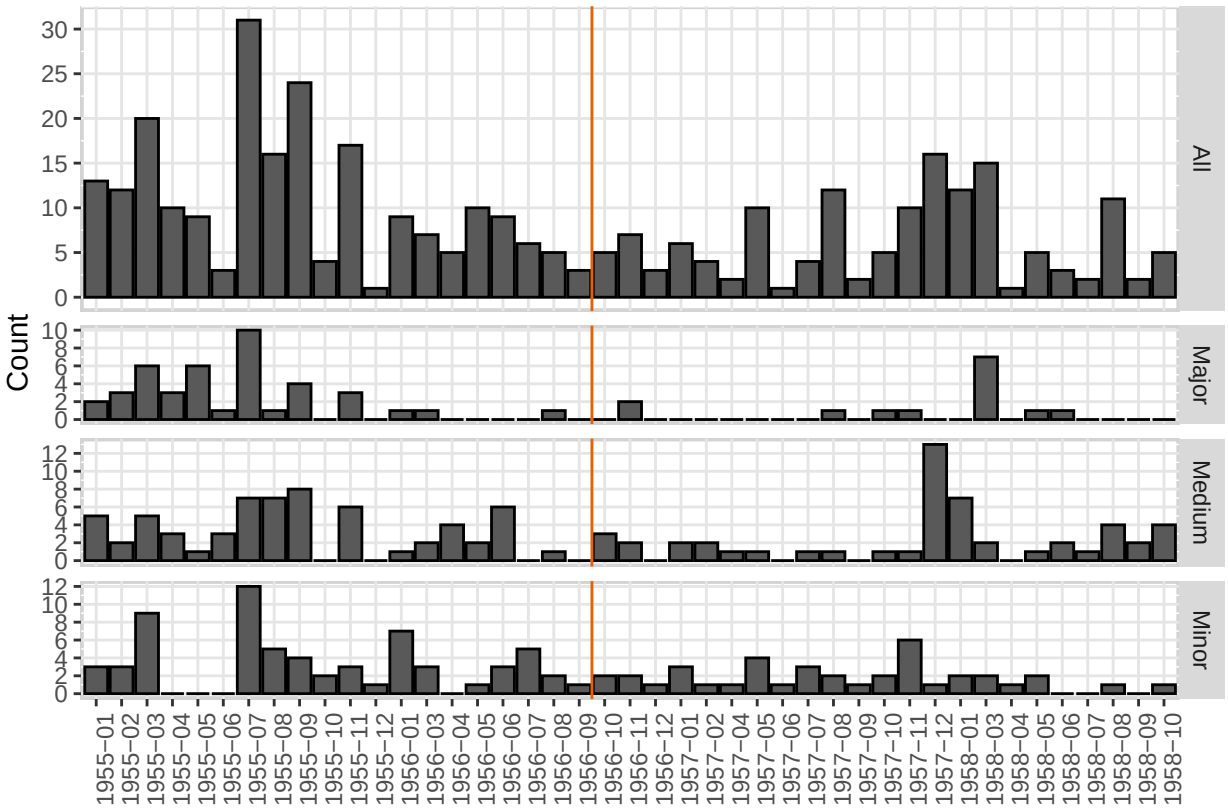
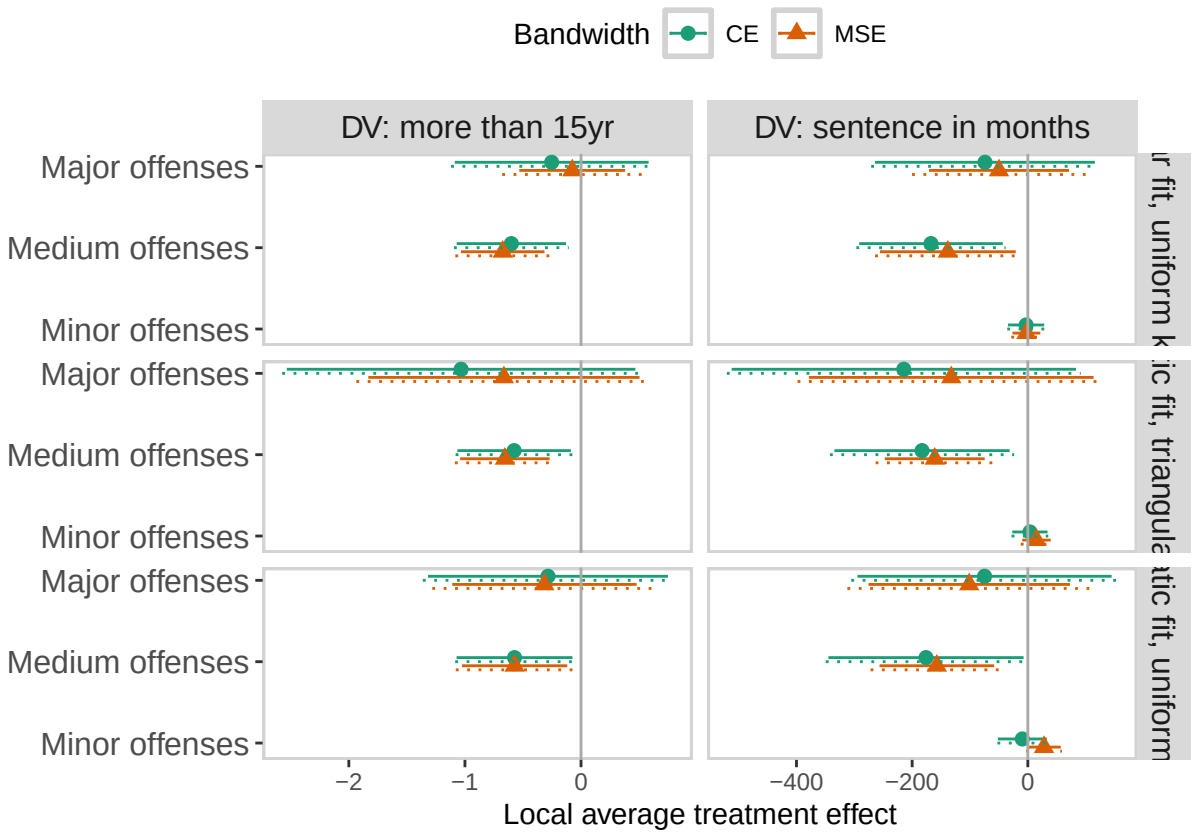


