How the News Media Activate Public Expression and Influence National Agendas¹

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University of Vermont, 4/30/2018

¹Based on joint work with Benjamin Schneer and Ariel White (*Science* 2017)

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Introduction

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Results

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Introduction 2/21.

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Autocracies: Ignore criticism, but censor expression about collective action

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• Using 11 rather than 1: more representative; larger n needed

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Co- and cross-promote with outlets in same pack

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• Select pair of weeks: matched on similarity of predicted news

SEPTEMBER 2015								
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
25	1	2	3	4	5	6		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4		
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 - Treatment week: publish & promote articles (usually Tuesday)

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Treatment Week

Matched Pair Randomization

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	SEF	PTEN	иВЕ	R 2	015		
Monday 25	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5	Sunday 6	
23		2	3	*	3	0	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
							Treatment V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Control Wee
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30		2	3	4	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	
		ľ		ľ	10		

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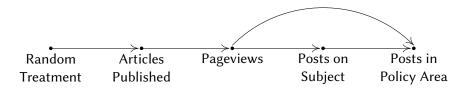
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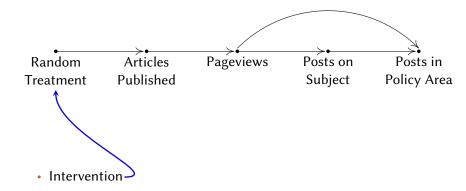
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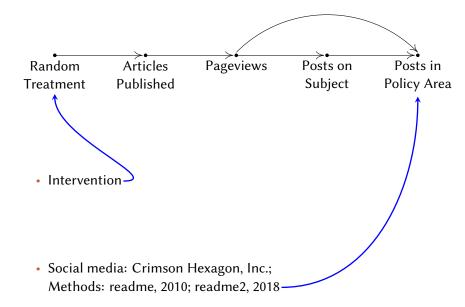
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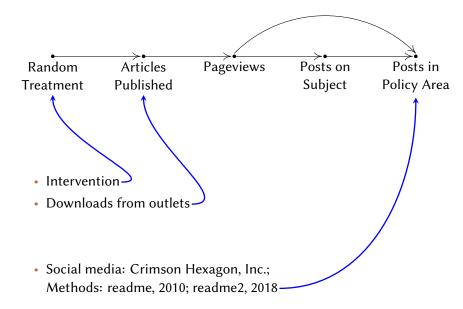
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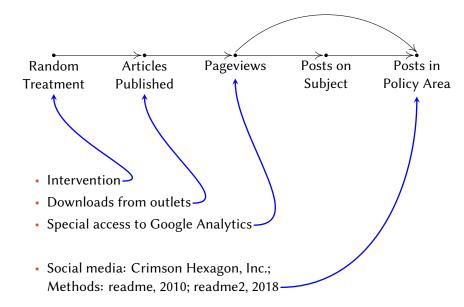
Quantities of Interest (& observable implications)

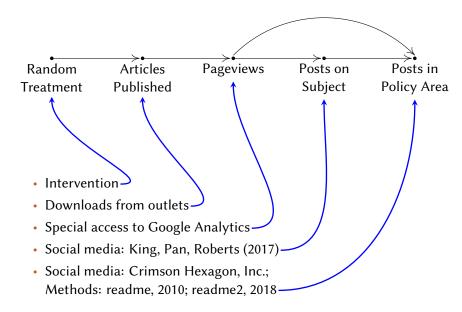












Introduction

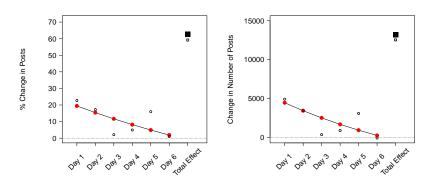
Research Design

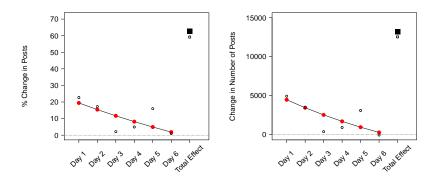
Results

Supporting Analyses

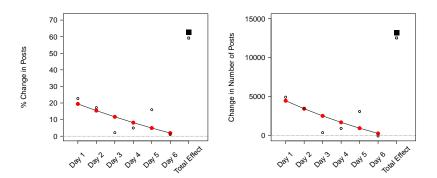
Implications

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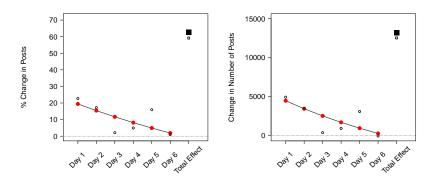




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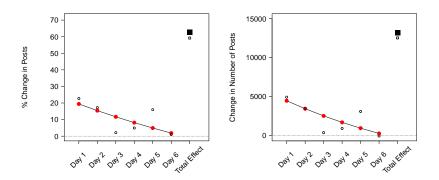


