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## Murphy's law or luck of the Irish? Disparate treatment of the Irish in 19th century courts

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**Murphy's Law or Luck of the Irish? Disparate  
Treatment of the Irish in 19th Century Courts**

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April 2023

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# Murphy's Law or Luck of the Irish? Disparate Treatment of the Irish in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Courts \*

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*Abstract:* Using data on 100 years of 19<sup>th</sup> century criminal trials at London's Old Bailey, this paper offers clear evidence of disparate treatment of Irish-named defendants and victims by English juries. We measure surname Irishness and Englishness using place of birth in the 1881 census. Irish-named defendants are 11% less likely to plea, 3% more likely to be convicted by the jury, and 16% less likely to receive a jury recommendation for mercy. These disparities are: (i) largest for violent crimes and for defendants with more distinctive Irish surnames; (ii) robust to case characteristic controls and proxies for signals associated with Irish surnames (social class, Irish county of origin, criminality); (iii) particularly visible for Irish defendants in cases with English victims; and (iv) spill-over onto English-named defendants with Irish co-defendants. Disparate treatment is first visible in the 1830s, after which it grows, then persists through to the end of the century. In particular, the gap in jury conviction rates became larger during the twenty years after the Irish Potato Famine-induced migration to London. We do not find evidence, however, that the first bombing campaign of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (in 1867 and the 1880s) further exacerbated these disparities.

*JEL Codes:* K42, K14, J15, N33, N93

*Keywords:* Irish, crime, criminal law, discrimination, economic history

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## 1. Introduction

Racial and ethnic minorities today face discrimination in many aspects of life, ranging from the labor market and criminal justice system (Lang and Kahn-Lang Spitzer, 2020) to housing and consumer markets (Yinger, 1998). Such unequal treatment may be even more likely when members of the minority group are under-represented amongst decision makers. This is especially salient in the criminal justice system, where majority groups are over-represented on juries and minorities are over-represented amongst defendants. Such asymmetries are prevalent in historical contexts in which the minority group did not even have the explicit right to serve on the jury, but are also still seen in contemporary jury settings (Anwar et al., 2012; Anwar et al., 2022). This paper studies one such historical context – 19<sup>th</sup> century jury decisions determined for Irish defendants and victims by England-born males of sufficient wealth at London’s Old Bailey.

This is a period of dynamic history and rapid change for the Irish in London. Population numbers sharply increased due to a flow of poor rural migrants from Ireland during the Potato Famine (1846-1852). The Irish became a poor underclass, with wealth gaps between the Irish in England and the English persisting until today (Cummins and Ó Gráda, 2022). The latter half of the century is characterized by increased political unrest, as desires grew for an independent Ireland. This included the inauguration of the Home Rule movement in 1870, which campaigned for self-government for Ireland within the British empire, but also involved violence as the Irish Republican Brotherhood resorted to a series of bomb attacks. Anecdotal evidence of bigotry towards the Irish is displayed throughout the century in English employment advertisements, like “No Irish Need Apply.” Yet, there is little to no large-scale empirical evidence of the extent to which, and how, the Irish in England were discriminated against. In the history literature, there are some small scale, mostly qualitative local studies, which feature discussions of poverty, crime and anti-Irish sentiment, on the economic position of the Irish in London and other British towns and cities in Victorian times (see, *inter alia*, Swift, 2006).

In this paper, we begin to fill this gap in quantitative evidence by testing whether 19<sup>th</sup> century London juries treat defendants and victims with distinct Irish names unequally compared to those with distinct English names.<sup>1</sup> In addition to a *dichotomous* classification of

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<sup>1</sup> English here refers to English and Welsh names, and Welsh names feature prominently in the names we study below. This is in part because there are potentially many second-generation Welsh in London (our name measures are based on country of birth in the 1881 Census) and because there are so few Welsh surnames owing to the use of patronymic surnames, derived from the father’s name, in Wales.

whether a name is Irish or not, we also study whether the *degree of Irishness* of the names is associated with even more disparate outcomes. Finally, we consider whether these disparities change throughout the century, as jurors' perceptions of Irish-named defendants may have altered due to famine-driven migration and events such as the bombing campaign – two *types* of shocks that are still salient in contemporary society.

Offering answers to these questions makes important contributions to both contemporary and historical literatures. First, there is growing evidence of the disparate treatment of racial and ethnic minorities by judges and juries around the world today.<sup>2</sup> We provide one of the first pieces of evidence that these biases are not merely a construct of contemporary institutions, but rather date back historically, in our case to the treatment of minority groups nearly 200 years ago. Second, as noted above, despite the qualitative evidence of animus towards the historical Irish in London, there is little empirical evidence concerning this question during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The detailed courtroom data provide a unique context in which we can convincingly test for such disparities.<sup>3</sup> We also contribute to the literature on the economic history of crime and the judicial system more widely.<sup>4</sup> Finally, the paper's findings are of relevance to the discrimination literature on what content names associated with distinct racial and ethnic groups may signal.<sup>5</sup>

The analysis is based on a data set of all (150,939) trials at the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court in London from 1800 to 1899. Information on each trial is extracted from *The Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, a digitized version of a quasi-official publication (*The Proceedings*) after each court session of the Old Bailey. This historical source includes much of the same information available when studying contemporary jury verdicts: date, defendant and co-defendant names and gender, detailed offense, verdict, and sentencing categories. As

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<sup>2</sup> Disparities in judge decisions for instance have been documented by Alesina and La Ferrara (2014), Bushway and Piehl (2001), Mustard (2001), Sørensen et al., (2014), Abrams et al. (2012), Rehavi and Starr (2014), Shayo and Zussman (2010), and Gazal-Ayal and Sulitzeanu-Kenan (2010). Racial and ethnic biases in jury decisions have been found, for instance, by Anwar et al. (2012), Anwar et al. (2019b), and Flanagan (2018).

<sup>3</sup> A handful of studies consider study the Irish in the historical courtroom, but they do not encompass most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. King (2013) looks at 129 Irish victims at the Old Bailey from 1750 to 1825, and 1188 Irish defendants from 1791 to 1805, and concludes that Irish defendants were not treated more harshly. Vickers (2016) studies whether socioeconomic status is associated with disparate court outcomes in snapshots of English and Welsh trials in 1870, 1883 and 1910. Not the focus of the study, he finds that Irish surnames (in 1883) have insignificantly longer sentences. Bodenhorn studies extralegal factors affecting sentences in Pennsylvania from 1829 to 1876; those born in Ireland (10% of the sample) received shorter sentences than native whites.

<sup>4</sup> Moehling and Piehl (2009) study immigration and crime, Melander and Miotto (forthcoming) study welfare and crime, Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2021) study police and crime, Chambru (2020) and Bignon et.al (2017) study poverty and crime, Eriksson (2020) studies education and incarceration, Fiegenbaum and Muller (2016) lead exposure and crime, and Stuart and Taylor (2021) study migration, social connectedness and crime.

<sup>5</sup> See for instance Fryer and Levitt (2004), Bertrand and Mullainathan (2004), and Kreisman and Smith (forthcoming).

the Proceedings do not report place of birth or ethnicity, we measure how Irish or English defendant surnames are according to their presence in the 1881 Census. Specifically, we create an Irish surname ratio that measures the share of Irish born individuals in the census with that name relative to the share of non-Irish born individuals; the higher this odds ratio, the more distinctively Irish a surname is. We create a similar measure for surnames from England and Wales, which we call the English surname ratio. We classify defendants with Irish and English surname ratios over three as Irish and English-named respectively. The remaining names are non-distinct. Others, notably in the context of our study Cummins and Ó'Gráda (2022), have used name-based approaches to identify Irish in the data. One of the key differences between our classification approach and theirs, which is based on data and surnames from the 1911 Census, is that we provide a simple metric to measure both whether a name is Irish as well as *how* Irish it is. We use these classifications in regressions that compare Irish-named and non-distinct defendants to English-named defendants, as well as in specifications that ask whether the *more or less* distinct Irish names matter. 12% and 41% of defendants have Irish and English names, respectively. Irish names are more prominent in violent cases, comprising 18% of defendants at the beginning of the century and almost 25% in the third quarter.

A number of validation checks using external data sets are provided to show that the measures of Irish and English surnames do indeed predict country of origin. These analyses also inform our choice of threshold, but we note already here that the results are very robust to shifting these threshold decisions. Finally, though a measure of how Irish a defendant's name is may mis-classify the ethnic origins of some individuals, the name is a potentially important signal to juries (given the relatively short nature of trials during this period). Even if we do not fully capture country of origin, we may correctly capture the jury's perception. Moreover, we would correctly classify the ethnic background of many second-generation Irish in London.

The empirical analysis proceeds in three steps. First, we document the raw and adjusted gaps in plea and jury decisions for Irish versus English-named defendants in the Old Bailey. Though pleas are not decided by the jury, it is important to keep in mind that the cases at the Old Bailey were sent there by a Grand Jury; to the extent that the Grand Jury is harsher on Irish-named defendants, one may expect weaker evidence against Irish defendants at the Old Bailey, which may be reflected in differential plea decisions by defendants. The baseline specification, which controls for a large set of observable case and defendant characteristics as well as month and year fixed effects, finds significant evidence of disparate treatment towards Irish-named defendants. Irish named defendants are 11% less likely to plea, 3% more likely to be convicted by the jury, and 16% less likely to receive a jury recommendation that the judge

exercise mercy in sentencing. These disparities: (i) originate in the 1825-1850 period, (ii) persist and/or grow over the rest of the century, and (iii) exist for both property and violent offenses, with overall larger effects for violent crimes. These gaps are also not limited to the extensive margin: Defendants with more distinct Irish names are treated, on average, more harshly. Do these disparate courtroom outcomes represent discrimination? And if so, is it because the defendants are Irish or is it attributable to characteristics associated with being Irish, like religion, socioeconomic status, or criminality more generally? We demonstrate that the gaps are robust to controlling for proxies for each of these potential characteristics, suggesting that animus towards the Irish is indeed a potential underlying channel.

The second part of the analysis studies whether Irish surnames of other agents in the court – co-defendants, victims, and jurors – play a role. Defendants with Irish co-defendants are significantly more likely to be convicted themselves. There is a 10-15% increase in the chance of conviction for English defendants with Irish co-defendants; i.e., the bias towards the Irish appears to spill-over to non-Irish associates.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, it is not just all Irish defendants who are more likely to be convicted, but especially Irish defendants with English victims. Though not significant, English defendants with Irish victims are also less likely to be convicted. Finally, just 3% of jurors have Irish surnames: many juries would not have had any Irish-named jurors. Moreover, these statistics do not grow over time, despite the growing Irish population and ability to relax jury eligibility (e.g., wealth) requirements (for foreign defendants). The lack of Irish in the jury pool in itself suggests disparate treatment of Irish defendants.

The final part of the paper homes in on timing, beginning by dating the first signs of disparate jury verdicts to the 1830s, and then showing continued growth in the 1840s and 1850s, which is consistent with the 1846-1852 Famine induced migration. More formally, we find that though conviction rates were significantly lower in the famine and post-famine periods, these downward trends were smaller for Irish-named defendants. This finding is especially significant for violent offenses, where Irish-named defendants were almost 10% more likely to be convicted after the potato famine than English-named defendants. In contrast, we do not find evidence that the Irish Republican Brotherhood bombings exacerbated the treatment of the Irish in the courtroom. We argue, following Swift (2006), that this may have arisen because the period from about 1870 on features two factors that pull in opposite directions and therefore acted to offset one another. The first is the continued anti-Irish

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<sup>6</sup> This is similar in spirit to the contagious animosity documented by McConnell and Rasul (2021): animosity towards Muslims post- 9/11 spilled over onto Black Hispanic Defendants in the U.S. federal justice system.

sentiment and antagonism because of events like the bombings, while the second reflects less public concern about the Irish due to slower rates of migration, cultural and economic assimilation of famine migrants and the set-up of the Home Rule movement, which empowered the Irish in England to some degree.<sup>7</sup>

The remainder of the paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 provides historical background about the 19<sup>th</sup> century courts and the Irish in London. Section 3 describes the data, how we measure name Irishness and Englishness, and provides summary statistics. Section 4 presents regression adjusted (for observable case characteristics as well as other signals of a name) estimates of the Irish-English name gap in court outcomes overall and by quarter. Section 5 studies the role of Irish-named co-defendants, victims and jurors while Section 6 considers the impact on court outcomes of two negative shocks to the perceptions of the London Irish – the Potato Famine and the Irish Republican Brotherhood. Section 7 discusses and concludes.

## **2. Institutional Background**

### **2.1. The Judicial System in 19<sup>th</sup> Century London**

This paper studies jury verdicts at the Old Bailey – the Central Criminal Court of London and the surrounding counties of Middlesex and (parts of) Essex, Kent, and Surrey – for defendants charged with the most serious offenses, including all felonies. The class of felony offenses was quite broad, however, at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; more than 200 felony offenses were eligible for the death penalty, including offenses that are minor today, like pickpocketing. The number of trials at the Old Bailey throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century reflects more than just underlying crime levels. The catchment area of the Old Bailey was expanding, especially with the addition of Essex in the 1830s. In contrast, in subsequent years, cases are shifted out of this jurisdiction as more power was given to magistrates to summarily decide cases of minor property crimes.

Defendants faced an Old Bailey trial after a Grand Jury decision that there was sufficient evidence to proceed. Anecdotally, for at least the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Grand Jury had a reputation for not sending cases on to the Old Bailey and was nicknamed the “hope of London thieves.”<sup>8</sup> Charges of murder and manslaughter were the only cases that automatically went to an Old Bailey trial, without a Grand Jury decision. We can observe the Proceedings of the Old Bailey trials, but not those of the Grand Jury. To the extent that the Grand Jury treats

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<sup>7</sup> Indeed, Swift (2006) states that “...it does appear that from the 1870s onwards, public concern with Irish criminality in British cities was less transparent than it had been during the 1840s and 1850s, and in a sense this reflects the changing social, economic, political and cultural contexts of the late Victorian period...” (Swift, 2006, page 25).

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.digitalpanopticon.org/The\\_Old\\_Bailey\\_Criminal\\_Trial](https://www.digitalpanopticon.org/The_Old_Bailey_Criminal_Trial)



Irish defendants harsher, such that they use a lower threshold of evidence, one would expect a greater representation of Irish defendants – with weaker cases against them – in the Old Bailey sample. This would lead us to underestimate disparate treatment against the Irish by the Old Bailey jury. These weaker cases may also lead to Irish defendants – who would be more likely to be innocent – to be less likely to plead guilty. We will look directly at pleas in the analysis, keeping in mind that pleading guilty only became a part of the judicial system (primarily for property offenses) after the shift from a presumption of guilty to one of innocence in 1827.

Trials at the Old Bailey occurred during regularly scheduled sessions, which lasted for at least a few days and occurred on an almost monthly basis by the end of the century. A master list of eligible jurors was maintained in each jurisdiction (i.e., London versus Middlesex) and a pool of jurors were summoned from each master list to the courtroom before each session. From these pools, 12 names were randomly drawn to sit on each jury (with separate juries for London and Middlesex).<sup>9</sup> Each jury decided many consecutive cases.<sup>10</sup> The jury was expected to return a unanimous verdict after listening to the testimony. The jury could convict the defendant on the original charge or a lesser offense (more common for property offenses with easily defined value thresholds) and could recommend mercy to the judge in sentencing.