Figure A.2. The 1956 reform and the severity of sentences across different types of offenses (alternative model specifications)

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m1<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m2<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m3<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m4<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m5<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m6<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2h15<-civilian$d2h15[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#binary DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m7<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
```

```
m8<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m9<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
             covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m10<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2, bwcheck=130,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m11<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m12<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_maj==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_maj==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_maj==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for major offenses
m13<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m14<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m15<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m16<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m17<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m18<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_mid==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_mid==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_mid==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for medium offenses
m19<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m20<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m21<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2, bwcheck=90,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m22<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m23<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m24<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

d2_termmm<-civilian$d2_termmm[civilian$d2_819==1]
timediff<-civilian$timediff[civilian$d2_819==1]
Z<-civilian[civilian$d2_819==1,c("age","male","islander","presreyearr_l")]
#continuous DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models for minor offenses
m25<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, CE bw
m26<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
```

```
m27<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="cerrd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, CE bw
m28<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "tri",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, triangular kernel, MSE bw
m29<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #linear fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw
m30<-rdrobust(d2_termmm, timediff, kernel = "uni",bwselect="mserd", p = 2,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust") #quadratic fit, uniform kernel, MSE bw

r<-NULL
for(i in 1:30){
  r<-rbind(r,cbind(get(paste0("m", i))$coef[3],get(paste0("m",
 ↪  i))$ci[2,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[2,2],
                   get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,1],get(paste0("m", i))$ci[3,2]))
}
r<-data.frame(r)
colnames(r)<-c("resp","bclower","bcupper","rlower","rupper")
r$group<-c(rep("DV: more than 15yr",12),rep("DV: sentence in months",18))
r$bw<-rep(c(rep("CE",3),rep("MSE",3)),5)
r$trt <-c(rep(3,3),rep(2.9,3),rep(2,3),rep(1.9,3),
          rep(3,3),rep(2.9,3),rep(2,3),rep(1.9,3),rep(1,3),rep(0.9,3))
r$ms <-rep(c("Quadratic fit, triangular kernel",
             "Linear fit, uniform kernel",
             "Quadratic fit, uniform kernel"),10)
r$group<-factor(r$group, levels=c('DV: more than 15yr',"DV: sentence in months"))

ggplot(r, aes(resp,trt,color=bw))+
  geom_pointrange(aes(xmin = bclower, xmax = bcupper,shape=bw))+
  geom_linerange(aes(y=trt-0.05,xmin = rlower, xmax = rupper),linetype=3)+
  facet_grid(vars(ms),vars(group),scales = "free")+
  theme( panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
         panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
         legend.position="top",legend.direction = "horizontal",
         axis.text.y = element_text(size =12),
         strip.text = element_text(size =12),
         panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_y_continuous("",
                     breaks=c(2.95,1.95,0.95),
                     labels=c("Major offenses",
                              "Medium offenses",
                              "Minor offenses"))+
  scale_color_brewer("Bandwidth",palette = "Dark2")+
  scale_shape_discrete("Bandwidth")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0, color = "darkgray")+
  scale_x_continuous("Local average treatment effect")
```




```
#Plot the LATE point estimates and 95% CI
```

Figure A.3. RD estimates with alternative bandwidths

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15
timediff<-civilian$timediff
Z<-civilian[,c("age","male","islander","lnd2per","weapon","subversion",
               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
#DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models

different_h<-data.frame(h=seq(200,2500,50),
                        p=NA,l95=NA,h95=NA)
for(i in seq(200,2500,50)){
  m<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",h=i, p = 1,
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust")
  different_h$p[different_h$h==i]<-m$coef[2]
  different_h$l95[different_h$h==i]<-m$ci[2,1]
  different_h$h95[different_h$h==i]<-m$ci[2,2]
}
#alternative bandwidths ranging from 200 to 2500

ggplot(different_h, aes(x=h, y=p)) +
  geom_pointrange(aes(ymin=l95, ymax=h95))+
  geom_hline(yintercept=0,color="grey40")+
  theme( panel.grid.major =  element_line(colour = "grey90"),
```

```
        panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'),
        legend.position="bottom")+
  scale_x_continuous("Bandwidth")+
  scale_y_continuous("RD estimate")
```

