



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

## Master's Thesis Presentation

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“Examining the Interplay Between Politicians' Facial Expressions in  
Media Images and News Corporation Bias”

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### Abstract

This study explores the interplay between the facial expressions of influential American politicians in media imagery and the political bias of the respective news corporations. We hypothesize that news organizations might preferentially select images that portray politicians with specific emotional expressions to reinforce their editorial biases. Our research involves analyzing approximately one million image URLs from varied news sources to identify and assess the facial expressions of politicians, correlating these expressions with the media's known political orientations. By employing facial recognition and expression analysis, followed by classification and dimensionality reduction techniques, we aim to uncover potential patterns that indicate a bias in visual representation. This research seeks to offer insights into the subtle ways media bias can manifest in the portrayal of political figures, contributing to a deeper understanding of media influence on public perception.