Sentences were decided by the judges. At the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, many offenses were capital eligible. Capital punishment was abolished offense by offense, in favor of transportation “beyond the seas” to Australia or prison, during the first half of the century. Increasingly viewed as harsh and inhumane, transportation was abolished in 1853 and 1857. Prison became the by far predominant sentence. Though our data include the judge’s sentence, we cannot observe whether pardons were given nor prison sentence length.

Who were the jurors and judges? Judges were of generally high socioeconomic status and university educated (at least during the 19<sup>th</sup> century).<sup>11</sup> This can be corroborated in statistics based on social class classifications in the Old Bailey Corpus, which contains speech related texts from the Old Bailey Proceedings (Huber et al., 2016).<sup>12</sup> In the subset of trials coded in these data, 75% of (male) defendants, 51% of victims but 0% of judges are classified as of lower social class. Eligibility to be in the juror master list was generally determined by: (i) gender (only males until the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919),<sup>13</sup> (ii) age (21-60 for

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<sup>9</sup> See Beattie (1986) for details on the jury selection process at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>10</sup> See Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2019) for an analysis of path-dependency in these jury decisions.

<sup>11</sup> See <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/static/Judges-and-juries.jsp#whowerethejudges>.

<sup>12</sup> We describe the Old Bailey Corpus data in more detail in Appendix B. Social class is measured according to the Historical International Standard Classification of Social Class (HISCLASS).

<sup>13</sup> See Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2020) for more on gender gaps in Old Bailey decisions and Anwar et al. (2019a) for an analysis of the impact adding females to the jury pool.

most of this period), (iii) being a natural born citizen and resident of England, and (iv) income and wealth qualifications.<sup>14</sup> Given the wealth qualifications and relatively low socioeconomic status of the Irish in England, combined with the place of birth requirement, it is perhaps not surprising that, as seen in Section 3, the share of jurors seated at the Old Bailey from 1800 to 1860 with distinctively Irish names is low at only 3%.

Do jurors have the ability to identify the ethnicity of courtroom participants, including defendants and jurors? Trials during this period were much shorter than trials today. In fact, Feeley (1997) states that a chaplain of the Old Bailey in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century clocked the average trial to be around eight minutes long. The trial began with the clerk reading the charge and defendant's name, and then proceeded with the 'prosecutor' presenting their case, the witnesses giving testimony, and finally, the defendant stating his or her case. Thus, jurors have a first opportunity to infer Irishness (as we do) from the defendant's name when read aloud by the court clerk. But, given the distinctiveness of Irish accents, Irishness could potentially be observed when the defendants speak in the courtroom, to the extent they speak at all. Data from the Old Bailey Corpus (Huber et al., 2016) suggest that defendants spoke on average not more than 100 words during a trial.

## **2.2. The Irish in 19<sup>th</sup> Century London**

This section briefly describes the migration of the Irish to England during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Irish Republican Bombing campaign – two events that potentially shocked the perceptions of the Irish in London.

Williamson (1989) estimates the number of Irish-born in Britain over the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1787, there were just 20,000 Irish-born; this increased to 182,000 in 1821, 290,000 in 1831, 415,700 in 1841, 727,300 in 1851, and 805,700 in 1861. Numbers stabilized after this point, and even began to fall. These statistics illustrate that the migration of the Irish began in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, but sharply increased in the 1840s. Even though the population of England was also growing quickly during this time, the Irish population increased from 2.2% of the total in 1841 to 3.5% in 1851. Williamson (1989) also highlights the over-representation of the Irish in urban areas like London.

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<sup>14</sup> The 1825 Juries Act provided many details about these qualifications and the jury selection processes. See <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Geo4/6/50/contents/enacted>. With respect to the wealth qualification, eligibility was based on the value of the freehold land or property you owned (£10) or leased (£20 per year) or the size of your house (at least 15 windows).

The sharp increase in Irish migration between 1841 and 1851 can be attributed to Ireland's Great Famine, also called the Irish Potato Famine. At the beginning of the 1840s, the majority of Irish families were employed in agriculture, and especially reliant on the potato crop. In 1845, an infestation of *Phytophthora infestans* destroyed a significant portion of potato crops. Crop failures occurred repeatedly, and of varying degree, until the end of the decade. Famine took hold in Ireland in 1846, resulting in an estimated one million deaths and another million migrating (especially to the US and UK) by the early 1850s (Ó Gráda, 1999).<sup>15</sup> Crops were fully recovered by 1852.<sup>16</sup>

Given the dire circumstances under which many left Ireland during the famine, it is not at all surprising that researchers find that post-famine migrants differ “relative to earlier, more prosperous Irish Immigrants” (Collins and Zimran, 2019). For instance, Collins and Zimran (2019) find that post-famine migrant household heads (to the US) have lower human capital (literacy) compared to pre-famine migrant heads. Historians, however, highlight that even pre-famine, Irish migrants to Britain were of lesser classes than those to North America (O Tuathaigh, 1981). Migrants to London were disproportionately employed in semi-skilled and unskilled casual labor and lived in the poorest of communities or slums (O Tuathaigh, 1981).

Henry Mayhew, journalist and co-founder of the satirical magazine *Punch*, published a series of articles in the *Morning Chronicle*, which were compiled in 1851 into a book titled the “London Labour and the London Poor”. These writings, as summarized by Scholl (2020), highlight the perceptions of London towards the Irish and how these changed with the famine migration. Scholl notes that Mayhew positioned the Irish as the poorest of the poor and stated that their presence in London in the 1840s was not new, though the prejudice against them was. Mayhew dates it to the influx of Irishmen during the famine:

“I found among the English costermongers a general dislike of the Irish. In fact, next to a policeman, a genuine London costermonger hates an Irishman, considering him an intruder. Whether there be any traditional or hereditary ill-feeling between them, originating from a clannish feeling, I cannot ascertain. The costermongers whom I questioned had no knowledge of the feelings or prejudices of their predecessors, but I am inclined to believe that the prejudice is modern, and had originated in the great influx of Irishmen and women, intermixing, more especially during the last five years, with the costermonger's business. An Irish costermonger, however, is no novelty in the streets of London.” (104)

O Tuathaigh (1981) describes the British stereotype of the famine-migrant Irishman as follows: “intemperate, improvident, violent, totally innocent of any notions of hygiene,

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<sup>15</sup> See Mokyr (1983) and Ó Gráda (1999) for more details on the timeline of the famine.

<sup>16</sup> For instance, Anbinder and McCaffrey (2015) study the Great Famine migration of “1846-1854”, choosing 1854 as the endpoint since after that year immigration to the United States decreased to pre-famine numbers.

mendacious and undependable.” There are many anecdotal examples of an anti-Irish sentiment in Victorian England, ranging from employment advertisements explicitly stating “No Irish Need Apply” to political cartoons depicting Irishmen as drunken and ape-looking. See Appendix C for examples. Besides these anecdotes (and as mentioned in the introduction), however, there is little empirical evidence on (i) the extent of such anti-Irish bias, (ii) whether it truly was affected by this negative wave of poor famine migrants, and (iii) whether it spilled over to the courtroom.

A final piece of context relates to the Irish Republican Brotherhood, which aimed to use force to establish an independent Irish republic. Among the first violent actions was the 1867 ‘Clerkenwell Outrage’ in London. The attack occurred on December 13, 1867, and was a failed attempt to ensure the escape of two Fenian operatives – Ricard O’Sullivan Burke and Joseph Casey – from their incarceration in the Clerkenwell House of Detention. The explosion was much larger than intended and resulted in a massive breach in the prison wall, 12 deaths, and 120 injured. Six individuals were put on trial in the Old Bailey session starting on April 6, 1868 for murders associated with the Clerkenwell explosion. Just one – Michael Barrett – was found guilty and sentenced to death.<sup>17</sup> He was publicly executed on May 26, 1868; this was the last public execution in the UK. The bombing was covered extensively in newspapers of the time – see Appendix C for two depictions of the bombing that are even used regularly today. This and subsequent failures led to a quieting of the movement. This changed with a series of bomb attacks throughout London and other English cities between 1881 and 1885 - the ‘Fenian Dynamite Campaign’. These attacks, described in more detail in Section 6.2, culminated in the formation of the Metropolitan Police’s Special Irish Branch in 1883.

### 3. Data

#### 3.1. Data Description

*The Proceedings of the Old Bailey* were published after each Old Bailey session from 1674 to 1913 and are considered reliable after 1715. Hitchcock et al. (2013) digitized these records in *The Old Bailey Proceedings Online* and made them available to the public via their search engine and as tagged xml files. We have used these data to study various aspects of historical jury decision making, and refer the reader to Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2018, 2019, 2020) for more detailed descriptions.

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<sup>17</sup> See <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?id=def5-412-18680406&div=t18680406-412#highlight> and [https://historyhouse.co.uk/articles/clerkenwell\\_prison\\_escape.html](https://historyhouse.co.uk/articles/clerkenwell_prison_escape.html).

We extract the following tagged information for all trials: case identifier, session date, defendant name, defendant gender, offense category, verdict (plea, guilty of original or lesser charge, acquit), sentence (death, transportation, prison, corporal, miscellaneous or none), and codefendant identifier and name. The Proceedings only tag the main offense, even if the defendant is charged with multiple offenses. Age is also tagged, but only systematically reported in the Proceedings for convicted defendants after 1800. For previous projects, we manually coded the following untagged information: judge, jury, and juror names from 1750 to 1822 and the defendant’s custodial history (once, more than once, known associate of bad character), which is available from the 1830s onward. We also have the names of all seated jurors until 1860, but after 1822, we cannot match them to the specific trial, just to the session.

Our analysis sample consists of all Old Bailey trials from 1800 to 1899, with separate observations for each defendant in multi-defendant cases. The resulting number of observations is 157,329. We categorize the offenses into 34 categories, and code whether each offense was capital eligible in the year of the trial (based on Bindler and Hjalmarsson, 2018).

### 3.2. Measurement: Identifying Irish and Non-Irish Courtroom Participants

Given that the Proceedings do not systematically record defendant ethnicity or place of birth, a fundamental analysis step is to identify Irish and non-Irish courtroom participants. We do this by measuring surname ethnicity using country of birth in the 1881 Census. In other words, we use names of first-generation immigrants, regardless of year of birth, from Ireland to England to identify names that are distinctively Irish. Specifically, for each surname  $s$ , we calculate the share of census individuals born in Ireland who have that surname. This is not enough to identify distinctively Irish names, however, since some names could be common in both Ireland and England. Thus, we scale this share (the numerator below) by the share not born in Ireland who have surname  $s$  (the denominator below).

$$\text{Irish Surname Ratio}^s = \frac{(\# \text{ born in Ireland with surname } s / \# \text{ born in Ireland})}{(\# \text{ born outside of Ireland with surname } s / \# \text{ born outside of Ireland})}$$

A distinctive Irish surname is one that is relatively common for those born in Ireland but not for those born elsewhere. The larger the Irish surname ratio, the more distinctly Irish the surname.<sup>18</sup> Since the group of individuals not born in Ireland may be diverse in terms of origins,

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<sup>18</sup> This has some similarities to Bertrand and Mullainathan’s (2004) classification of distinctive white and black names. In the historical context, it is based on a similar idea as the approach in Cummins and Ó’Gráda (2022)

we also create a parallel measure of how ‘English’ a name is, i.e., the ratio of the share of census individuals born in England or Wales with surname  $s$  to the share of those not born in England or Wales. For simplicity, we refer to this ratio as the *English Surname Ratio*.<sup>19</sup>

$$\text{English Surname Ratio}^s = \frac{(\# \text{ born in England with surname } s / \# \text{ born in England})}{(\# \text{ born outside of England with surname } s / \# \text{ born outside of England})}$$

These two ratios tell us how distinctly Irish and English each surname in the census is. We merge these data onto cleaned surnames (all defendants, and where available, jurors, judges, and victims) in the Old Bailey Proceedings data. See Appendix A for a detailed description of the surname cleaning and matching process.

In fact, one can show that the surname ratio is convenient as a measure not only in statistical terms (as it takes into account very common names by rescaling) but that it can also be transformed into and interpreted as an odds-ratio.<sup>20</sup>

$$\text{Irish Surname Ratio}^s = \frac{\text{Pr}(\text{born in Ireland} | \text{surname } s) / (1 - \text{Pr}(\text{born in Ireland} | \text{surname } s))}{\text{Pr}(\text{born in Ireland}) / (1 - \text{Pr}(\text{born in Ireland}))}$$

The numerator of this expression denotes the odds that a person is Irish-born conditional on the observed surname  $s$ , while the denominator denotes the odds of being Irish-born in the population. That is, our surname ratio (for Irish surnames and equivalently for English surnames) can be interpreted as the odds ratio. While we will use this ratio as our main measure of Irishness, one may worry that jurors form their perceptions not based on odds ratios but rather associate simple probabilities with a given surname. We will show descriptives using the probability of a surname being Irish,  $\text{Pr}(\text{born in Ireland} | \text{surname } s) = \frac{\# \text{ born in Ireland with surname } s}{\# \text{ born total}}$ , to illustrate that this is unlikely to affect our results.

For all defendants from 1800 to 1899, Panels A and B of Figure 1 plot histograms of the Irish and English surname ratios respectively. The median Irish surname ratio is 0.38, while the mean is 673. The median English surname ratio is 2.34, with a mean of 2311. These

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who use 1911 Census surnames to identify Irish. Cummins and Ó’Gráda (2022) use Census data to classify names by ethnic origin based on the most frequent country of birth per surname, with adjustments when at least five percent per surname are born in a country which is not England or Wales.

<sup>19</sup> To the extent our English names also includes Welsh names, not least because of the smaller number of Welsh names already noted above, this could bias down any comparisons we make of the Irish to English – if those of Welsh origin are also treated non-favorably. Given the ease of migration between Wales and England at this time, we decided to combine those born in England and Wales.

<sup>20</sup> This transformation is done by multiplying the numerator and denominator by  $1 = \frac{\# \text{ born total} / \# \text{ born total}}{\# \text{ born total} / \# \text{ born total}}$ .

statistics highlight that some surnames have extremely large ratios – i.e., they are very distinct. The figures top code all ratios at 25. We use these ratios to classify three groups of defendants: Irish surnames, English surnames, and non-distinct. We define these groups using a threshold, such that all Irish (English) surname ratios over that threshold are distinctly Irish (English). We use a threshold of three in the baseline, such that a defendant with surname  $s$  is classified as:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{Irish:} & \text{Irish Surname Ratio}^s > 3 \\
 \text{English:} & \text{English Surname Ratio}^s > 3 \\
 \text{Non – Distinct:} & \text{Irish Surname Ratio}^s \leq 3 \text{ and English Surname Ratio}^s \leq 3
 \end{array}$$

We inform this threshold decision by taking into account the trade-off between sample size and classification error. On the one hand, the higher the threshold, the more distinct the ethnic background is, and the less likely that we incorrectly identify, for instance, non-Irish defendants as Irish. On the other hand, a higher threshold implies a smaller sample of Irish and potentially classifying defendants as not Irish who in fact are. Panel C-F of Figure 1 illustrate this trade-off. Panel C shows the share of defendants that are Irish, English, and non-distinct using surname thresholds from 1 to 15. About 20% and 70% of defendants are classified as Irish and English, respectively, with a threshold of one. As the threshold increases, individuals are shifted from the Irish and English groups to the non-distinct group. However, once a ratio of three is reached, there is little movement in the classification of Irish defendants.