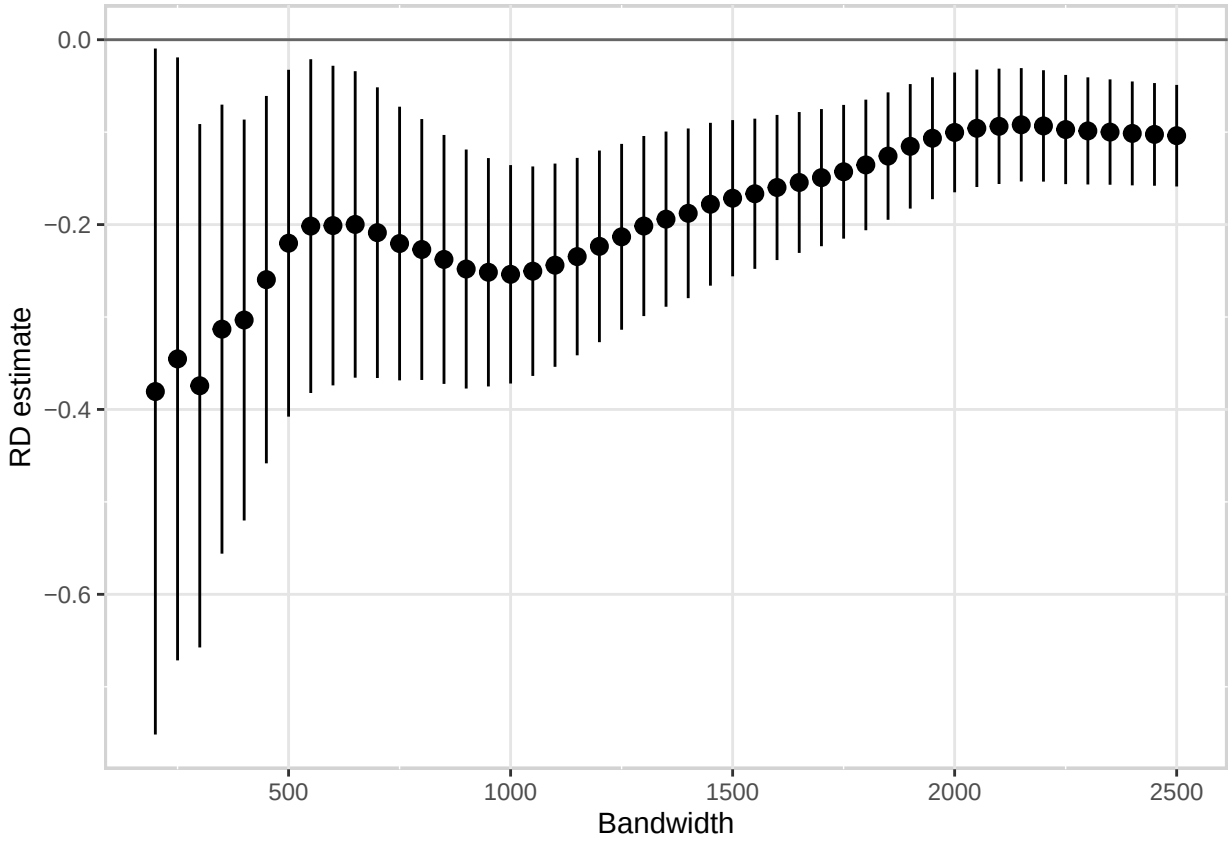


Figure A.4. RD estimates for false cutoffs

```
d2h15<-civilian$d2h15
timediff<-civilian$timediff
Z<-civilian[,c("age","male","islander","lnd2per","weapon","subversion",
               "leakmilitary","presreyearr_l")]
placebo_c<-data.frame(h= seq(-2190,3285,365),
                      p=NA,l95=NA,h95=NA)
#DV, running variable, and covariates of the RD models

for(i in placebo_c$h){
  m<-rdrobust(d2h15, timediff, kernel = "tri",c=i, bwselect="cerrd",
              covs=Z,masspoints = "adjust")
  placebo_c$p[placebo_c$h==i]<-m$coef[2]
  placebo_c$l95[placebo_c$h==i]<-m$ci[2,1]
  placebo_c$h95[placebo_c$h==i]<-m$ci[2,2]
}
placebo_c$cutoff<-paste0("Oct. 1, ",seq(1950,1965,1))
#placebo tests using fake cutoffs between 1950 and 1963
```

```
ggplot(placebo_c, aes(x=cutoff, y=p)) +
  geom_pointrange(aes(ymin=l95, ymax=h95))+
  geom_hline(yintercept=0,color="grey40")+
  theme( panel.grid.major =  element_line(colour = "grey90"),
         panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'),
         legend.position="bottom",axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, vjust = 1,
          ↪  hjust=1.5))+
  scale_x_discrete("Cutoff")+
  scale_y_continuous("RD estimate")
```