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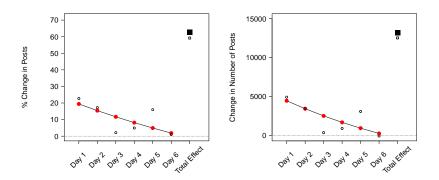
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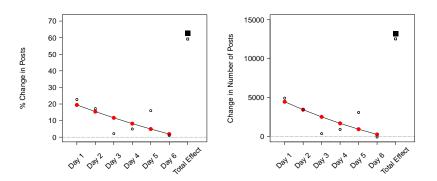


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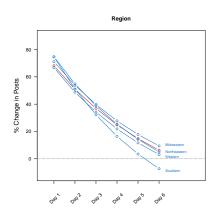


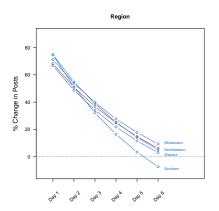
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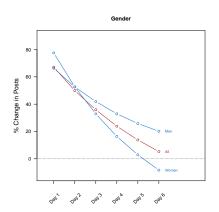
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Results

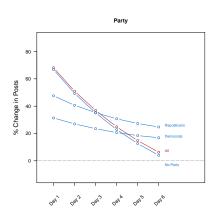




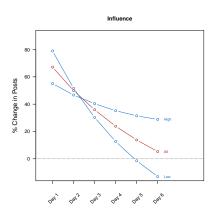
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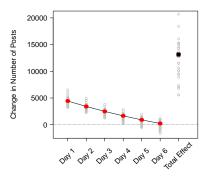
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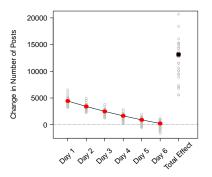
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Jackknife Estimation on Policy Area Effects

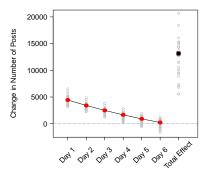


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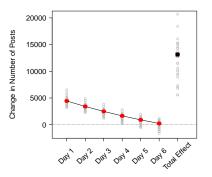
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· Results: no dominant outlet; high heterogeneity

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Supporting Analyses 16/21.

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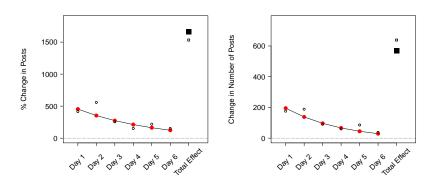
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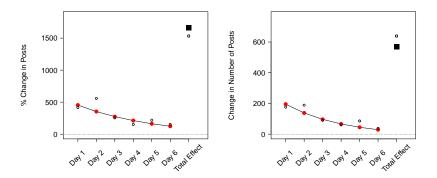
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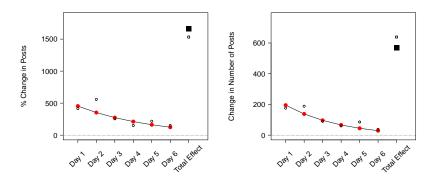
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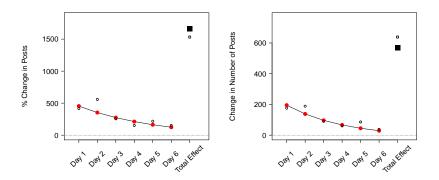




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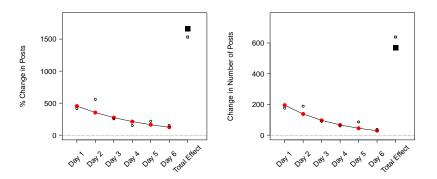


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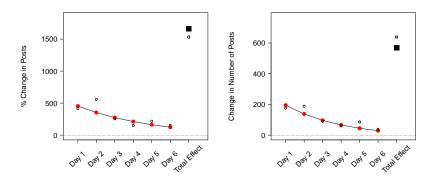
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For more information: GaryKing.org/media

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 - Absolute Increase: $\lambda_d = \underset{p,e}{\text{mean}}[Y_{ped}(1)] \underset{p,e}{\text{mean}}[Y_{ped}(0)]$

- Outcome Variable: y_{ped} , # social media posts in
 - policy area p(p = 1, ..., 11)
 - experiment $e(e = 1, ..., E_p)$
 - day d of and after intervention (d = 1, ..., 6)
- <u>Treatment Variable</u>: T_{ped}, instruction to pack (of 2-5 outlets) to write, publish, and promote articles, like a project manager
 - Treated weeks: $T_{pe1} = \cdots = T_{pe6} = 1$
 - Control weeks: $T_{pe1} = \cdots = T_{pe6} = 0$
- Quantities of Interest
 - Absolute Increase: $\lambda_d = \max_{p,e} [Y_{ped}(1)] \max_{p,e} [Y_{ped}(0)]$
 - Proportionate Increase: $\phi_d = \frac{\lambda_d}{\text{mean}_{p,e}[Y_{ped}(0)]}$

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- Model-Free Approach:
 - Drop linearity & conditional independence assumptions
 - Regress z_{ped} on T_{ped} separately for each d
 - · Equivalent to difference in means for each day
 - (perhaps with policy fixed effects)