Panels D-F use external sources of data to validate these classification decisions. First, we use the *Grenham Irish Surnames* data, which we refer to as the Grenham data, to measure the number of households with each surname in Ireland (overall and by county). These data are described in more detail in Appendix A. For each potential surname ratio threshold from 1 to 15, Panel D plots the coefficients that result from regressing the share of households in Ireland with surname  $s$  on our classification of whether that name is Irish, English or non-distinct. Surnames classified as Irish are more common amongst households in Ireland, while those classified as English are less common. Moreover, the strength of the Irish relationship increases as the threshold increases: the more Irish a name is in the English census, the more common it is in Irish households. Panels E and F present similar validation checks using records from the Digital Panopticon to identify place of birth – Ireland, London, and Scotland – for a subset of individuals who also have records in the Old Bailey Proceedings Online.<sup>21</sup> Panel E regresses

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<sup>21</sup> The Digital Panopticon is a website built by digital historians, and is focused on digitizing and making searchable records from many historical sources about the lives of convicts from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The search can be conducted here: <https://www.digitalpanopticon.org/search>. Using this search engine, we extracted

the Digital Panopticon birthplace on whether the surname is classified as Irish while Panel F does the same for English surnames. These figures demonstrate that our name classifications correctly identify Irish and English individuals: defendants with Irish (English) names are more likely to be born in Ireland (England) and less likely to be born in England (Ireland). Moreover, once a threshold of three is reached, the relationship between surname classification and place of birth stabilizes, supporting our threshold choice.

Finally, we create an *Irish First Name Ratio* and *English First Name Ratio*, using the same formulas for first names in the 1881 Census. Defendants are classified as having Irish, English or non-distinct first names again using a threshold of three. Appendix Figure A1 plots the distribution of first name ratios and baseline validation checks.

Appendix A presents a number of additional analyses that validate our classification of defendant surnames and first names as Irish, English and non-distinct. First, Appendix Table A1 provides a ‘common sense’ test, and lists the 30 most common surnames and first names in each group. The most common Irish surname is Sullivan (with an Irish ratio of 22 and English ratio of 0.06), while the most common English Surname is Jones with an Irish ratio of 0.20 and an English ratio of 5.10.<sup>22</sup> Smith is the most common non-distinct surname, with Irish and English ratios of 0.56 and 1.43 respectively. The most common male first names are Daniel (Irish), Frederick (English), and John (non-distinct), while those for females are Catherine (Irish), Emma (English), and Mary (non-distinct). Second, Appendix Table A2 demonstrates that our surname classifications correctly predict: (i) place of birth in the Digital Panopticon, (ii) the share of households in Ireland with that name, (iii) whether a name is of Irish, English or non-distinct origin in manual searches of genealogy websites for a sub-sample of defendant names, and (iv) whether the first name is classified as Irish, English, or non-distinct.<sup>23</sup>

We conclude this section by discussing the potential advantages and limitations of using surname ethnicity to measure defendant ethnicity: what does a surname capture? Defendants with Irish surnames are indeed more likely to be Irish themselves. However, we do know that there will be some classification error: some defendants who are of Irish (English) heritage will not be identified as having Irish (English) surnames. This measurement error, however, will likely work against us: if there are Irish defendants with English surnames and vice versa, any

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those Old Bailey records that were in the Digital Panopticon that listed place of birth as Ireland, Scotland or London. Records can be extracted from one location of birth at a time.

<sup>22</sup> Jones is actually of Welsh origin and included in the English classification given, as described earlier we include individuals born in England and Wales.

<sup>23</sup> A research assistant began this manual name classification for defendants in the 1880-1886 Proceedings. They manually classified all surnames beginning with A-G, and a subset of H and M.



gaps in treatment between these groups would be biased down.<sup>24</sup> In addition, the defendant's name was read aloud by the clerk: the name is a signal of ethnic background to the jury, much as it is to us as researchers. Thus, even if defendants are incorrectly classified, juries may have had the same incorrect perception of ethnicity. In other words, given the short nature of trials and limited evidence presented, we may be correctly measuring the jury's perception of ethnicity. Finally, a name may signal more than ethnicity: individuals with (more) Irish names may also be poorer or more religious for instance. Our analyses will keep this in mind.

### 3.3. Descriptive Statistics

Panel A of Figure 2 depicts the share of defendants (1800-1899) and jurors (1800-1860) who are classified as Irish, English, and non-distinct. 12% and 41% of defendants have Irish and English names, respectively, while just 3% of jurors have Irish names. Relative to their presence in London's population, the Irish are over-represented (four times) in the courts. Panel B shows that the different ethnic background of defendants and jurors is also visible at the intensive margin of how Irish and English names are; the average (top-coded at 25) Irish surname ratio for defendants is much larger than that for jurors (2.9 versus 0.8).

Figure 3 looks at how the ethnic composition of defendants changed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Panel A shows that the number of cases with Irish, English or non-distinct defendants increases through the first half of the century due to the expanding catchment area while numbers (for *all* ethnic groups) drop sharply in the 1850s due to the shift of minor cases out of the Old Bailey.<sup>25</sup> Despite these trends, Panel B shows that the prevalence of Irish named defendants is relatively stable, with (if anything) a small increase after 1840. Panel C depicts the same pattern for property offenses as in all cases: about 15% of property defendants have Irish names in each decade. However, for violent crimes (Panel D), around 18% of defendants have Irish names at the beginning of the century. This statistic starts increasing in 1840, and reaches a peak in the 1860s, such that almost 25% of violent defendants have Irish names.

Table 1 presents summary statistics for Irish, English and non-distinct defendants by quarter of the century. The average Irish surname ratio for Irish named defendants is around 15, while the same statistic for English and non-distinct defendants is around 0.18 and 0.75, respectively. Surname ratios for non-distinct defendants are more similar to English than Irish defendants. Females comprise a larger share of Irish than English defendants in the first quarter

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<sup>24</sup> Note that this includes such cases in which Irish defendants might have changed their name upon immigration to a more English sounding name.

<sup>25</sup> Specifically, the 1855 Criminal Justice Act give judges the ability to summarily deal with larceny cases.

(28.5% versus 21%). This gap disappears as the share of females decrease at the Old Bailey; by the fourth quarter, about 10% of both Irish and English defendants are female. Irish defendants are also more likely than English defendants to have Irish-named co-defendants. Property offenses made up more than 80% of trials for each ethnic group in the first half of the century. As noted above, the composition of crimes at the Old Bailey shifts mid-century, with violent and fraud increasingly represented. See Appendix Table B1 for the 34 offense categories and number of observations by offense and defendant name ethnicity.

The third panel of Table 1 presents average case outcomes. There are no visible disparities in the first quarter: juries find 68.6% of Irish and English defendants guilty and recommend mercy in about 5% of guilty cases. A gap emerges from 1825-1849; 74.8% versus 72.5% of Irish and English defendants receive a guilty verdict. This gap grows in the next period (70.4% versus 65%). Similar disparities are seen for mercy. Table 1 also demonstrates that the emergence of pleas in the second quarter was not equal for the Irish and English: Irish named defendants are always less likely to plea. The final panel shows that by the second half of the century, about 90% of guilty defendants were sentenced to prison and average sentencing outcomes are similar for Irish, English, and non-distinct named defendants in each period.

We next consider whether there is any raw relationship between *how* Irish or English a name is and court outcomes. The left side of Figure 4 plots the average outcome (Panel A: plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: mercy) for each Irish surname ratio (in bins of .5) and calculates the correlation coefficient. This is done separately for males and females. Consistent with Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2020), females are treated more leniently overall. There is a positive correlation between name Irishness and guilty verdicts for both genders. Defendants with more Irish names are also less likely to plea and less likely to receive a recommendation for mercy. In other words, we see the same pattern at the intensive margin of name Irishness as at the extensive margin. Given similar findings for males and females, we use the whole sample for all remaining analyses.

The right panel of Figure 4 plots the correlation coefficient for each outcome and 25-year period. The negative correlations for pleas and recommendations of mercy emerge in the second quarter and get larger in magnitude or remain constant over time. The positive correlation between name Irishness and a guilty jury verdict is small in the first quarter and grows from 1825 to 1849 and 1850 to 1874; it appears to get weaker in the last quarter.

Appendix Figure B1 shows a consistent story when looking at name Englishness.<sup>26</sup>

#### 4. 19<sup>th</sup> Century Evolution of Court Outcomes for Irish versus English Defendants

The raw scatter plots and summary statistics by defendant name ethnicity are highly suggestive of differences in the treatment of Irish and English-named defendants at the Old Bailey. Irishness (at the extensive and intensive margins) is negatively associated with defendants pleading guilty and positively associated with a guilty jury verdict. The opposite patterns are seen for Englishness. This section assesses whether these raw differences are statistically significant and robust to adjusting for case and defendant characteristics, as well as other ‘surname’ characteristics.

##### 4.1. Raw and Regression Adjusted Gaps in Outcomes

For defendant  $i$  with surname  $s$  charged with offense  $o$  trialed in an Old Bailey session starting on date  $t$ , we estimate the following regression:

$$(1) \quad Outcome_{isot} = \alpha + \beta_1 Irish_s + \beta_2 NonDistinct_s + X_{io}\delta + Z_s\rho + \gamma_t + \varepsilon_{isot}$$

There are three main outcomes – *guilty plea*, *guilty jury verdict*, and *jury recommendation for mercy*. We condition the sample appropriately. All cases are included when studying pleas, as this is not a jury decision. The jury verdict analysis conditions on cases that were put to the jury, while the mercy analysis conditions on guilty jury verdicts.

We consider whether Irish-named defendants are treated differently at both the extensive and intensive margins, where the former measures the effect of any Irish name and the latter how Irish the name is. The baseline extensive margin specification includes dummy variables for whether the defendant’s surname is *Irish* or *NonDistinct*. The omitted name classification therefore is an English name, allowing us to compare the treatment of Irish and distinctly English defendants. We assess whether defendants with more Irish surnames are treated worse by the courts by decomposing the subsample of Irish defendants (*Irish* = Irish surname ratio greater than 3) into four groups: Irish surname ratio of 3-5, 5-15, 15-25, and more than 25. The

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<sup>26</sup> As raised earlier, one may worry that jurors do not form perceptions based on odds ratios but rather on simple probabilities of a surname being Irish or English, respectively. Appendix Figure B2 shows that the pattern in the raw data is very similar when we use the probability instead of the ratio. Yet, the figure also highlights that the distribution of the simple probability of a name being Irish/English is more concentrated in the tails (below 10% for Irish names and above 90% for English names). Compared to the odds ratios, this measure lacks support in the middle of the distribution. For that reason, we prefer the odds ratio and simply highlight that our conclusions are unlikely to depend on that choice.

omitted category remains defendants with English names.

We control for a vector of defendant and case characteristics,  $X$ , to account for observable differences between Irish and English-named defendants. Since Irish defendants are disproportionately represented in violent offenses, which have a lower conviction rate, one would expect the gap to increase once conditioning on offense type.  $X$  includes the number of defendants, defendant gender, detailed offense type dummies, and whether the offense is capital in year  $t$ . Year fixed effects capture unobservable characteristics of, for instance, the justice system or society common to all defendants while month fixed effects capture seasonality. We can also essentially allow for month by year fixed effects by including session fixed effects, capturing characteristics of the jury pool or courthouse conditions at the time.

Finally, if Irish defendants are treated differently than the English, one needs to ask why: is there animus directed towards them simply because they are Irish? Or is it because Irish defendants are different than English defendants in some yet to be measured dimension, which either leads to similar animus or affects the nature of their defense? We begin to address this question in Section 4.3, where we create and control for proxies of whether a name signals anything more than the defendant's likely ethnic background, including their socioeconomic status, religion, or propensity for crime.

#### **4.2. Regression Adjusted Estimates of Disparate Treatment Towards the Irish**

Table 2 presents the extensive margin results of regressing whether the defendant pled guilty (Panel A), was found guilty by the jury (Panel B), or was recommended mercy by the jury (Panel C) on whether the defendant's surname is classified as Irish or non-distinct. Columns (1)-(4) build the specification using the whole sample period (1800-1899). In the raw data, Irish named defendants are 3.8 percentage points significantly less likely to plead guilty, 2.7 percentage points more likely to be convicted by the jury, and 2.4 percentage points less likely to be recommended mercy. When controlling for observable case and defendant characteristics in column (2), the raw gaps for pleas and mercy get markedly smaller, but that for jury verdicts does not change much. The coefficients get larger, if anything, when adding year and month fixed effects in column (3) or session fixed effects in column (4). We take column (3) as the regression adjusted baseline. Irish named defendants are: 1.9 percentage points (11% relative to the mean) less likely to plea, 2.3 percentage points (3%) more likely to be convicted, and 1.7 percentage points (16%) less likely to be recommended mercy.

All specifications also compare non-distinct defendants to those with English names. P-values are shown for tests comparing the Irish and non-distinct coefficients. The non-distinct

group is like the English in terms of pleas. Though the non-distinct group is significantly more likely to be convicted by the jury and less likely to receive a mercy recommendation, the treatment gaps are significantly smaller for the non-distinct than for the Irish (especially with respect to conviction). Figure 5 demonstrates that these baseline results are robust to choosing thresholds other than three to define Irish and English names. Moreover, we also see evidence here that disparities are larger for more distinct names (i.e., with higher thresholds). Appendix Figure B3 demonstrates that the results are not driven by any individual offense category.<sup>27</sup>

Columns (5) – (8) of Table 2 re-estimate the baseline specifications for 25-year intervals, denoted Q1 through Q4 for each quarter of the century. The plea effect emerges in the second quarter and persists through the century. Likewise, the conviction and mercy gaps are also an order of magnitude larger and for the first time significant in Q2. There are no significant disparities in Q1. Moreover, the conviction gap grows over time in both absolute and relative terms. Relative to the Q1 to Q4 means, Irish named defendants are 1%, 2.7%, 4.4%, and 5.3%, respectively, more likely to be convicted. Once the mercy gap emerges, it also persists: Irish named defendants are 3.8%, 17%, 14%, and 18%, respectively, less likely to receive a recommendation for mercy in Q1 through Q4.

Given the over-representation of the Irish in violent offenses and the anecdotal perception of the Irish as violent, Table 3 estimates the baseline specification overall and by quarter separately for property offenses (columns (1)-(5)) and violent offenses (columns (6) – (10)). Though some precision is lost due to the focus on smaller samples, we see the same general pattern. Irish-named defendants are treated harsher by juries starting in Q2 for both property and violent crimes. Point estimates and relative effects, however, are larger for violent offenses. For the entire period, Irish-named defendants are 2.6% and 8.0% more likely, respectively, to be convicted of property and violent crimes than English-named defendants. Similar (but smaller) estimates are seen for non-distinct defendants. Even by crime type, effects are larger in the second half of the century: Irish-named defendants are 11% more likely to be convicted for property offenses in Q4 and 12% for violent offenses in Q3.