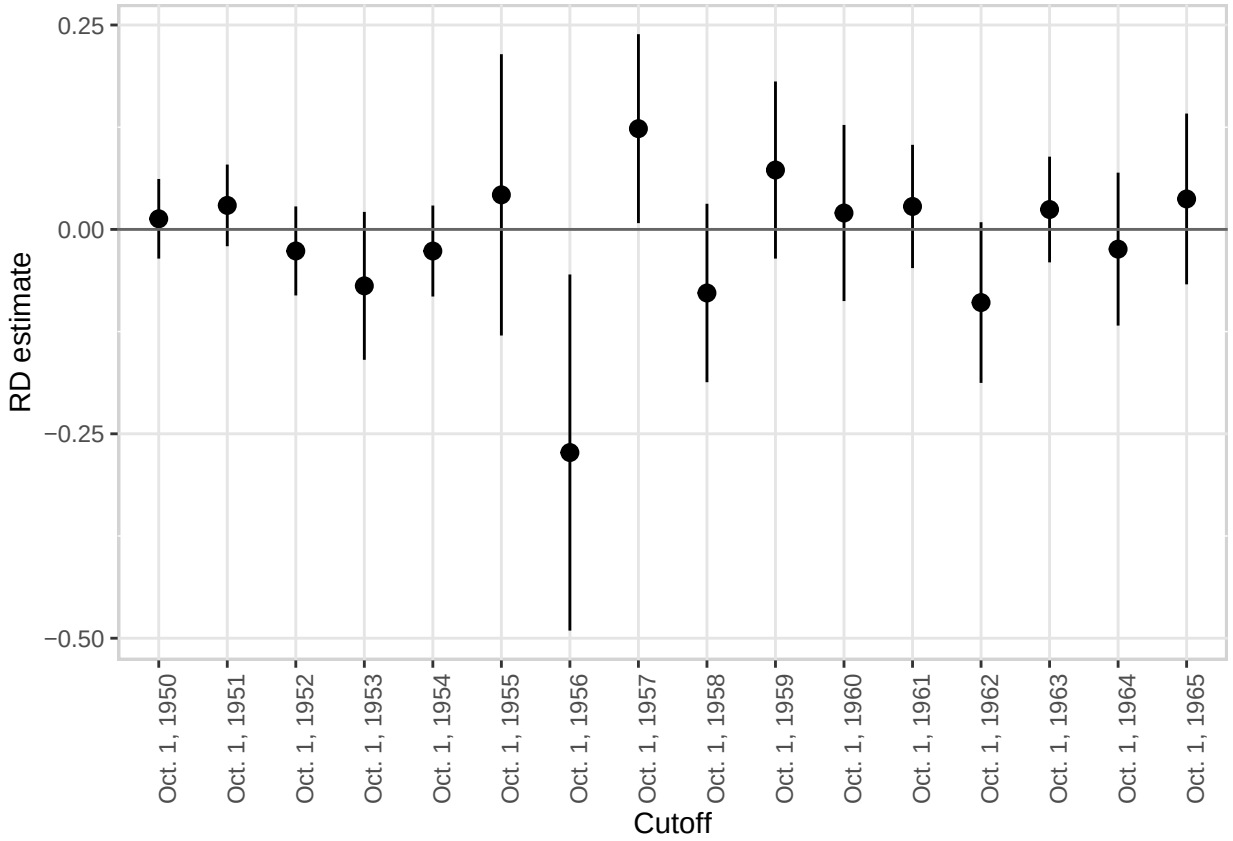
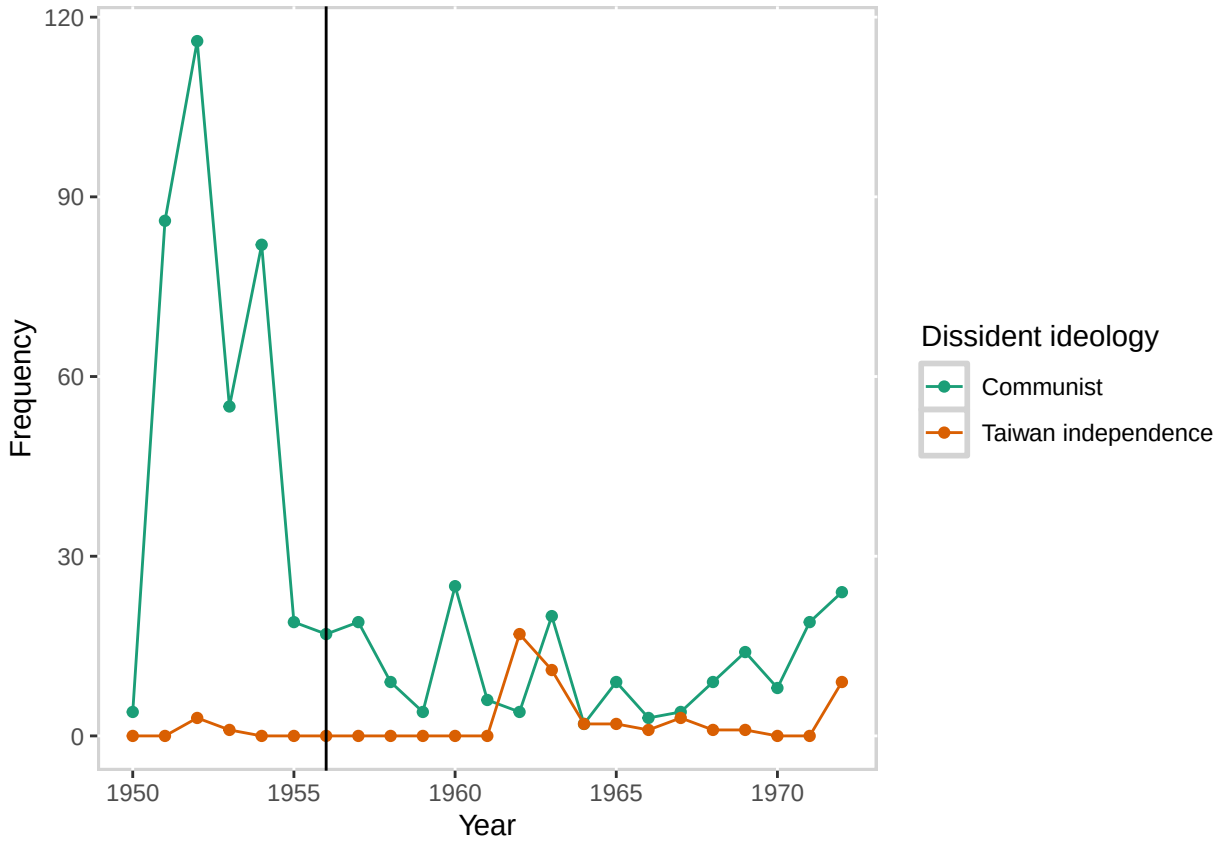


