

Codebook for PS206Fin

This dataset (PS206Fin.dta) consists of 1177 interviews with voters immediately after the Dutch Parliamentary election of 1994. All variables in this dataset are described below.

1 Background

There were 4 major parties that competed in the 1994 Dutch election — the Christian Democrats (the CDA), the Labour party (the PvdA), the Liberal party (the VVD), and the Democrats '66 (the D'66). The CDA and the PvdA were the incumbent parties going into the 1994 election, but both lost heavily, and a new government was formed consisting of the PvdA, the VVD, and the D'66. Many feel the poor state of the economy was the primary reason the incumbent parties did so poorly.

2 Variables

- **vote.** The vote an individual cast in the election. Coded 1 if they voted for the PvdA, 2 if they voted for the CDA, 3 if they voted for the VVD, and 4 if they voted for the D'66.
- **gender.** Coded 1 for women, 0 for men.
- **catholic.** Coded 1 for Catholics, 0 otherwise.
- **reform.** Coded 1 for Dutch Reformed (Protestant), 0 otherwise.
- **calvin.** Coded 1 for Calvinist, 0 otherwise.
- **genecon.** Opinions on the state of the general economy. Coded -1 for negative, 0 for neutral, and 1 for positive.
- **employ.** Opinions on the state of employment. Coded -1 for negative, 0 for neutral, and 1 for positive.
- **perfin.** Opinions on the state of individual personal finances. Coded -1 for negative, 0 for neutral, and 1 for positive.
- **educ.** A 5 point scale, with higher numbers meaning more education.
- **age.** Age in years.
- **income.** A 12 point scale, with higher numbers meaning more income.

- **manual.** Coded 1 from manual laborers, 0 otherwise.
- **memunion.** Coded 1 for labor union members, 0 otherwise.
- **“dis” variables.** These variables indicate the distance between a party and an individual on a seven point scale. They all begin with “dis”, then list the party (CDA, PVDA, VVD, or D66). The last letter indicates the issue — “e” is for euthanasia (should the government allow terminally ill patients to end their own life), “c” is for crime (should the government be tougher on criminals or fight the causes of crime), “i” is for income inequality (should the government try to reduce income inequality or not), “n” is for nuclear power (should the government ban nuclear power or not), and “m” is for ethnic minorities (should the government restrict immigration by ethnic minorities or not). Distances are measured as the squared difference between an individual’s self-placement on these scales and their placement of each party on these scales.