Panel C of Table 3 shows that disparate treatment in mercy recommendations are only significant by crime type in Q2 – the period with the largest number of observations. Moreover, as we proceed through the century, punishments are becoming less harsh, making mercy less

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<sup>27</sup> While Appendix Figure B3 demonstrates that our results are robust to leaving one offense out at a time, we also estimated specifications where we allowed the main coefficients of interest to vary by offense. Naturally, these are very demanding specifications, but they provide a consistent picture: Most estimated coefficients on the interaction term are (at least weakly) positive when looking at guilty jury verdicts, and (at least weakly) negative when looking at recommendations for mercy. This is especially true for violent crimes. See Appendix Figure B4.

relevant. This is evidenced by the decreasing dependent variable mean. In Q2, which includes the peak of transportation to Australia, juries are 15% less likely to recommend mercy for Irish-named defendants charged with property crimes and 41% less likely for violent crimes.<sup>28</sup>

Finally, Table 4 presents the intensive margin results: Does the harsher treatment of Irish-named defendants depend on how Irish the name is? Columns (1) and (2) look at the raw and adjusted gaps for the entire period, while columns (3) – (6) estimate the effects by quarter and columns (7) and (8) present the property and violent crime results. Breaking up the Irish surname ratio into four sub-categories (3-5, 5-15, 15-25, and more than 25), we generally see that defendants with more Irish names are indeed treated more harshly. This is seen for all three outcomes, with and without controls, in each quarter from 1825 to 1899, and for both property and violent crimes. The effects associated with the two bins with the highest Irish surname ratios are almost always significant. These patterns are consistent with multiple channels. One is that juries treat all defendants who they perceive as Irish the same, but that a more distinct Irish name (i.e., with a higher ratio) is simply easier to identify as Irish. An alternative is that the extent of disparate treatment varies with how Irish a name is, and that a name captures something more than an indicator of being Irish. We explore this possibility in the next section.

### **4.3. What's in a name? Why are Irish-named defendants treated differently?**

Why do juries treat Irish-named defendants more harshly? One explanation, of course, is taste-based discrimination or animus directed towards the Irish. But, to the extent that Irish-named defendants are different in observable dimensions, such as socioeconomic status or religion, disparate treatment could be because they are poor or Catholic, rather than Irish. An alternative explanation is that Irish-named defendants have worse outcomes because these systematic differences actually impact their defense (e.g., whether they have a defense attorney, which was not common at the time). Table 5 takes the first steps to assessing why Irish-named defendants are treated differently. As described in Section 4.1, we estimate the baseline specification when including other characteristics associated with the defendant's surname.

First, we show that the baseline results are robust to controlling for whether a name provides a signal about an individual's occupation. We create this measure by looking at the number of people (in London and the surrounding counties) per occupation in the 1881 census.

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<sup>28</sup> To address concerns that clustering by offense results in a (too) small number of clusters, Appendix Table B2 provides robustness tests for the results in Tables 2 and 3. Specifically, instead of clustering at the offense level, we estimate: (i) heteroskedasticity-robust standard errors (without clustering); (ii) standard errors clustered and two-way clustered by offense and year; (iii) standard errors bootstrap-clustered by offense; (iv) p-values using wild-t cluster bootstrap. Our conclusions from the baseline are robust to these approaches.

We focus on those occupations/occupation groups (e.g., tailor and tailor's assistant) with more than 5000 observations, and classify all other occupations in the 'other' category. For each surname, we identify the share of individuals in each of the 52 occupational categories. For the 20 most common Irish and English names, Appendix Figure B5 displays the share of each surname employed in each occupation as a heat map, with darker shading indicating higher employment rates. This figure demonstrates that amongst the most common names seen amongst Old Bailey defendants, certain manual labor jobs (e.g., laundress, laborer, and servant) are more prevalent for *both* Irish and English names. In other words, English-named defendants are of a similar class as Irish-named defendants. But, there is also variation across surnames in occupational categories. Yet, as seen in columns (2) and (7) of Table 5, controlling for the occupation by surname employment shares has little impact on the baseline results.

Second, we include a variable for each of the 36 Irish counties that lists the share of households with the defendant's surname in that county (measured using the Grenham data).<sup>29</sup> This proxies for migrants with certain surnames coming from different regions of Ireland, which may be more or less religious, impoverished, or impacted by the famine. Controlling for this measure asks a lot of the data, as name prevalence in Ireland is another potential measure of Irish versus English names. Yet, the same pattern and significance of results remains; there is little effect on mercy coefficients, while the conviction coefficients get somewhat smaller.

Third, we try to proxy for whether surnames signal anything about criminality more generally. Are there certain Irish names that are perceived to be associated with crime? We take two approaches. First, we code the share of individuals in a publicly available data set of transportees from Ireland to Australia from 1791 to 1868, i.e., a data source completely external to the Old Bailey, with each defendant's surname. Are certain surnames more likely to be criminals in Ireland?<sup>30</sup> Second, we identify a set of surnames associated with famous Irish gangsters in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in New York, US, Australia and Ireland and create a variable indicating if you have the same surname as the gangster after the gangster becomes active.<sup>31</sup> These controls do not impact the Irish name coefficients.

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<sup>29</sup> As not all surnames are present in Ireland, we also include a dummy to control for this.

<sup>30</sup> The Irish-Australia Transportation Database 1791-1868 is searchable on the Irish National Archives website: <https://www.nationalarchives.ie/article/penal-transportation-records-ireland-australia-1788-1868-2/>

<sup>31</sup> The specific names are: Coleman (Forty Thieves Gang, NY from 1825), Roach (Roast Guards gang, NY from 1820), Morrissey (Dead Rabbits gang, NY from 1830), Chicester (Chicester Gang, NY from 1820), Lyons (Whyos gang, NY from 1870), Driscoll (Whyos gang, NY from 1870), McCarty (alias Billy the Kid, US, from 1875), Dalton (Dalton gang, US from 1892), Kelly (Australian legend from 1875), and Freney (Highway Man in Ireland, 18<sup>th</sup> century). This information is based on internet searches.

#### **4.4. Recap: The Extent of Disparate Treatment of the Irish in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

We document a number of significant and robust patterns regarding the disparate treatment of Irish-named defendants at the Old Bailey. (i) Irish-named defendants are treated more harshly by juries (in both conviction and mercy recommendations). (ii) These disparities originate in the second quarter and persist and/or grow through the rest of the century. (iii) Such disparities are not seen to the same extent for the non-distinct group. (iv) The gaps are robust to controlling for observable case and defendant characteristics. (v) The disparate treatment of Irish-named defendants is seen for both property and violent offenses, with larger effects for violent crimes. (vi) Defendants with more distinct Irish names are treated, on average, even more harshly. (vii) The disparities are not driven by other traits associated with Irish names, including proxies for occupation and socioeconomic status, religion, and criminality.

### **5. The Role and Treatment of Other Irish Parties in the Courtroom**

The previous section studied the role of Irish names for defendants. This section takes the analysis one step further by looking at: (i) how a defendant's verdict is influenced by the name ethnicity of his or her *co-defendants*, (ii) the role played by Irish-named *jurors*, and (iii) how the ethnicity of *victim* names affects case outcomes.

#### **5.1. Irish Co-defendants: 1800-1899**

We begin with co-defendant name ethnicity in Table 6. We restrict the analysis to all cases with exactly two defendants (such that there is only one co-defendant and corresponding name classification). Panel A replicates the baseline specification for this sample. We see similar gaps for Irish defendants, though they are not quite significant compared to the full sample.

Panel B adds in controls for the name ethnicity of the co-defendant. As noted earlier, Irish defendants are also more likely to have Irish co-defendants, so it is not so surprising that the coefficients on Irish defendants get smaller. There is, however, a significant effect of having an Irish co-defendant compared to having an English co-defendant. Defendants with Irish co-defendants are more than two percentage points more likely to be convicted overall and for property and violent crimes.

Panel C further restricts the sample to Irish and English defendants, and compares each defendant-co-defendant ethnic combination to the omitted category of English defendants with English co-defendants. The effect of Irish co-defendants seen overall is driven by English defendants: English defendants with an Irish co-defendant are 6.4 percentage points (about 10%) more likely to be convicted than English defendants with English co-defendants of



property crimes and 9.2 percentage points (about 15%) for violent crimes. One possible explanation is that animosity of the jury towards the Irish defendant spills over onto the English defendant. Another possible explanation that we cannot rule out, however, is one of misclassification – namely that English defendants with Irish co-defendants are Irish themselves.<sup>32</sup>

## **5.2. Irish Jurors: 1800–1860**

The results presented thus far are consistent with in-group bias of English named jurors favoring English-named defendants. A more explicit test of such a channel would be to look at whether the disparate treatment of Irish defendants is reduced when there are more Irish-named jurors. Though our data do not allow for such a test (since we only observe juror names but not which jurors are assigned to each case), we can see in Panel A of Figure 6 that there are few Irish jurors. A little over 20% of the sessions have no Irish jurors, and about 70% have two or less. This is consistent with the existence of place of birth and wealth eligibility requirements making Irish individuals less likely to be represented in the jury pool. Moreover, Figure 6 shows that there are not even more Irish-named jurors when there are more Irish named defendants (Panel B). Panels C and D show that the presence of Irish named jurors also does not increase over time (overall or for sessions with more Irish-named defendants). This is not what would one expect given: (i) the increasing number of first and second generation Irish in London and (ii) the Juries Act of 1825 (Section 47, Chapter 50), which says that non-England born defendants have the right to a jury comprised half of ‘aliens’, and that the wealth restrictions included in this Act should not be binding for these aliens.<sup>33</sup> The apparent lack of Irish in the jury pool is thus itself suggestive of disparate treatment towards Irish defendants.<sup>34</sup>

## **5.3. Irish Victims: 1880-1886 and 1800-1899**

To study victims, we supplement our Old Bailey data set with victim information from two sources. First, we manually coded victim names for 1880 to 1886, which we classify as Irish,

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<sup>32</sup> Using the sample of multiple defendant cases, we also considered robustness checks including trial fixed effects. Though we lose precision in these demanding specifications and have to interpret the results keeping in mind that co-defendants are themselves affected (see above), the results are suggestive that the patterns documented in this paper hold within groups of co-defendants. Results are available upon request.

<sup>33</sup> XLVII Juries de medietate. (See 27 Ed. 3. st. 2. c. 8. 28 Ed. 3. c. 13. 8 H. 6. c. 29.) See: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Geo4/6/50/section/XLVII/enacted> .

<sup>34</sup> We also considered whether the Irish were under-represented amongst witnesses. We use the Old Bailey Corpus data to extract witness names for a subset of trials and classify witnesses as Irish, English, and non-distinct following our main classifications. While we are limited in this exercise to the extent that we cannot differentiate between defense and prosecution witnesses, we note that the share of Irish witnesses is generally low – around seven percent in the cross-section with little to no movement over time.

English, and non-distinct according to the same definitions used for defendants.<sup>35</sup> Second, we retrieved victim names from the subset of trials coded in the Old Bailey Corpus and matched these to the main Old Bailey dataset.<sup>36</sup> We restrict the analysis to the respective sub-samples of cases with a single victim. To assess how this sample compares, Panel A of Table 7 estimates the disparate treatment towards Irish-named defendants. As seen earlier in the full sample, and in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, Irish-named defendants are again more likely to be convicted by the jury. Despite the smaller samples, the results are large and significant overall and for property and violent offences.

Panel B turns to the victims by including three dummy variables describing the ethnic combination of defendants and victims: Irish defendant and English victim, English defendant and Irish victim, and Irish defendant and Irish victim. Compared to the omitted category of English defendants with English victims, the overall conviction gap is largely driven by cases with Irish defendants and English victims. Though not significant, we can see that English defendants with Irish victims are less likely to be convicted – again consistent with in-group versus out-group bias. Panel C demonstrates the robustness of these results to alternatively classifying victims according to whether they are non-Irish (as opposed to just English).

## **6. Potential External Shocks to the Perceptions of the Irish**

One of the main take-aways of Section 4 is that evidence of disparate treatment against the Irish emerged in the second quarter and subsequently got larger in magnitude. Though we find that these results appear to be driven by the Irishness of the name, as opposed to some other signal, we cannot yet conclude that it is discrimination or animus towards the Irish underlying the gaps. The previous section documented patterns consistent with in-group and out-group bias, and suggests that discrimination *is* at play. This section aims to further speak to this by assessing whether the patterns are driven by events – the Irish Potato Famine and Irish Republican Brotherhood bombings – that potentially introduced negative shocks to how the Irish in London were perceived.

We start in Appendix Figure B6 by looking more closely at how the gaps in jury verdicts developed over each decade. We can date the first signs of the disparate jury verdicts to the 1830s, and continued growth in the 1840s and 1850s. This is consistent with the timing

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<sup>35</sup>We coded victim names during the Irish Republican Brotherhood bombing campaign.

<sup>36</sup> Both samples are a subset of trials from the main dataset. The first zooms into one specific time period (during the bombing campaign) but reflects all relevant trials during that time period. The second, as explained in the data description in Appendix B, is based on a (random) selection of trials for the Old Bailey Corpus but spans all years of the main analysis sample.

(1846-1852) of the Irish Potato famine. We also see that these gaps persist through the end of the century, with some increase for property crimes in the 1870s-1890s – i.e., the bombing period. Sections 6.1 and 6.2 zoom into each of these shocks, respectively.

### **6.1. Potato Famine**

The Irish Potato Famine occurred from 1846 to 1852. As highlighted earlier, it led to a large number of poor Irish migrants in London, which could have impacted the perception of all Irish-named defendants – regardless of whether they were first or second-generation migrants themselves. We study how the Irish potato famine impacted the treatment of the Irish in the courtroom by focusing on all trials from 1838 to 1858: we treat 1838-1845, 1846-1852, and 1853-1859 as pre-famine, famine, and post-famine years respectively.

Panels A – C of Figure 7 plot the raw average annual outcomes (pleas, guilty verdict, mercy recommendation) for each group: Irish-named (triangle), English-named (dots), and non-distinct (squares) defendants. Three patterns can be seen. First, all three outcomes move in a parallel fashion for each ethnic group in the pre-famine years. Second, there is a small pre-famine gap between the Irish and English-named defendant outcomes. Third, the guilty jury verdict gap appears to get larger during the famine and persists post famine. Similar patterns for plea and mercy are not seen. These figures, however, do not control for differing case characteristics nor indicate whether the change in the conviction gap is significant.

Table 8 presents difference-in-difference style estimates of the effect of the famine on guilty jury verdicts for Irish-named defendants: the baseline specification is expanded to control for the famine period and an interaction between defendant Irishness and the famine period. Panel A combines the famine and post famine periods (1846-1859), while Panel B breaks up these years into during and post famine. These results show that though conviction rates were significantly lower in the famine and post-famine periods, these downward trends were smaller for Irish-named defendants. Though the interaction coefficients are not quite significant for all or for property offenses, they are large and significant for violent offenses. Irish-named defendants are 6.6 percentage points (or almost 10%) more likely to be convicted of a violent offense after the potato famine than English-named defendants. Moreover, though precision sometimes decreases with controls for socioeconomic status and from where in Ireland a name comes, the effects remain large.<sup>37</sup> Given the possibility that the potato famine

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<sup>37</sup> Notably, the most common names of Irish-classified defendants do not change much over the course of the century. The five most common Irish defendant names are Sullivan, Kelly, Murphy, Conner and Welch in quarter

led to the migration of a more negatively selected group of Irish individuals, controlling for the social class of a name may not be enough. Though the Old Bailey Proceedings do not always record occupation in the text, the creators of the Old Bailey Corpus have tagged each speaker at the Proceedings with their socioeconomic class – as suggested by their spoken language. We extract these classifications and, as classifications are missing and/or defendants cannot be *uniquely* matched from the Old Bailey Corpus to the Old Bailey trial data in many cases, use them for descriptive purposes. Appendix Figure B7 plots the share of defendants classified as of lower and higher social class, over the entire time period and split up into before and after the outbreak of the potato famine, respectively. The social class composition of Irish defendants does not appear to have changed with the potato famine in absolute terms.<sup>38</sup>

When looking at the famine and post famine periods separately, we see larger (though insignificant) coefficients post-famine. Appendix Table B3 presents the same specifications for plea and mercy. Consistent with the figures, the interaction coefficients are not significant.

