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Referendum campaign dynamics : news media, campaign effects and direct democracy

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Citation for published version (APA):

Schuck, A. R. T. (2009). *Referendum campaign dynamics : news media, campaign effects and direct democracy*. The Amsterdam School of Communications Research (ASCoR).

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to thank the Dutch Science Foundation (NWO) for funding the PhD project and the empirical studies reported in this dissertation. The research was conducted at The Amsterdam School of Communications Research (ASCoR), University of Amsterdam, in the period 2005-2008 and I am grateful for the inspiring work environment that I profited from as well as for the institutional support I received there throughout the time of my project.

There was one simple reason for why I went to Amsterdam in fall 2002, a seminar called “Communicating Europe” which was part of the European Communication Studies Master program at the International School for Humanities and Social Sciences (ISHSS) at the University of Amsterdam. I had studied Communication Sciences before in Germany and “Communicating Europe” was exactly what I intended to do and thus wanted to learn more about. At the beginning of this particular seminar I had no idea that the lecturer, a very enthusiastic PhD student in the last year of his project who was talking incredibly fast, later on not only would become my thesis supervisor but also my co-author and PhD supervisor. I never had any other supervisor ever since I arrived in Amsterdam more than six years ago and studied or worked at the UvA but it is hard for me to imagine one who could be more supportive and more fun to work with than Claes de Vreese.

Another person I am especially grateful to is Kees Brants who was responsible for the European Communication Studies MA program and officially my assigned ‘academic advisor’ at that time. Officially or not, Kees never really got rid of that role in my own thinking and I will continue to knock on his door or send him upset emails when I again encounter any sort of perceived injustice or simply just need good advice. Kees also was the one who encouraged me to stay in Amsterdam after the completion of my MA studies and when there was no new PhD project immediately forthcoming at ASCoR. He let me design and teach my own research methods crashcourse at the ISHSS which I am especially grateful for since teaching this course has been a very rewarding experience for me. In this context I also have to mention Janelle Ward, my co-teacher. Although we both could not stand each other in the beginning, I am really glad they forced us to teach the course together. Janelle has become a very good friend over the years and also is my co-author on the ‘Texas death row’ article which has been the most rewarding cooperative research experience for me.

At the International School I am grateful to Jiri Hemming for all her support on all sorts of teaching related matters over the years. At ASCoR I want to thank Sandra Zwier who has provided a lot of support throughout my project and has always been accessible and quick to respond to all sorts of questions one encounters as a foreigner starting a PhD project in Amsterdam. In this context I would also like to thank Maaïke Prangma who only has been research manager at ASCoR during the last couple of months of my project but in this short time period has been very helpful on all sorts of organizational questions.

Throughout the years I had a lot of officemates, some of them for such a short time that I cannot even remember the names, but it is not too much to say that one really stuck out for me and certainly has played a special role, Sophie Lecheler. Not only because she takes care of my flat and feeds my fish when I am again crawling through South American rain forests or am retreating to my beloved exile in St. Peter-Ording at the German North Sea coast but simply because she has been and continues to be a really good colleague and friend, despite being Bavarian. I am grateful for the lively PhD environment at ASCoR and here especially to Hajo Boomgaarden, Rens Vliegthart,

Rosa van Santen, Linda Bos, Christian Baden and Anke Wonneberger for their valuable comments on previous versions of the chapters contained in this dissertation. Tom Bakker helped me a great deal with the Dutch translation of the summary of this dissertation. Working on the last experiment reported in this dissertation would have been only half the fun without Anna Kandyla. My coffee discussions with Rune Slothuus, in Essex, in Amsterdam, and hopefully elsewhere in the future, have always been interesting and inspiring. I am also grateful to Jochen Peter for convening the PhD club I attended which has been a real highlight for me during my PhD time at ASCoR.

I had a couple of other teachers and mentors at other universities and institutions who I feel especially grateful to. Jan Kleinnijenhuis and Sara Binzer Hobolt gave valuable advice to me at different stages of my project. Patrick Rössler at the University of Erfurt certainly has played a significant role for me in raising my curiosity about political communication and research methods. Klaus Beck has been a very good mentor during my time in Erfurt and also helped me later on when I was in Amsterdam and conducted my first own research project. Klaus Müller-Neuhof has always been very supportive of me which I am grateful for. Finally, I feel especially indebted to Michael Behal, director of the Leibniz Kolleg in Tübingen. It is no exaggeration to say that without my time there, after passing the maybe most challenging but also most interesting application talk I ever had, I would not even have started to study Communication Science, I would not have studied in Erfurt and certainly would never have gone to Amsterdam. A lot of what I have learned about science and what it means to work scientifically I have learned there. What a nice institution, what a valuable time there!

There are a couple of other people outside the university who still, in one way or the other, had their impact on this dissertation. First of all, Meredith Turk, who I am especially grateful to for helping me with the cover of this book and simply for being such an interesting and inspiring person and friend. Someone who manages to make me sing a song in public in the subway station of downtown Chicago must be really special. And your version of “Hey, Big Spender” in response was breathtaking. Betse Streng, I have spent six weeks in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, in your garden working on this dissertation. It has been among the nicest experiences I can think back to and I cannot imagine a more perfect retreat and a more peaceful and inspiring environment than sitting on the terrasse of “La Vista”. I really hope to return to San Miguel one day and sit at the fire place again with you, Sappho and Edgar Allan Poe. Some good friends of mine I want to mention, Lila, Shadi, Przemek, Alexia, Nila, Jule, Steffi and Markus, Daniel, and Enrico who all had nothing to do with the contents of this dissertation but who had to live with me through the up’s and down’s inherent to the process or who simply have been there when needed or to remind me that there are other things to talk about than regression coefficients and interaction effects. It is no coincidence that Matthias Kumberger will sit on stage during my defense as my ‘paranimf’, entitled to jump in for me if the protocol would still allow it. I could not think of a better choice. We know each other since we were three years old and first met, dressed up as clown and angel, at the carnival party of the mother-and-child-gymnastics class. Maybe due to this embarrassing first encounter we had to become best friends and are still today and our night-long debates at the “Rondell” certainly have been and continue to be very valuable to me.

Last, but certainly not least, I dedicate this dissertation to my parents, Olga and Wolfgang Schuck, who have been incredibly supportive all along the way and who from early on gave me all the freedom to find out and decide for myself what it is I wanted to do and where I wanted to go even when I sometimes struggled to explain what exactly I was working on. Any shortcomings in the book are, of course, entirely my responsibility