Figure A.5. Distribution of defendants by ideological affiliation

```
trial$communist<-0
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪黨",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪黨",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪黨",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪黨",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪黨",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共匪",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共匪",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共匪",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共匪",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共匪",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪區",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪區",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
```

```
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪區",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪區",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪區",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪軍",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪軍",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪軍",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪軍",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 匪軍",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 延安",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 延安",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 延安",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 延安",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 延安",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共產黨",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共產黨",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共產黨",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共產黨",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 共產黨",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 毛匪",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 毛匪",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 毛匪",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 毛匪",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$communist[grepl(" 毛匪",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
#Classify whether the case involves communist ideology based on court descriptions

trial$independence<-0
trial$independence[grepl(" 獨立",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 獨立",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 獨立",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 獨立",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 獨立",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 組黨",trial$d1_crime1)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime1)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 組黨",trial$d1_crime2)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime2)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 組黨",trial$d1_crime3)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime3)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 組黨",trial$d1_crime4)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime4)]<-1
trial$independence[grepl(" 組黨",trial$d1_crime5)&!is.na(trial$d1_crime5)]<-1
#Classify whether the case involves Taiwan independence movement based on court
 ↪  descriptions

agg_trial<-as.data.frame(trial[trial$category_e==0,] %>%
                           group_by(minyy) %>%
                           summarise(communist=sum(communist,na.rm = TRUE),
                                     independence=sum(independence,na.rm = TRUE)))
#aggregate data to yearly frequencies, divided by ideological affiliations

aggl <- reshape(agg_trial,
                varying = c("communist", "independence"),
                v.names = "count",
                timevar = "type",
                times = c("communist", "independence"),
                direction = "long")

ggplot(aggl[aggl$minyy>=1950&aggl$minyy<=1972&!is.na(aggl$minyy),],
```

```
      aes(x=minyy, y=count, group=type)) +
  geom_line(aes(color=type))+
  geom_point(aes(color=type))+
  scale_color_brewer(palette="Dark2",name="Dissident ideology",
                     labels=c("Communist","Taiwan independence"))+
  theme( panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
         panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_x_continuous("Year")+ scale_y_continuous("Frequency")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 1956, color = "black")
```