## 6.2. Bombing Attacks: Clerkenwell and 1880s bombings

Figure 8 zooms in on the years during which the Irish Republican Brotherhood bombings occurred and plots the average annual outcome (plea, guilty jury verdict, mercy recommendation) for each ethnic group. Red vertical bars demarcate the years of the bombings. Clerkenwell occurred on December 13, 1867 (there is one session in 1867 after the bombing); the trial and execution of the guilty defendant were in April and May of 1868. The next explosions or discovery of explosives did not occur until 1881. We demarcate the bombings with vertical lines at 1881 and 1885, though we note that the bombings were over early in 1885 and the by far largest attack occurred in 1883.<sup>39</sup> Though similar gaps in Irish and English outcomes are observed (albeit noisy given the higher frequency of the data), these descriptive

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1; Sullivan, Murphy, Kelly, Murray and Donovan in quarter 2; Sullivan Murphy, Kelly, Donovan and Ryan in quarter 3; and Sullivan, Murphy, Donovan, Kelly and Mccarthy in quarter 4.

<sup>38</sup> But, it potentially changed in relative terms compared to English defendants who appear to be more often of higher social class in the second half of the century. Yet, this could simply reflect a change in offense composition or correlate with the measurement of social class (based on speech sequences) and should be interpreted with caution.

<sup>39</sup> The 1881 attempts were concentrated in Liverpool, while there was one failed bombing at London Mansion House (March 16, 1881) and an explosion at the Chelsea Barracks on May 5, 1881, though no one was injured. A bomb was also discovered at Mansion House on May 12, 1882. Thus, the first ‘successful’ London bombing occurred on March 15, 1883 at *The Times* office, Play House Yard, and the Local Government Board at Whitehall; no injuries occurred however. Also in 1883, on October 30, there was an explosion on the London Underground at Charing Cross, which led to 70 injuries. In 1884, attacks occurred on February 26 (explosion at Victor train station; 0 injured), May 30 (explosion at Saint James Square and Scotland Yard; 10 injured) and December 13 (attempted explosion on London Bridge; 3 killed). In 1885, there were explosions on January 1 (Gower Street station; 3 injuries) and January 24 (Tower of London; 6 injuries).

figures do not clearly display any sharp increases in gaps around the times of the bombings. We formally test for whether these events affect the Irish-English gap in Appendix Table B4, adjusting for controls and, consistent with the descriptives, do not find strong support of an effect.

Sections 6.1 and 6.2 studied two potential shocks to the perceptions of the Irish in London, and reached contrasting conclusions. Why does only the potato famine immigration shock – and not the bombing campaign shock – appear to increase the disparate treatment of the Irish in the courtroom? One possibility is that this is due to different baseline perceptions of the Irish. Irish named defendants were not treated differently in the courtroom in the first quarter, suggesting that there were no large biases directed towards them. Thus, the potato famine shock provided some form of ‘new’ information, which led the London juries to significantly update their perceptions of the Irish. But, by the time of the bombings, disparate treatment and the perception of the Irish in London was already quite large. Thus, the shock from the bombing campaign may have been too small (or too temporary) compared to the baseline level to have an effect on court outcomes. An alternative explanation is that the potato famine shock was much easier to generalize to all Irish, while the bombings were motivated by political desires. Jurors may not have generalized these politically motivated violent acts to all crime in general. Finally, there were countervailing factors pushing against each other from around 1870 onwards. The bombings may have contributed to further anti-Irish sentiment and antagonism. But at the same time, the Irish in London were becoming both more economically and culturally assimilated as the migration flows slowed down, and more politically engaged by the set-up of the Home Rule movement with more Irish activism and liberation having an impact on the perceived links between the Irish and criminality.

## **7. Discussion and Conclusions**

This paper presents evidence on potentially disparate treatment by the legal system of a very sizable migrant group, the Irish, in Victorian England. Specifically, it looks at whether defendants with Irish names were discriminated against in a large sample of trials that took place in the Old Bailey in London throughout the 19th century. The analysis uncovers evidence of disparate treatment as Irish-named defendants are significantly less likely to plea, more likely to be convicted by the jury, and less likely to receive a jury recommendation for mercy.

There are interesting temporal patterns within the century, most notably with an upsurge in disparate treatment in the wake of the potato famine that both caused a huge increase in Irish migration to England (and elsewhere) and strongly impacted criminality patterns and economic

disadvantage, especially in urban areas. When this occurred, there is evidence that the prevalence of discrimination surrounding criminality and justice increased.

The subsequent economic, social and political integration of the Irish in London, coupled with the persistence of their working class status and lack of social mobility across generations as recently documented by Cummins and Ó Gráda (2022), offer key questions for future research to focus upon. Assessing whether the discrimination suffered by the Irish in the legal system documented here had longer run adverse effects on families and communities of Irish heritage would be important to better understand sources of the documented persistent inequalities.

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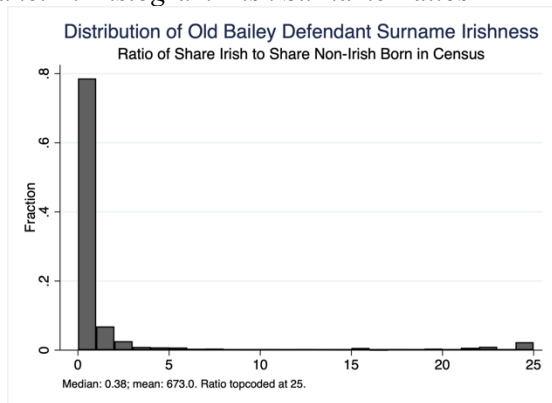
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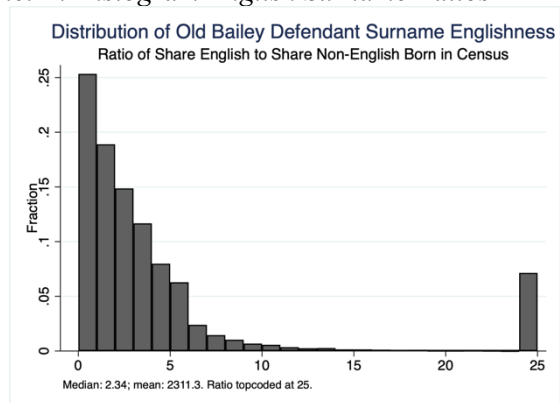
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**Figure 1. Surname Classification**

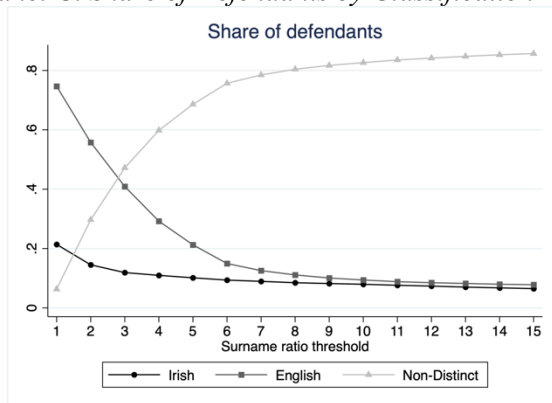
*Panel A. Histogram Irish Surname Ratios*



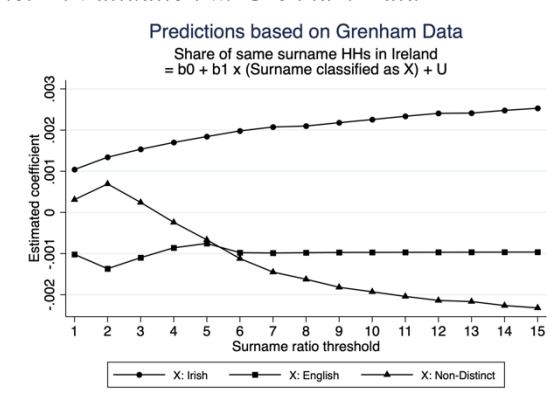
*Panel B. Histogram English Surname Ratios*



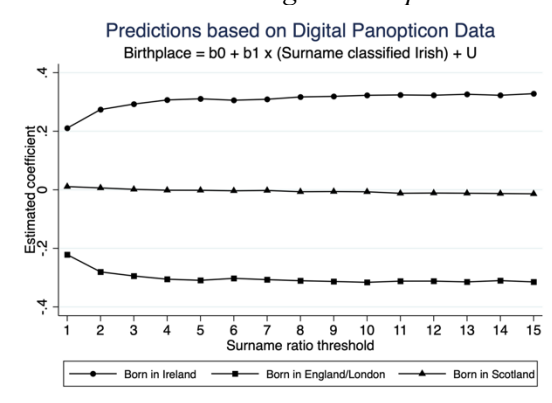
*Panel C. Share of Defendants by Classification*



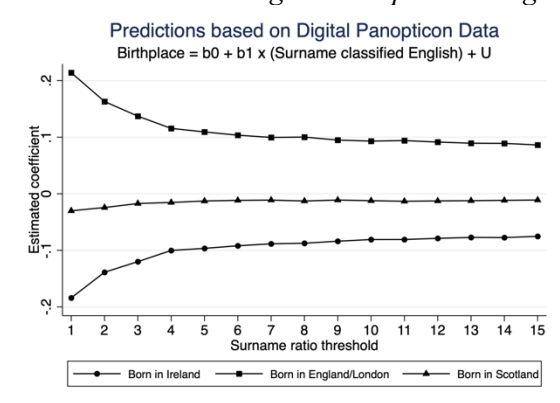
*Panel D. Validation w/ Grenham Data*



*Panel E. Validation w/ Digital Panopticon - Irish*



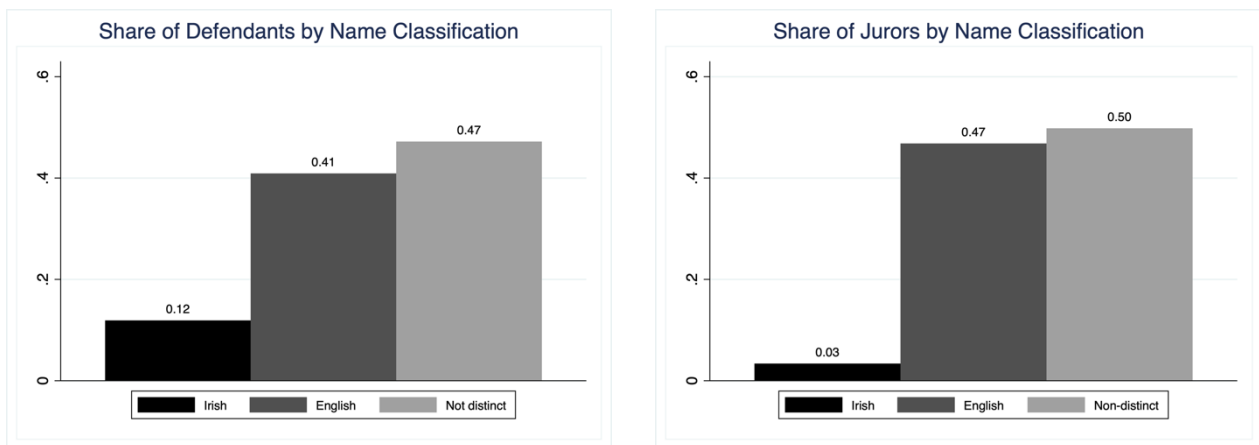
*Panel F. Validation w/ Digital Panopticon - English*



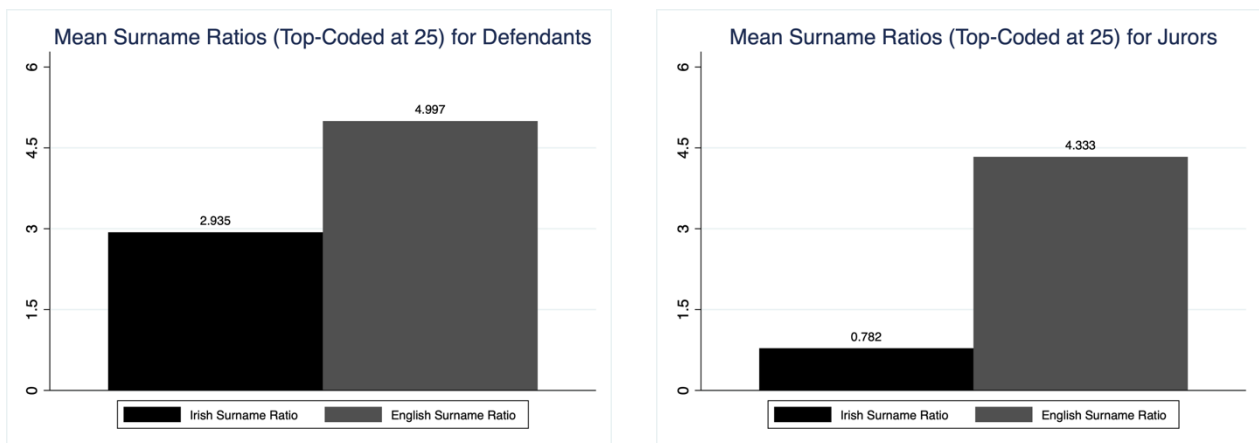
NOTE - Panels A and B plot histograms of the Irish and English surname ratios for defendants in the Old Bailey data, respectively. Ratios larger than 25 are top-coded at 25 for ease of presentation. Panel C depicts the share of defendants that we classify as Irish, English or non-distinct varying the threshold for the surname ratio from 1 to 15. Panel D to F plot coefficients from regressions of external measures for the defendant's ethnicity on the classification based on the surname ratio, iterating through thresholds as shown on the x-axis. In Panel D, dots represent regressions with Irish classified defendants as right-hand side variable, squares with English classified defendants and triangles with non-distinct defendants. In Panels E and F, dots represent regressions when the outcome is "born in Ireland", squares when the outcome is "born in England/London" and triangles when the outcome is "born in Scotland". In Panel E, the right-hand side variable is a dummy for the defendant being classified Irish and in Panel F being classified English. For all panels, see Section 3.2 for details.

