Faces of conflict
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APPENDIX
Appendix A:

Interview Protocol and examples of vignettes (Chapter 2)

Dimension A: Journalistic Routines:

General routines
a. Could you describe your working day yesterday?
b. Is that a typical day?
c. Could you describe how you get ideas for new stories?

News selection criteria
a. Can you describe some of the elements that political news must have for you to consider it to be interesting?
Probe: What is the role of a political conflict? (if not already mentioned in answer to preceding question)
b. Vignette: I will now give you a description of two hypothetical news scenarios. Subsequently I will ask a question about it.

Vignette 1

Imagine, you are working and have two possible options for a story you can work on. The first is a story about a new governmental agreement that will be up for votes in the house of representatives. It concerns a plan to fight unemployment. The government wants to spend an extra 130 million euros for his cause. There is not much opposition against the plan, and the plan will probably pass without too much problems. The other story concerns home care. The government plans to cut on budgets for health care. They posit working more efficiently in health care can solve this problem. According to the opposition, the budget cuts go at the cost of jobs and the quality of health care, they propose a motion to scale down the plans.
Appendix A (continued)

a. I just described two possible stories, if you have to choose between these two, which one would you choose and can you explain why?
b. To what extent is the element of conflict in the second example influential? (if not discussed in previous answer.

Routine reliance on other media

a. When you read about a political conflict in another media outlet, what considerations make you decide whether to follow up on that story?
Probe: is the media type influential? Or do the political actors that are involved matter?
b. Do you often use other media to get stories for new ideas?
Probe: And when you use other media, can you describe what you do to make your story original?

Vignette 2

Imagine there is a lot of media attention for a news event about a political disagreement between two members of the CDA, Sybrand van Haersma Buma en Mona Keizer. They are struggling over the course of the party. It has already been reported about in a number of other media outlets. You also want to publish about it, what do you do to make your story original and different from previous publications?

Audience perceptions.

a. Can you explain to what extent you keep your audience in mind when working on a political story?
Probe: Can your remember a situation where you thought a story was interesting but it was worked on because it was not interesting enough to the audience?
b. To what extent must a political story consist of political disagreement to be interesting to the reader?
c. Can you describe how you, as a journalist, can make a story about a political conflict more interesting to the audience?
Dimension C. External level

The role of politicians

a. Can you describe your working relation with politicians?
b. Politicians and political parties often try to get media attention to get their point across. Can you describe some of the strategies they use?
c. What types of strategies are the most effective?
   (Probe:) It is often said that journalists like stories that include conflicts. Politicians make use of this by instigating conflicts in order to get media attention. Can you explain whether or not you think this is an effective strategy for politicians to get into the news?
d. To what extent do less well-known politicians use other strategies to get media attention?
   Probe: Why do you think this is necessary?

Dimension D: Role conceptions

Values:
a. Can you describe three journalistic values you think are important and explain why?

Interventionism:
a. To what extent do you think it is important to describe possible consequences and strategic implications of a political conflict?
b. How important is it for a journalist to be critical of politicians?
c. Do you know of a situation where you exaggerated a political conflict to make the story more attractive?
   Probe: Or do you know of an example where other people did this?
d. Why do you think political conflicts are attractive to journalists?
c. Do you ever use magnifying language when you describe a political conflict?
d. Did you ever knowingly stimulated or staged a political conflict between politicians or political parties?
   Probe: Do you think other journalists do this?
Appendix B:

Experimental conditions (Study 4)

Condition A (Dutch)

Felle kritiek
op beleidsplan
minister van
der Steur

Aanleiding van de clash was een voorstel tot aanpassing van de opiumwet van de minister. Een fel debat op het scherpst van de snede volgde, waarin voor- en tegenstanders elkaars standpunten aanvielen.

Het huidige gedoogbeleid kent een dubbel karakter. Waar verkoop in coffeeshops wordt gedoogd, is er een streng verbod op het kweken van wiet en bevoorrading van coffeeshops.

Vera Bergkamp (D66) bekritiseert het beleid van de minister in de soft-drugskwestie. Ze stelt dat een war on drugs niet meer van deze tijd is en pleit voor regulering van de wietkweek. “De focus moet juist liggen op preventie, voorlichting en verslavingszorg”.