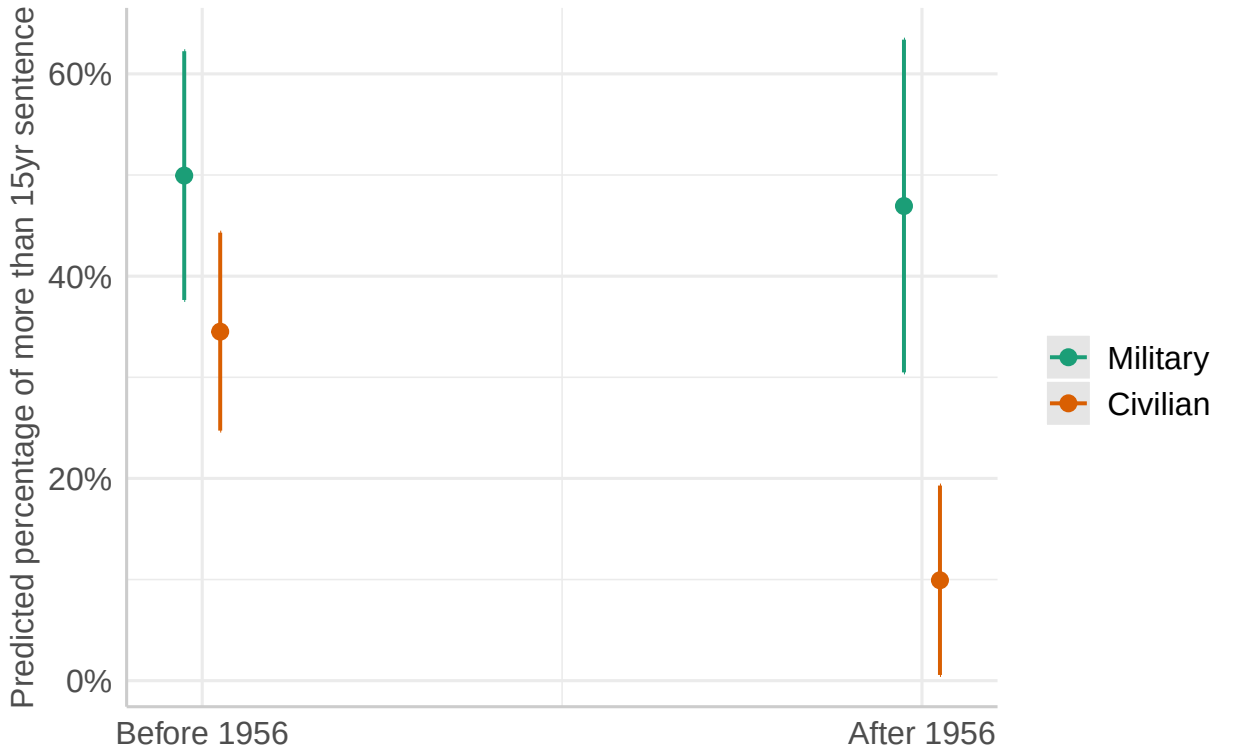



```
#Plot the frequencies
```

Figure A.6. The estimated percentage of cases exceeding 15yr sentences

```
trial$no_military=NA
trial$no_military[trial$category_e==3&!is.na(trial$category_e)]<-0
trial$no_military[trial$category_e==0&!is.na(trial$category_e)]<-1
# generate a group dummy for civilian/military

shift_year <- function(year, month) {
  adjusted_year <- if (month %in% c(10, 11, 12)) year + 1 else year
  return(adjusted_year)
}
trial <- trial %>%
  mutate(year = as.numeric(format(as.Date(paste0(minym, "-01")), "%Y")),
```

```
        month = as.numeric(format(as.Date(paste0(minym, "-01")), "%m")),
        shift_year = mapply(shift_year, year, month))

gdat<-trial %>%
  group_by(no_military, shift_year, minym) %>%
  summarize(d2h15 = mean(d2h15,na.rm=T),
            age = mean(age,na.rm=T),
            male = mean(male,na.rm=T),
            islander = mean(islander,na.rm=T),
            lnd2per= mean(lnd2per,na.rm=T),
            weapon = mean(weapon,na.rm=T),
            subversion = mean(subversion,na.rm=T),
            leakmilitary = mean(leakmilitary,na.rm=T),
            presreyearr_1 = mean(presreyearr_1,na.rm=T))
#aggregate all variables to yearly data, with each year running from the previous October
 ↪  to September of the current year

gdat<-gdat[gdat$shift_year>=1950&gdat$shift_year<=1972,] #include only data under
 ↪  Chiang's reign from 1950 to 1972
gdat$after1956<-0
gdat$after1956[gdat$shift_year>=1957]<-1 #dummy of post reform
gdat$after1956<- factor(gdat$after1956, labels=c("Before 1956","After 1956"))
gdat$no_military<- factor(gdat$no_military, labels=c("Military","Civilian"))

m1<-lm(d2h15~after1956*no_military+age+male+islander+lnd2per+
        weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_1,data=gdat) #with group FE
m2<-lm(d2h15~after1956*no_military+age+male+islander+lnd2per+
        weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_1+factor(shift_year),data=gdat) #with
 ↪  group FE + year FE

set_theme(
  base = theme_sjplot(),
  axis.title.size = 1,
  axis.textsize.y = 1,
  legend.size = 1,
)
plot_model(m2, type = "pred", terms =
 ↪  c("after1956","no_military"),title="",legend.title="",
          ci.lvl =.95,colors="Dark2",
          axis.title = c("","Predicted percentage of more than 15yr sentence"))+
  ggplot2::scale_y_continuous(labels = function(x) insight::format_value(x,
                                                                         as_percent=TRUE,
                                                                         digits=0))
```




```
#Plot model estimates
```

Figure A.7. The dynamic treatment effect of the 1956 reform on sentence severity

```
gdat$no_military<- as.numeric(gdat$no_military)
est_did <-feols(d2h15 ~age+male+islander+lnd2per+
                  weapon+subversion+leakmilitary+presreyearr_l+
                  i(shift_year, no_military, 1956) |no_military+shift_year,
                gdat) #dynamic model with treatment and year fixed effects
iplot(est_did, ci.lwd = 2, pt.cex = 2, main = "",
      xlab = "Year",  ref.line.par = list(lwd = 2))
```