## Figure 2. Composition of Defendants and Jurors

Panel A. Extensive margin: Classification by surname ratio



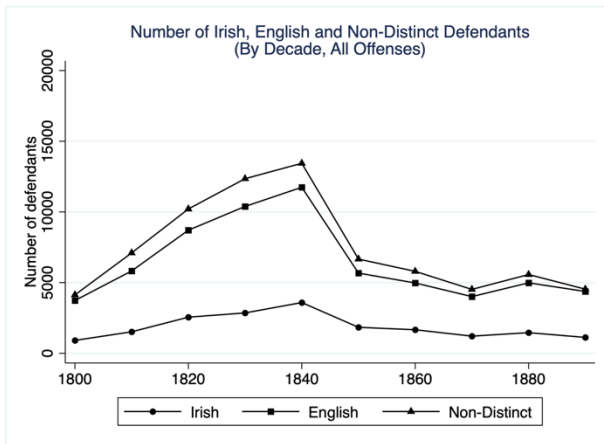
Panel B. Intensive margin: Average surname ratio



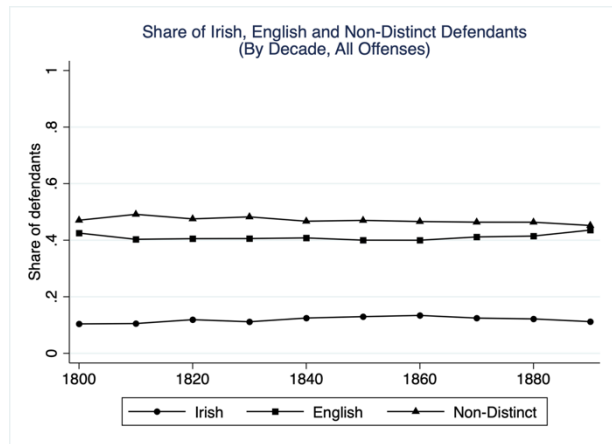
NOTE - Panel A shows the share of defendants classified as Irish, English and non-distinct for the entire sample period (1800-1899) and for jurors for the available sample period (1800-1860), respectively. Panel B plots the average surname ratio (top-coded at 25) for defendants (1800-1899) and jurors (1800-1860), respectively. See Section 3.3 for details.

### Figure 3. Sample Composition over Time

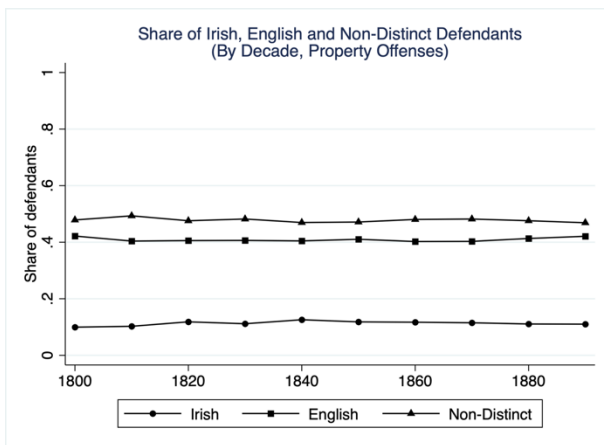
Panel A. Number of defendants by classification



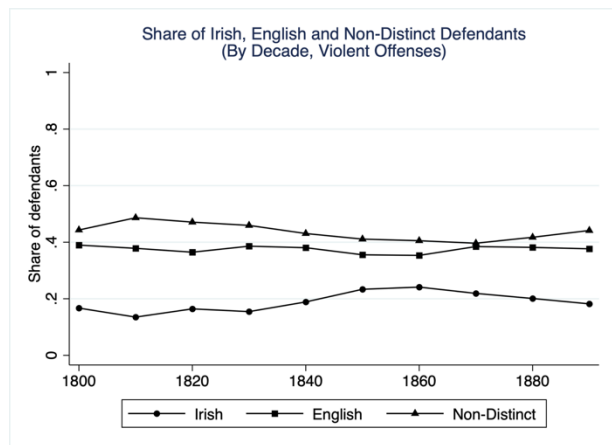
Panel B. Share of defendants by classification



Panel C. Share of defendants by classification for property crimes



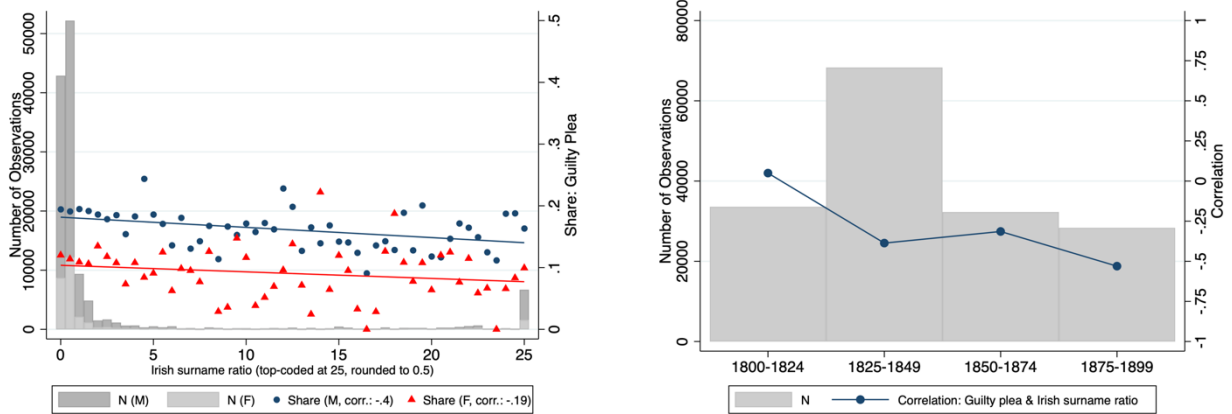
Panel D. Share of defendants by classification for violent crimes



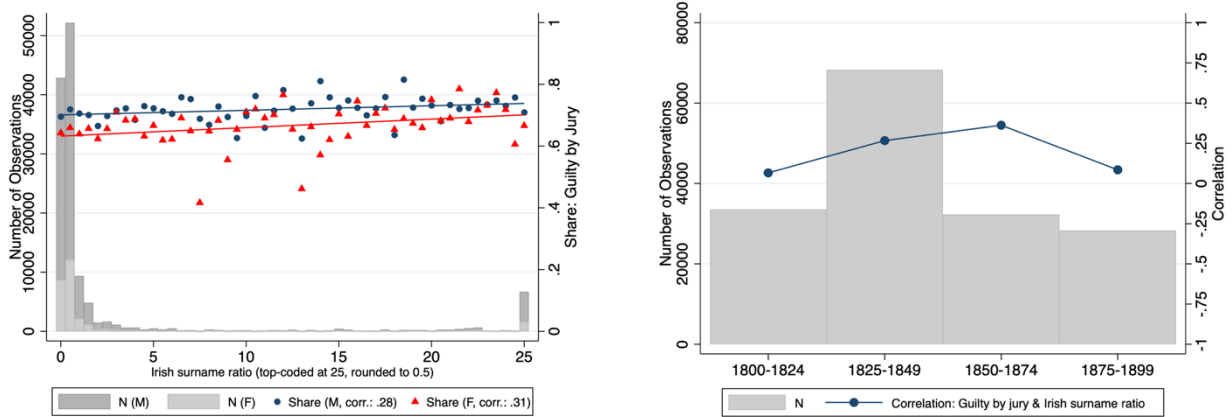
NOTE - Panel A shows the number of Irish, English and non-distinct classified defendants by decade and for all offenses. Panel B shows the share of Irish, English and non-distinct classified defendants by decade and for all offenses, Panel C for property offenses and Panel D for violent offenses. See Section 3.3 for details.

**Figure 4. Correlation between Court Outcomes and Surname Irishness**

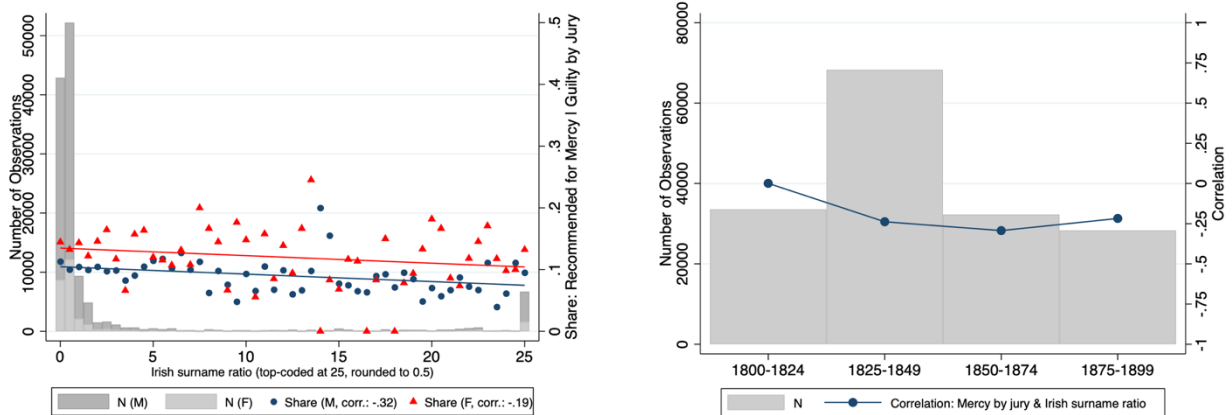
*Panel A. Guilty plea, by gender and over time*



*Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict, by gender and over time*



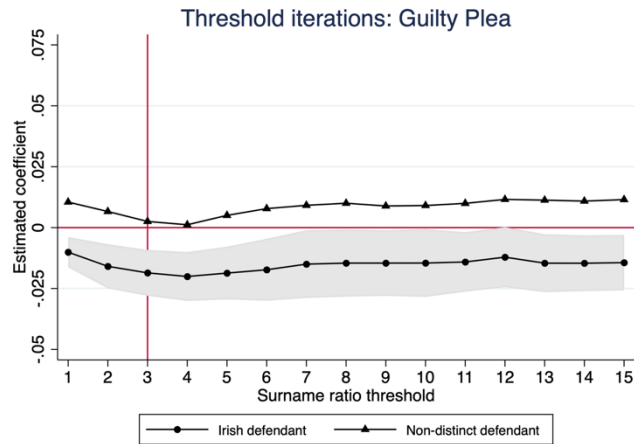
*Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on jury verdict), by gender and over time*



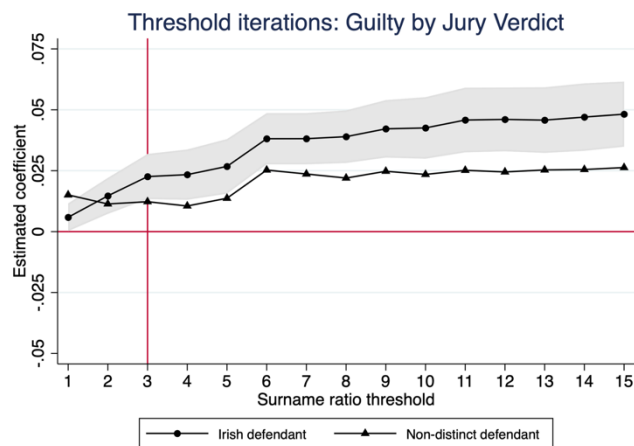
NOTE - The left figure in each panel shows the average outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: recommendation for mercy) for each Irish surname ratio (in bins of .5) and calculates the correlation coefficient, for males (circles) and females (triangles) separately. The grey bars indicate the number of observations in each of the bins. The right figure in each panel plots the correlation coefficient for each outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: recommendation for mercy) by quarter of the century. The grey bars indicate the number of observations underlying these correlations. See Section 3.3 for details.

## Figure 5. Robustness Tests - Threshold Iterations

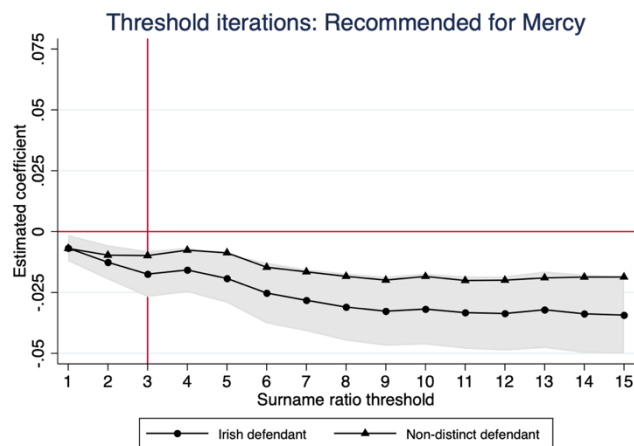
Panel A. Guilty Plea, All Offenses



Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses



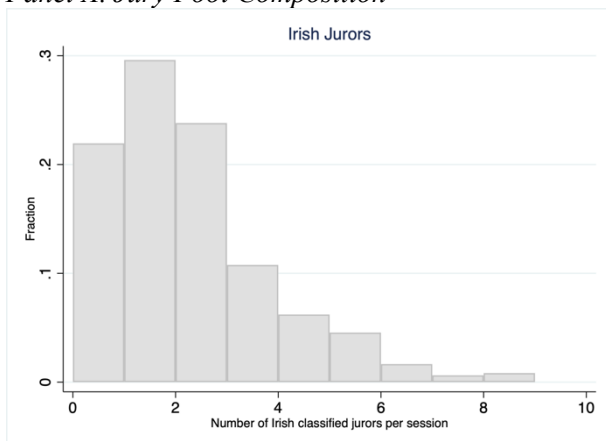
Panel C. Recommendation for Mercy, All Offenses



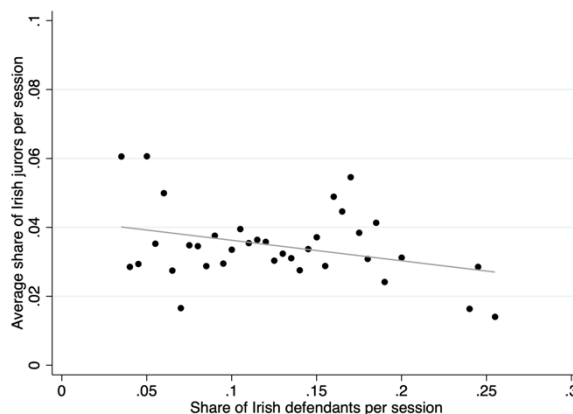
NOTE - The figure shows the estimated coefficients when iterating the threshold for the name classification (see Section 3.2) for each outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, Panel C: recommended for mercy). The markers depict the estimated coefficients using our baseline specification as in column (3) of Table 2. The dots refer to the coefficient for Irish defendants, the triangles to those for non-distinct defendants. The grey shaded area shows the 95% confidence interval for the Irish defendant coefficient. We estimate a separate regression for each threshold indicated on the x-axis, our baseline with a threshold of 3 is marked by the vertical red line.