Minister van der Steur wil met zijn wet het kweken en leveren van cannabis veel harder gaan aanpakken.

“Mijn wet is een klap voor criminelle organisaties. Het helpt ons criminelen aan te pakken”. Hij benadrukt de gevaren van softdrugs voor de volksgezondheid.

De aanpak van drugsproblematiek is al tijden een onderwerp waarop politieke partijen elkaar stevig onder vuur nemen. Politie en justitie besteden veel tijd en geld aan de opsporing, maar kunnen volgens betrokkenen niet voorkomen dat een professionele, steeds gewelddadigere sector de drugsmarkt beheerst.

Grotere grensgemeenten, zoals Breda en Maastricht, ondervinden veel problemen van drugstoerisme uit met name België, Frankrijk en Duitsland. In Roosendaal en Bergen op Zoom werden om deze reden al coffeeshops gesloten.
Fierce criticism on policy plan
Minister Van der Steur

Report
By Henk Steenbergen

DEN HAAG Parliament members expressed strong substantive objections regarding the softdrug policy of minister van der Steur. Consequently, several politicians clashed hardly in the Second Chamber.

Cause of the clash was a proposal by the minister for an adaptation of the opium law. A fierce razor-edge debate ensued, in which opponents and proponents attacked each other personally.

The current law of acquiescence has a two-fold nature. Where selling in coffeeshops is tolerated, there is a strict ban on growing marihuana and supplying coffeeshops.

Vera Bergkamp (D66) criticises the policy of the minister regarding soft drugs. She states that a war on drugs is out dated and pleads for regulation of growing marihuana. "Instead, the focus must be on prevention, education and addiction treatment."

With his law, Minister van der Steur aims for a harder approach on the growth and supply of marihuana. “My law is a strike for criminal organisations. It helps us to deal with criminals”. He emphasizes the dangers of softdrugs for society.

The tackling of drug problems has been a topic on which the political parties are criticizing each other fiercely. Police and justice spend a lot of time and resources on investigation. However, according to those involved, they cannot prevent a professional and evermore violent sector from controlling the drug market.

Bigger border municipalities, such as Breda and Maastricht, experience multiple problems as a result of drug tourism from mainly Belgium, France and Germany. For this reason, coffee shops in In Roosendaal and Bergen op Zoom were already closed.
Felle kritiek op "onkunde" minister van der Steur

Verslag
Door Henk Steenbergen

DEN HAAG Parlementariërs hebben stevige persoonlijke kritiek op de "onkunde" van minister van der Steur. Hierdoor kwamen verschillende politici vandaag hard in botsing in de Tweede Kamer.

Aanleiding van het conflict was de aanpak van soft-drugsproblematiek, waar de minister verantwoordelijk voor is. Een fel debat op het scherpst van de snede volgde, waarin voor- en tegenstanders elkaar persoonlijk aanvielen.

Het huidige gedoogbeleid kent een dubbel karakter. Waar verkoop in coffeeshops wordt gedoogd, is er een streng verbod op het kweken van wiet en bevordering van coffeeshops.

Vera Bergkamp (D66) bekritiseert het handelen van de minister in de soft-drugskwestie. Ze stelt dat hij zich in deze kwestie volkomen belachelijk maakt. "De minister laat de Nederlandse burger volledig in de steek. Dit dossier is in handen van een onbekwaam persoon."

Minister van der Steur bestempelt de kritiek op zijn functioneren als karaktermoord. Hij noemt de partijen die hem aanvallen volstrekt onverantwoordelijk. "Deze politici zijn volledig van het padje af. Ze zijn enkel uit op politiek gewin en lossen het probleem niet op."

De aanpak van drugsproblematiek is al tijden een onderwerp waarop politieke partijen elkaar stevig onder vuur nemen. Politie en justitie besteden veel tijd en geld aan de opsporing, maar kunnen volgens betrokkenen niet voorkomen dat een professionele, steeds gewelddadiger sector de drugsmarkt beheerst.

