Private Prison News Project: File Description

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The Private Prison News Project (PPNP) gathered mass media coverage of prison privatization in the United States.[[1]](#footnote-1) The “PPNP\_article\_public” file contains data on the population of articles that contained any mention of private adult detention facilities in the United States published in four newspapers (*Chicago Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *New York Times*) from 1985 through 2008. There is one record for each article, with an N of 1,491 articles. Various characteristics of each article were coded by human coders, including basic publication information and codes derived through a combination of induction and deduction.

The article-level data file contains 55 variables, which are described in the file “PPNP table of article level variables”. The file “FRAMING CODEBOOK FINAL (ARTICLE LEVEL)” contains instructions used to code “frames” in a sub-set of articles.

For complete details on data collection and coding, see Burkhardt (2011).[[2]](#footnote-2) Direct correspondence to Brett Burkhardt at [brett.burkhardt@oregonstate.edu](mailto:brett.burkhardt@oregonstate.edu).

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2. Burkhardt, Brett C. 2011. "Private Corrections and Public Discourse: The Emergence and Legitimation of Modern Correctional Privatization in the United States, 1985-2008." PhD Dissertation, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)