**Figure 6. Irish Jury Representation (1800–1860)**

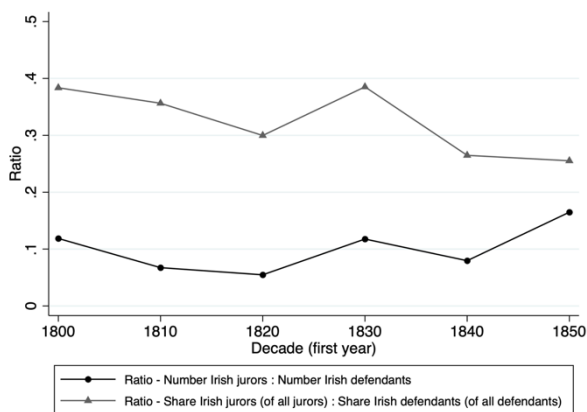
*Panel A. Jury Pool Composition*



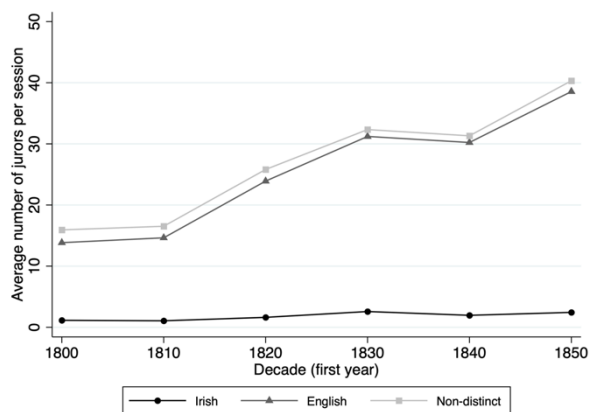
*Panel B. Share of Irish jurors per session*



*Panel C. Ratio of Irish jurors to Irish defendants over time*



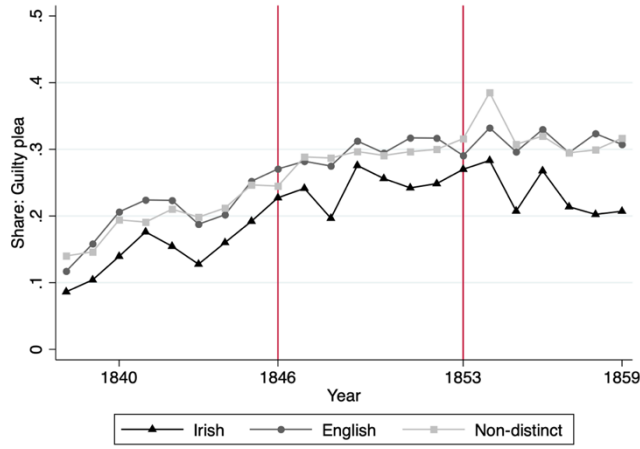
*Panel D. Number of Irish, English and non-distinct jurors over time*



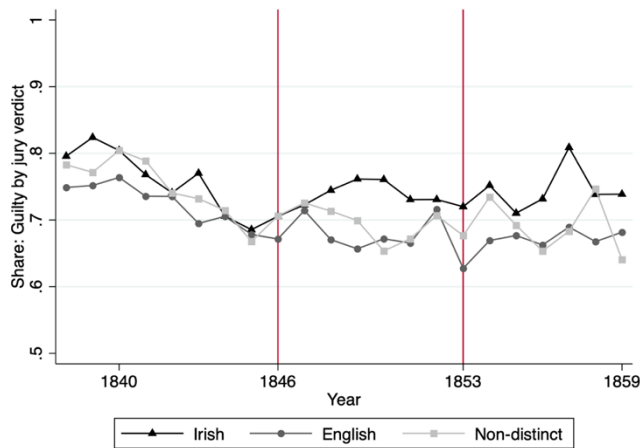
NOTE - Panel A shows the fraction of sessions with a given number of Irish classified jurors (maximum in our sample is 9). Panel B plots average share of Irish classified jurors per session against the (rounded) share of Irish defendants per session. Panel A and Panel B pool data over the period 1800-1860. Panel C shows the average ratio of Irish jurors to Irish defendants by decade (ratio of numbers: black circles, ratio of shares: grey triangles). Panel D shows the average number of Irish (black circles), English (dark grey triangles) and non-distinct (light grey squares) classified jurors by decade.

**Figure 7. Potential Origins of the Gaps – Potato Famine (1838-1859)**

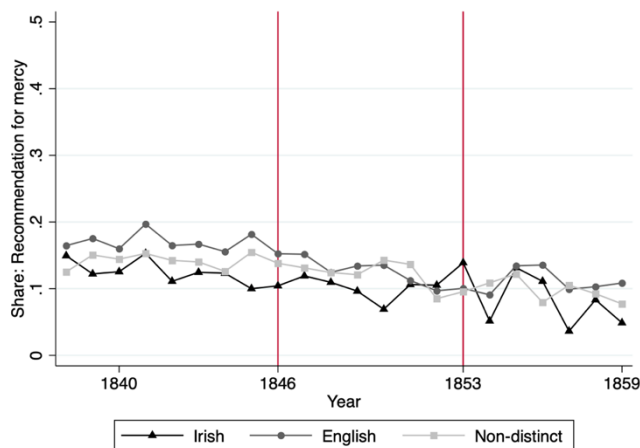
*Panel A. Guilty Plea, All Offenses*



*Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses*



*Panel C. Recommendation for Mercy, All Offenses*

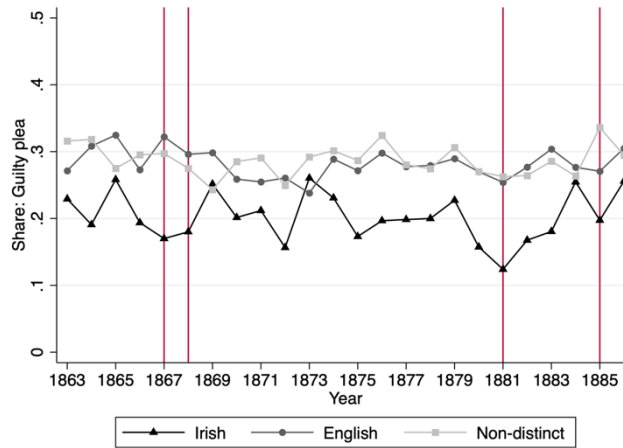


NOTE - Panel A shows the annual share of guilty pleas, Panel B the annual share of guilty jury verdicts and Panel C the annual share of recommendations for mercy, each from 1838 to 1859 respectively. Annual shares for Irish defendants are marked by black triangles, for English defendants by dark gray circles, and for non-distinct defendants by light-grey squares. The two vertical red lines mark the beginning and end of the Irish Potato Famine.

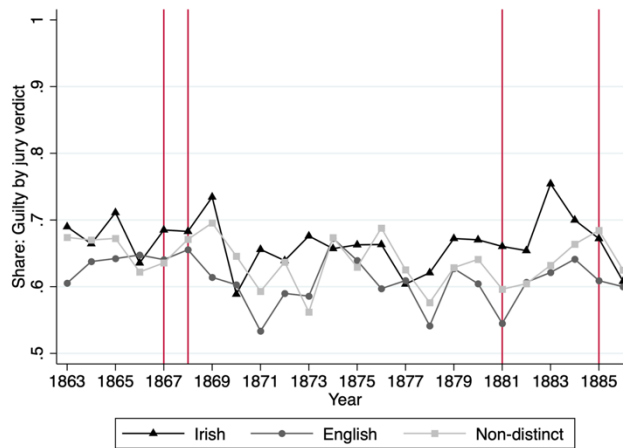


## Figure 8. Potential Shocks to Perceptions - Clerkenwell and Fenian Bombing Campaign

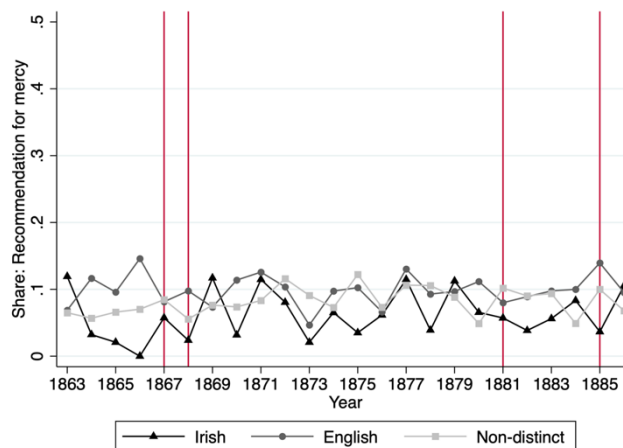
Panel A. Guilty Plea, All Offenses



Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses



Panel C. Recommendation for Mercy, All Offenses



NOTE - Panel A shows the annual share of guilty pleas, Panel B the annual share of guilty jury verdicts and Panel C the annual share of recommendations for mercy, each from 1863 to 1886 respectively. Annual shares for Irish defendants are marked by black triangles, for English defendants by dark grey circles, and for non-distinct defendants by light-grey squares. The two vertical red lines mark the beginning and end of the Irish Potato Famine. For these figures, we exclude the trials related to the Clerkenwell Outage and the Fenian bombing campaigns.

**Table 1. Summary Statistics – Old Bailey Data**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	<b>Q1: 1800-1824</b>			<b>Q2: 1825-1849</b>			<b>Q3: 1850-1874</b>			<b>Q4: 1875-1899</b>		
Defendant classified as:	Irish	English	Non-distinct	Irish	English	Non-distinct	Irish	English	Non-distinct	Irish	English	Non-distinct
<b>Observations</b>	3,448	13,295	15,690	7,991	27,099	31,541	4,060	12,554	14,645	3,248	11,464	12,449
<b>Defendant and case characteristics</b>												
Irish surname ratio (truncated at 25)	14.205	0.179	0.751	15.203	0.178	0.747	15.461	0.176	0.761	15.774	0.168	0.771
English surname ratio (truncated at 25)	0.137	8.670	1.560	0.126	8.710	1.560	0.123	8.823	1.540	0.117	9.369	1.525
Female	0.285	0.212	0.236	0.305	0.186	0.214	0.206	0.155	0.167	0.101	0.105	0.105
Capital eligible off.	0.400	0.400	0.398	0.097	0.106	0.106	0.016	0.015	0.014	0.021	0.025	0.020
No. of defendants	1.770	1.656	1.720	1.343	1.348	1.344	1.570	1.491	1.495	1.676	1.630	1.654
No. of Irish codefendants (if any)	0.165	0.062	0.077	0.114	0.027	0.033	0.193	0.049	0.057	0.200	0.055	0.069
No. of English codefendants (if any)	0.240	0.278	0.258	0.092	0.166	0.126	0.152	0.217	0.176	0.193	0.283	0.242
No. of non-distinct codefendants (if any)	0.348	0.304	0.369	0.129	0.147	0.178	0.204	0.205	0.246	0.266	0.263	0.315
<b>Offenses</b>												
Property off.	0.827	0.848	0.853	0.832	0.828	0.834	0.429	0.482	0.484	0.345	0.360	0.381
Violent off.	0.073	0.048	0.052	0.070	0.044	0.044	0.275	0.139	0.134	0.331	0.178	0.183
Sex off.	0.002	0.004	0.003	0.007	0.010	0.009	0.017	0.025	0.023	0.051	0.069	0.061
Fraud off.	0.078	0.075	0.071	0.069	0.092	0.089	0.238	0.298	0.309	0.217	0.300	0.298
Special off.	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.002	0.002
Other off.	0.018	0.021	0.018	0.020	0.024	0.022	0.037	0.055	0.048	0.052	0.091	0.075
<b>Verdicts</b>												
Plea	0.027	0.023	0.026	0.107	0.141	0.136	0.235	0.298	0.302	0.234	0.328	0.325
Guilty (any)	0.694	0.694	0.703	0.775	0.763	0.778	0.774	0.754	0.771	0.742	0.740	0.755
Guilty by jury	0.686	0.686	0.695	0.748	0.725	0.743	0.704	0.650	0.671	0.664	0.614	0.637
Guilty by jury - original charge	0.600	0.608	0.616	0.710	0.696	0.712	0.638	0.598	0.618	0.587	0.549	0.574
Guilty by jury - lesser off.	0.092	0.084	0.084	0.040	0.030	0.032	0.066	0.052	0.053	0.077	0.064	0.063
Recommended for mercy   guilty verdict	0.051	0.054	0.050	0.131	0.164	0.146	0.079	0.107	0.094	0.056	0.091	0.076
Acquittal	0.314	0.313	0.304	0.252	0.275	0.256	0.295	0.348	0.327	0.333	0.381	0.357
<b>Sentences</b>												
Death penalty	0.141	0.134	0.132	0.033	0.032	0.034	0.006	0.005	0.003	0.006	0.006	0.005
Transportation	0.364	0.383	0.384	0.346	0.349	0.352	0.047	0.045	0.047	0.000	0.000	0.000
Prison	0.264	0.259	0.260	0.561	0.562	0.562	0.903	0.895	0.899	0.897	0.860	0.875

NOTE - The table shows summary statistics for our analysis sample from the Old Bailey in the sub-periods as indicated at the top of each column: 1800-1824 in (1) to (3), 1825-1849 in (4) to (6), 1850-1874 in (7) to (9), 1875-1899 in (10) to (12). When not otherwise indicated, each cell shows the mean for the respective variable.

**Table 2. Disparate Treatment of Irish Defendants – Extensive Margin**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Sample:	1800-1899				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<i>Panel A. Guilty plea</i>								
Defendant classified Irish	-0.038** (0.014)	-0.015** (0.007)	-0.019*** (0.005)	-0.019*** (0.005)	-0.003 (0.004)	-0.022*** (0.006)	-0.009* (0.005)	-0.031** (0.013)
Defendant classified non-distinct	-0.003 (0.005)	0.003 (0.003)	0.003 (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)	0.000 (0.002)	-0.002 (0.003)	0.009* (0.005)	0.008 (0.007)
Observations	157,329	150,939	150,939	150,939	31,694	63,560	29,589	26,096
Mean of Y	0.174	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.024	0.128	0.281	0.312
Adj R2	0.001	0.097	0.172	0.178	0.361	0.108	0.105	0.173
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.344	0.000	0.031	0.000
<i>Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict</i>								
Defendant classified Irish	0.027*** (0.008)	0.023*** (0.004)	0.023*** (0.005)	0.023*** (0.004)	0.007 (0.009)	0.020*** (0.007)	0.030** (0.012)	0.034*** (0.012)
Defendant classified non-distinct	0.018*** (0.003)	0.013*** (0.003)	0.012*** (0.003)	0.012*** (0.003)	0.008* (0.004)	0.014*** (0.004)	0.008 (0.008)	0.022*** (0.008)
Observations	129,930	125,598	125,598	125,598	30,933	55,442	21,275	17,948
Mean of Y	0.699	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.695	0.742	0.675	0.638
Adj R2	0.000	0.058	0.064	0.069	0.08	0.069	0.066	0.051
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.228	0.02	0.025	0.024	0.948	0.251	0.065	0.182
<i>Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>								
Defendant classified Irish	-0.024*** (0.008)	-0.015*** (0.004)	-0.017*** (0.005)	-0.017*** (0.005)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.025*** (0.009)	-0.013 (0.008)	-0.014* (0.008)
Defendant classified non-distinct	-0.013*** (0.004)	-0.010*** (0.002)	-0.010*** (0.002)	-0.010*** (0.002)	-0.002 (0.005)	-0.014*** (0.003)	-0.006 (0.005)	-0.010 (0.006)
Observations	90,767	88,449	88,449	88,449	21,493	41,155	14,354	11,447
Mean of Y	0.109	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.052	0.147	0.091	0.078
Adj R2	0.001	0.049	0.067	0.069	0.061	0.048	0.093	0.063
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.049	0.241	0.145	0.137	0.967	0.146	0.367	0.559
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def., capital)		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE			x		x	x	x	x
Session FE				x				

NOTE - The table shows regression results corresponding to equation (1) for all offenses. Columns (1) to (4) use the entire sample period, columns (5) to (8) the 25-year sub-periods. Q1: 1800-1824, Q2: 1825-1849, Q3: 1850-1874, Q4: 1875-1899. Specifications are indicated at the bottom of the table. The dependent variable is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant pled guilty (Panel A), whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial (Panel B) and whether the defendant was recommended for mercy after a guilty verdict (Panel C). The p-value refers to a test of equality of coefficients for Irish and non-distinct defendants. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Table 3. Disparate Treatment of Irish Defendants – Extensive Margin by Offense Category**