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DEN HAAG Parliament members expressed strong personal criticism regarding the “incapability” of minister van Der Steur. Consequently, several politicians clashed hardly in the Second Chamber.

Cause of the clash was the handling of soft drugs related problems, for which the minister is responsible. A fierce razor-edge debate ensued, in which opponents and proponents attacked each other’s viewpoints.

The current law of acquiescence has a two-fold nature. Where selling in coffeeshops is tolerated, there is a strict ban on growing marihuana and supplying coffeeshops.

Vera Bergkamp (D66) criticizes the performance of the minister in the softdrugs situation. She states that he is making a complete fool out of himself in this matter. “The minister is abandoning the Dutch citizen completely. This dossier is in the hands of an incompetent person”.

Minister Van der Steur describes the criticism on his performance as character assassination. He labels the parties attacking him as completely irresponsible. “These politicians are completely derailed. They are only in it for political gain and do not solve the problem”.

The tackling of drug problems has been a topic on which the political parties are criticizing each other fiercely. Police and justice spend a lot of time and resources on investigation. However, according to those involved, they cannot prevent a professional and evermore violent sector from controlling the drug market.

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Condition C (Dutch)

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Het huidige optreden van de minister, alsmede de oppositie wekt geen vertrouwen. Het is de vraag of de voorgestelde beleidsoplossingen de problematiek daadwerkelijk zullen oplossen. De grote vraag is nu wat de gevolgen van dit conflict zijn voor de coalitie. Als de partijen het niet eens worden dreigt een val van het kabinet.
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**Softdrugsbeleid minister van der Steur**

*Door Henk Steenbergen*

Aanleiding van dit programmepunt was een voorspel tot aanpassing van de opiumwet van minister van der Steur. Dit onderwerp werd besproken in de Tweede Kamer, waarin politici van verscheidene partijen hun standpunten met betrekking tot dit onderwerp naar voren brachten.

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De aanpak van drugsproblematiek is al tijden een onderwerp voor politieke partijen en maatschappelijke actoren. Politie en justitie besteden veel tijd en geld aan de opsporing, maar kunnen volgens betrokkenen niet voorkomen dat een professionele, steeds gewelddadige sector de drugsmarkt beheerst.

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Softdrugs-policy
minister van der Steur

Cause of this topic being on the program was a proposal by the minister for an adaptation of the opium law. This topic was being discussed in the Second Chamber, where politicians from several parties brought forward their standing points.

The current law of acquiescence has a two-fold nature. Where selling in coffeeshops is tolerated, there is a strict ban on growing marihuana and supplying coffeeshops.

The tackling of drug problems has been a topic for both political parties and societal actors for a long time. Police and justice spend a lot of time and resources on investigation. However, according to those involved, they cannot prevent a professional and evermore violent sector from controlling the drug market.

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By Henk Steenbergen

DEN HAAG Politicians in the chamber talked about the handling of soft drugs related problems today
Appendix C

Appendix C:

Experimental Survey Questions (Chapter 4)

Political Participation

Type 1: Political Behaviour

Part_A1: If there were upcoming elections, how likely would you go out and vote?
Part_A2: If there were an upcoming referendum, how likely would you be to participate?

Type 2: Behaviours Targeting Politics

Part_B1: How likely would you be to contact or visit a politician in person?
Part_B2: How likely would you be to donate money for a political party, political organization or NGO?
Part_B3: How likely would you be to participate in a demonstration, strike or other political happening?
Part_B4: How likely would you be to sign a written petition (on paper) about a political or social issue?

Type 3: Civic Participation

Part_C1: How likely would you be to set up websites, blogs or social media pages about ongoings in your community?
Part_C2: How likely would you be to volunteer in an organization in your area?
Part_C3: How likely would you be to participate in a meeting about your local area?

Type 4: Politically Expression

Part_D1: How likely would you be to express your opinion in a post on social media about a political issue?
Part_D2: How likely would you be to create a group on social media to discuss or support a political cause?

Emotions

When you thinking about the news article you just read: to what extent did you feel:

Em1: Angry
Em2: Anxious
Em3: Hopeful
Em4: Enthusiastic