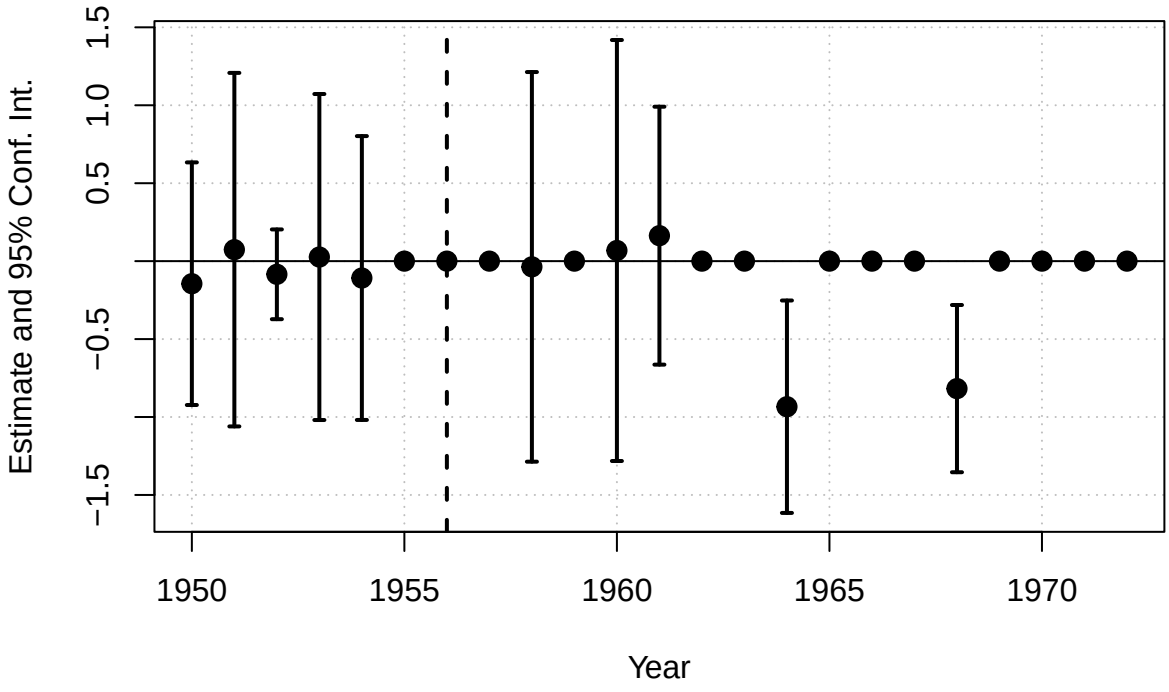
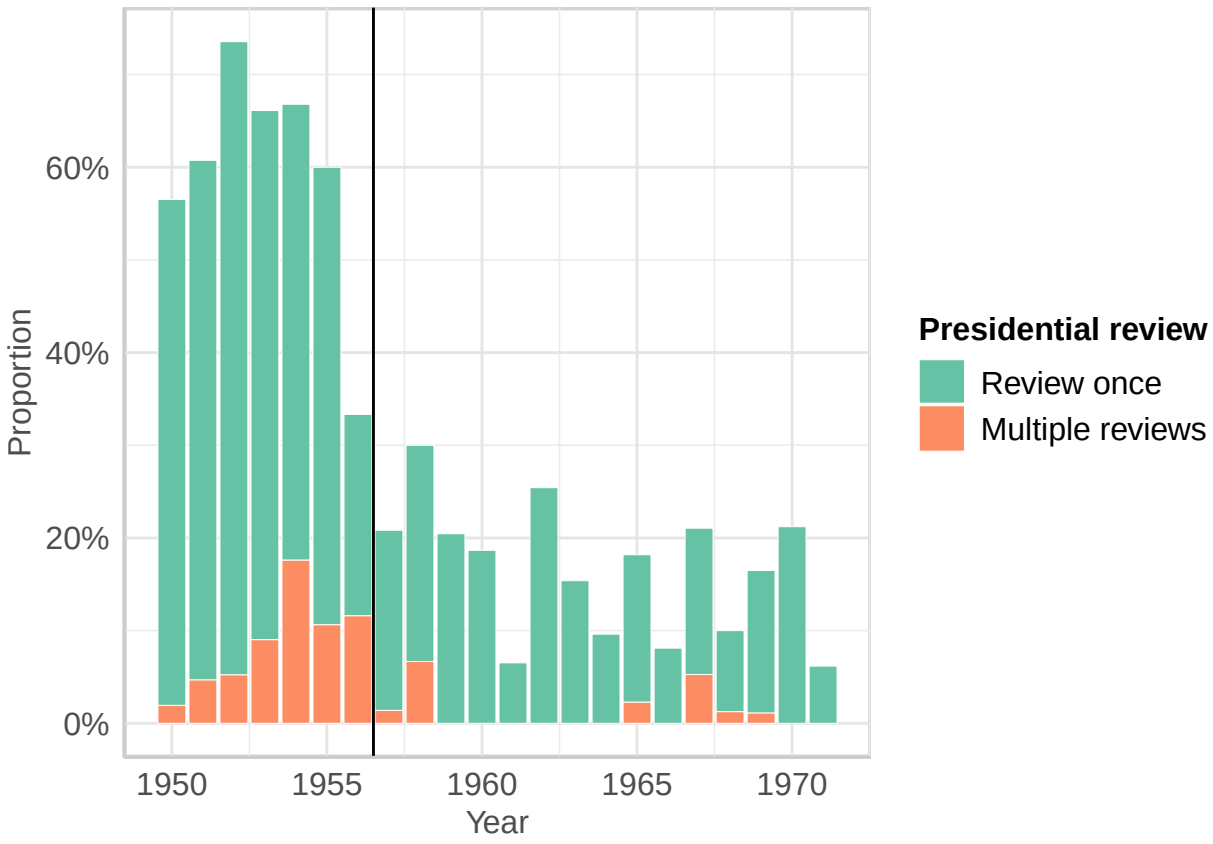


Figure A.8. Relative frequency of presidential reviews for civilian cases

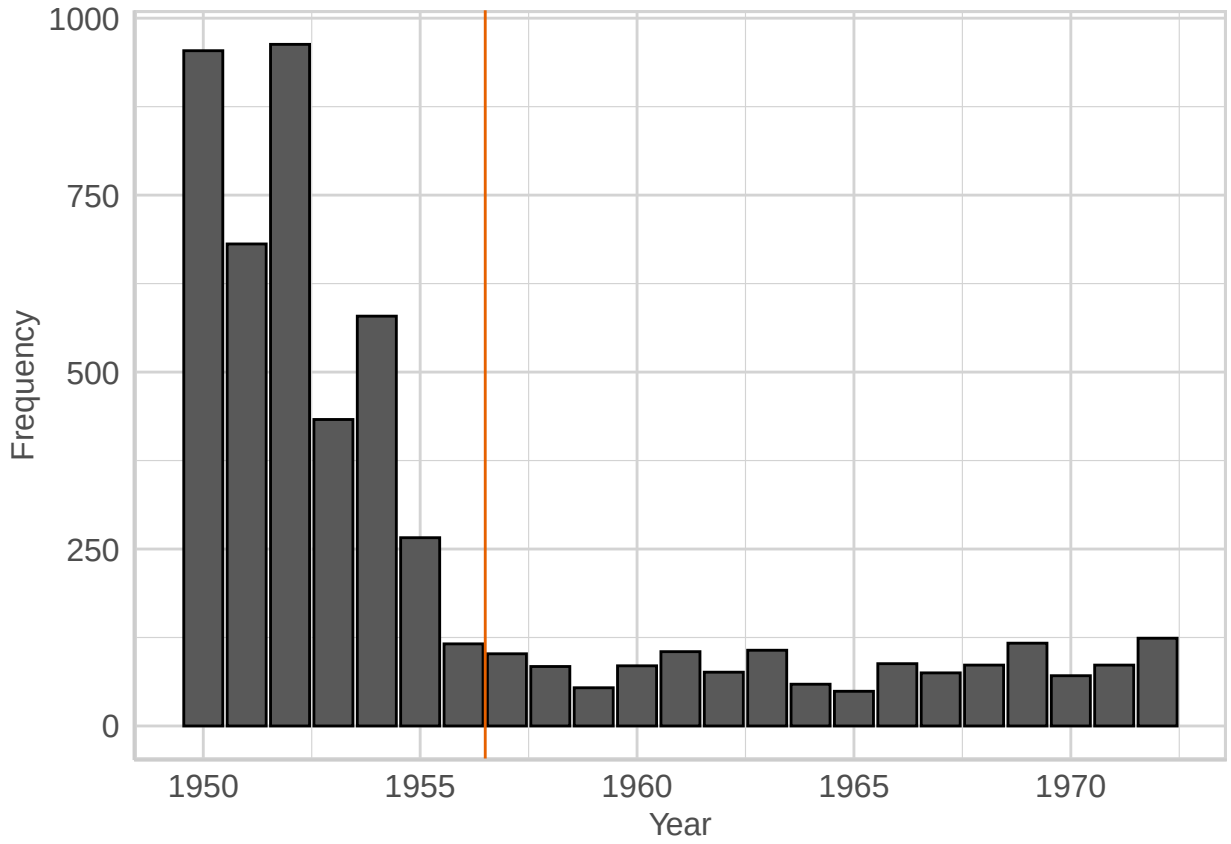
```
overrule<-civilian[!is.na(civilian$d2h15),]
overrule$presn0<-overrule$presn
overrule$presn0[overrule$pres==0]<-0
overrule$presn0[overrule$presn%in%c(2,3,4,5,6)]<-2
#Indicate whether the President reviewed the case once or multiple times

agg_trial<-as.data.frame(overrule %>%
                           group_by(minyy,presn0) %>%
                           summarise(ncase=n())%>%
                           mutate(rel_freq = ncase / sum(ncase),
                                  freq = ncase))
agg_trial$presn0<-factor(agg_trial$presn0)
#Aggregate data to yearly frequencies, divided by the number of presidential reviews

ggplot(agg_trial[agg_trial$minyy>=1950&agg_trial$minyy<=1972&agg_trial$presn0%in%c(1,2),],
 ↪
       aes(minyy,rel_freq))+
  geom_col(aes(fill = presn0),colour="white",linewidth=0.1)+
  scale_fill_brewer(palette = "Set2",
                    name="Presidential review",labels=c("Review once","Multiple
                     ↪  reviews"))+
  theme(panel.grid.major = element_line(size = 0.5,colour = "gray90"),
        panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_x_continuous("Year")+ scale_y_continuous(labels = scales::percent_format(accuracy
   ↪  = 1),
                                                 "Proportion")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 1956.5, color = "black")
```




```
#Plot the frequencies
```

Figure A.9. Frequency of civilian dissident cases (1950–1972)

```
agg_trialall<-as.data.frame(civilian %>%
                              group_by(minyy) %>%
                              summarise(ncase=n()))
#Aggregate civilian data to yearly frequencies

ggplot(agg_trialall[agg_trialall$minyy>=1950&agg_trialall$minyy<=1972,],
       aes(minyy,ncase))+geom_col()+
  theme(panel.grid.major = element_line(colour = "lightgray",
                                        size = 0.5),
        panel.grid.minor = element_line(colour = "lightgray",
                                        size = 0.2),
        panel.background = element_rect(size = 1,colour = "lightgray",fill='white'))+
  scale_x_continuous("Year")+ scale_y_continuous("Frequency")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = 1956.5, color = "#E66100")
```




```
#Plot the frequencies
```