Offense Category: Sample:	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
	Property					Violent				
	1800-1899	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	1800-1899	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<i>Panel A. Guilty plea</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	-0.017** (0.006)	0.002 (0.001)	-0.022** (0.008)	-0.010 (0.011)	-0.048 (0.030)	-0.010* (0.004)	-0.001 (0.002)	-0.018 (0.011)	0.001 (0.010)	-0.020** (0.007)
Defendant classified non-distinct	0.001 (0.003)	0.002** (0.001)	-0.002 (0.003)	0.008 (0.008)	0.005 (0.014)	0.002 (0.003)	0.003 (0.003)	-0.011 (0.013)	0.009 (0.009)	0.003 (0.005)
Observations	107,465	27,491	55,276	14,775	9,923	15,027	1,712	3,153	4,801	5,361
Mean of Y	0.156	0.007	0.132	0.348	0.419	0.058	0.002	0.028	0.066	0.087
Adj R2	0.208	0.006	0.115	0.062	0.109	0.064	0.014	0.036	0.058	0.068
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.001	0.777	0.002	0.292	0.015	0.055	0.167	0.152	0.253	0.018
<i>Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	0.019*** (0.005)	0.002 (0.008)	0.019* (0.008)	0.025* (0.012)	0.069*** (0.016)	0.049* (0.020)	-0.017 (0.035)	0.066** (0.026)	0.080*** (0.018)	0.034** (0.013)
Defendant classified non-distinct	0.012*** (0.004)	0.006 (0.004)	0.013*** (0.004)	0.003 (0.010)	0.037** (0.015)	0.026* (0.011)	-0.006 (0.024)	0.030* (0.013)	0.039* (0.019)	0.025 (0.016)
Observations	90,705	27,311	47,997	9,629	5,768	14,151	1,708	3,064	4,483	4,896
Mean of Y	0.729	0.720	0.755	0.672	0.643	0.615	0.492	0.599	0.649	0.637
Adj R2	0.049	0.056	0.052	0.037	0.039	0.092	0.072	0.124	0.086	0.084
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.136	0.725	0.371	0.258	0.211	0.179	0.643	0.334	0.150	0.099
<i>Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	-0.017** (0.007)	-0.003 (0.002)	-0.023** (0.010)	-0.019 (0.012)	-0.019 (0.015)	-0.017* (0.008)	0.030 (0.018)	-0.051** (0.018)	-0.026 (0.017)	0.003 (0.012)
Defendant classified non-distinct	-0.009*** (0.002)	-0.003 (0.005)	-0.013*** (0.003)	-0.003 (0.008)	-0.020 (0.013)	-0.009 (0.006)	-0.011 (0.017)	-0.021** (0.008)	-0.019 (0.012)	0.010 (0.016)
Observations	66,084	19,651	36,255	6,472	3,706	8,704	840	1,834	2,910	3,120
Mean of Y	0.111	0.048	0.153	0.094	0.063	0.099	0.113	0.124	0.100	0.080
Adj R2	0.068	0.058	0.044	0.087	0.053	0.125	0.092	0.104	0.170	0.120
pvalue Irish=Nondistinct	0.287	0.913	0.278	0.211	0.914	0.543	0.120	0.153	0.695	0.372
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def., capital)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results corresponding to equation (1) for property offenses in columns (1) to (5) and violent offenses in columns (6) to (10). For both, results are shown for the entire time period and the 25-year sub-periods. Q1: 1800-1824, Q2: 1825-1849, Q3: 1850-1874, Q4: 1875-1899. The specification corresponds to the baseline specification as in column (3) of Table 2. The dependent variable is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant pled guilty (Panel A), whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial (Panel B) and whether the defendant was recommended for mercy after a guilty verdict (Panel C). The p-value refers to a test of equality of coefficients for Irish and non-distinct defendants. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Table 4. Disparate Treatment of Irish Defendants - Intensive Margin**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Offense Category:	All	All	All	All	All	All	Property	Violent
Sample:	1800-1899		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	1800-1899	
<i>Panel A. Guilty plea</i>								
Irish ratio >3 and ≤5	-0.016*	-0.003	0.002	-0.011*	0.008	0.004	-0.002	-0.011
	(0.010)	(0.007)	(0.006)	(0.006)	(0.018)	(0.021)	(0.007)	(0.011)
Irish ratio >5 and ≤15	-0.035**	-0.016**	-0.009	-0.011	-0.016*	-0.027	-0.013	-0.005
	(0.013)	(0.006)	(0.008)	(0.010)	(0.009)	(0.020)	(0.009)	(0.007)
Irish ratio >15 and ≤25	-0.046**	-0.022***	-0.003	-0.026***	-0.012	-0.038***	-0.019**	-0.009
	(0.018)	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.011)	(0.012)	(0.007)	(0.005)
Irish ratio >25	-0.048**	-0.029***	0.004	-0.041***	-0.006	-0.050**	-0.031**	-0.020**
	(0.018)	(0.008)	(0.005)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.021)	(0.012)	(0.006)
Observations	157,329	150,939	31,694	63,560	29,589	26,096	107,465	15,027
Mean of Y	0.174	0.168	0.024	0.128	0.281	0.312	0.156	0.058
Adj R2	0.001	0.172	0.361	0.108	0.105	0.173	0.208	0.064
<i>Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict</i>								
Irish ratio >3 and ≤5	0.022**	0.019*	0.013	0.016	0.046	-0.003	0.021	0.034
	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.018)	(0.010)	(0.030)	(0.023)	(0.012)	(0.024)
Irish ratio >5 and ≤15	0.011	0.009	-0.011	-0.000	0.016	0.050***	0.001	0.043**
	(0.011)	(0.008)	(0.016)	(0.006)	(0.013)	(0.016)	(0.007)	(0.014)
Irish ratio >15 and ≤25	0.038***	0.031***	0.013	0.035***	0.039**	0.025	0.026***	0.059*
	(0.011)	(0.005)	(0.017)	(0.011)	(0.016)	(0.015)	(0.005)	(0.029)
Irish ratio >25	0.033***	0.031***	0.023	0.026*	0.024	0.049**	0.036***	0.041*
	(0.010)	(0.009)	(0.016)	(0.014)	(0.018)	(0.022)	(0.011)	(0.021)
Observations	129,930	125,598	30,933	55,442	21,275	17,948	90,705	14,151
Mean of Y	0.699	0.704	0.695	0.742	0.675	0.638	0.729	0.615
Adj R2	0.001	0.064	0.080	0.07	0.066	0.051	0.05	0.092
<i>Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>								
Irish ratio >3 and ≤5	-0.022**	-0.014*	-0.004	-0.030*	0.018	-0.009	-0.015	0.004
	(0.009)	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.015)	(0.017)	(0.024)	(0.009)	(0.017)
Irish ratio >5 and ≤15	-0.015**	-0.009**	-0.006	-0.013	-0.010	0.001	-0.015**	-0.003
	(0.007)	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.009)	(0.012)	(0.010)	(0.005)	(0.007)
Irish ratio >15 and ≤25	-0.033***	-0.025***	0.003	-0.032***	-0.030***	-0.024**	-0.021**	-0.025*
	(0.012)	(0.006)	(0.007)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.011)
Irish ratio >25	-0.022**	-0.019***	-0.001	-0.029***	-0.002	-0.022*	-0.015	-0.029
	(0.009)	(0.007)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.018)	(0.012)	(0.010)	(0.018)
Observations	90,767	88,449	21,493	41,155	14,354	11,447	66,084	8,704
Mean of Y	0.109	0.106	0.052	0.147	0.091	0.078	0.111	0.099
Adj R2	0.001	0.067	0.06	0.048	0.093	0.063	0.068	0.125
Defendant non-distinct	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Offense FE and controls		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE		x	x	x	x	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results corresponding to equation (1) but using the intensive margin measures for Irish defendants (see Section 4.1). Columns (1)-(6) show results for all offenses, column (7) for property and column (8) for violent offenses. The sample (entire period or subsample) is indicated at the top of each column. Q1: 1800-1824, Q2: 1825-1849, Q3: 1850-1874, Q4: 1875-1899. Specifications are indicated at the bottom of the table. Each regression includes a control variable for whether the defendant is classified non-distinct; the results are omitted for ease of exposition. The dependent variable is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant pled guilty (Panel A), whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial (Panel B) and whether the defendant was recommended for mercy after a guilty verdict (Panel C). Controls: female, number of defendants, capital offense. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Table 5. Controls for Socio-Demographic Signals of Irish Names (Part I)**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Sample:	<b>All offenses, 1800-1899</b>									
Specification:	Baseline	Occupation	Name Origin	Transportees	Gangsters	Baseline	Occupation	Name Origin	Transportees	Gangsters
<i>Panel A. Guilty by jury verdict</i>										
Defendant Irish	0.023*** (0.005)	0.017*** (0.004)	0.017*** (0.005)	0.016*** (0.005)	0.017*** (0.005)					
Irish ratio >3 and ≤5						0.019* (0.010)	0.019* (0.011)	0.014 (0.010)	0.008 (0.010)	0.014 (0.010)
Irish ratio >5 and ≤15						0.009 (0.008)	0.007 (0.008)	0.007 (0.007)	0.007 (0.007)	0.007 (0.007)
Irish ratio >15 and ≤25						0.031*** (0.005)	0.025*** (0.006)	0.025*** (0.007)	0.026*** (0.007)	0.025*** (0.007)
Irish ratio >25						0.031*** (0.009)	0.023** (0.010)	0.027*** (0.008)	0.028*** (0.008)	0.027*** (0.008)
Transportee share				0.051* (0.026)					0.057** (0.025)	
Gangster surname					-0.008 (0.014)					-0.006 (0.013)
Observations	125,598	123,797	125,598	125,598	125,598	125,598	123,797	125,598	125,598	125,598
Mean of Y	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704
Adj R2	0.064	0.063	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.063	0.065	0.065	0.065
Defendant non-distinct	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Offense FE and controls	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SES/Occupations		x					x			
Name prevalence Ireland			x	x	x			x	x	x
Share on transportee lists				x					x	
Famous gang(st)er name						x				x

**(Part II)**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Sample:	<b>All offenses, 1800-1899</b>									
Specification:	Baseline	Occupation	Name Origin	Transportees	Gangsters	Baseline	Occupation	Name Origin	Transportees	Gangsters
<i>Panel B. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>										
Defendant Irish	-0.017*** (0.005)	-0.016*** (0.004)	-0.016*** (0.005)	-0.016*** (0.005)	-0.016*** (0.005)					
Irish ratio >3 and ≤5						-0.014* (0.008)	-0.014 (0.008)	-0.013 (0.008)	-0.009 (0.008)	-0.013 (0.008)
Irish ratio >5 and ≤15						-0.009** (0.004)	-0.009** (0.004)	-0.010** (0.004)	-0.010** (0.004)	-0.010** (0.004)
Irish ratio >15 and ≤25						-0.025*** (0.006)	-0.023*** (0.006)	-0.027*** (0.008)	-0.027*** (0.008)	-0.027*** (0.008)
Irish ratio >25						-0.019*** (0.007)	-0.018** (0.007)	-0.018*** (0.006)	-0.019*** (0.006)	-0.018*** (0.006)
Transportee share				-0.028* (0.015)					-0.034** (0.016)	
Gangster surname					0.001 (0.024)					-0.000 (0.024)
Observations	88,449	87,189	88,449	88,449	88,449	88,449	87,189	88,449	88,449	88,449
Mean of Y	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106
Adj R2	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.068
Defendant non-distinct	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Offense FE and controls	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SES/Occupations		x					x			
Name prevalence Ireland			x	x	x			x	x	x
Share on transportee lists				x					x	
Famous gang(st)er name						x				x

NOTE - The table shows regression results corresponding to equation (1) adding control variables for what may be measured by a name. Columns (1) to (5) show the extensive margin as in Table 2 and columns (6) to (10) the intensive margin as in Table 4. The first column repeats the baseline for ease of comparison; the second column adds controls for the share with the defendant's surname in the most common occupations, the third adds the share of households in Irish counties with the defendant's surname, the fourth adds the share of Irish transportees with the defendant's surname and the fifth a dummy variable whether the surname is the same as the surname of infamous gangs(ter)s. Each regression includes as a control variable for whether the defendant is classified non-distinct; the results are omitted for ease of exposition. The dependent variable is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial (Panel A) and whether the defendant was recommended for mercy after a guilty verdict (Panel B). Controls: female, number of defendants, capital offense. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Table 6. Co-Defendants**

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Offense category:	All	Property	Violent
Outcome:	Guilty by jury verdict		
<i>Panel A. Defendants</i>			
Defendant classified Irish	0.014 (0.008)	0.015 (0.010)	0.023 (0.015)
Defendant classified non-distinct	0.015*** (0.004)	0.016** (0.005)	0.005 (0.013)
Observations	31,094	23,216	3,429
Mean of Y	0.649	0.656	0.599
Adj R2	0.049	0.043	0.103
<i>Panel B. Defendants with controls for co-defendants</i>			
Defendant classified Irish	0.008 (0.007)	0.009 (0.009)	0.017 (0.012)
Defendant classified non-distinct	0.014*** (0.004)	0.015** (0.005)	0.005 (0.013)
Co-defendant classified Irish	0.027*** (0.005)	0.029*** (0.005)	0.023 (0.013)
Co-defendant classified non-distinct	0.011** (0.005)	0.014* (0.007)	-0.006 (0.006)
Observations	31,094	23,216	3,429
Mean of Y	0.649	0.656	0.599
N with Irish co-defendants	3,897	2,635	758
N with English co-defendants	12,319	9,308	1,208
N with non-distinct co-defendants	14,190	10,767	1,387
Adj R2	0.049	0.043	0.103
<i>Panel C. Irish and English defendants, all co-defendants</i>			
Irish defendant and Irish co-defendant	-0.010 (0.035)	0.013 (0.043)	0.017 (0.102)
Irish defendant and non-distinct co-defendant	-0.012 (0.036)	-0.025 (0.042)	-0.022 (0.094)
Irish defendant and English co-defendant	0.031 (0.040)	0.047 (0.043)	0.108 (0.100)
English defendant and Irish co-defendant	0.068*** (0.011)	0.064*** (0.011)	0.092*** (0.018)
English defendant and non-distinct co-defendant	-0.036*** (0.007)	-0.035*** (0.007)	-0.022 (0.020)
Observations	16,594	12,194	2,009
Mean of Y	0.642	0.649	0.604
N with Irish co-defendants	2,430	1,580	520
N with English co-defendants	7,149	5,320	741
N with non-distinct co-defendants	6,630	5,015	700
Adj R2	0.046	0.042	0.115
Offense FE and controls	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results for the sub-sample of cases with exactly two defendants. Panel A replicates our baseline from Column (3) in Table 2 for this sample. Panel B adds controls for whether the co-defendant is classified Irish or non-distinct (omitted category: English). Panel C restricts the sample to Irish and English defendants and shows results for Irish and English defendants with Irish, non-distinct and English co-defendants (omitted category: English defendant with English co-defendant). Column (1) shows results for all offenses, columns (2) and (3) for property and violent offenses, respectively. The dependent variable in all panels/columns is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial. Controls: female, capital offense. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.



**Table 7. Irish Victims**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Outcome:	Guilty by jury verdict			Guilty by jury verdict		
Sample:	1880-1886			1800-1899		
Offense Category:	All	Property	Violent	All	Property	Violent
Specification:	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline
<i>Panel A. Defendants</i>						
Defendant Irish	0.061*** (0.017)	0.066** (0.027)	0.069* (0.028)	0.032*** (0.011)	0.024* (0.012)	0.060** (0.023)
Defendant non-distinct	0.009 (0.019)	0.025 (0.037)	0.026 (0.026)	0.014** (0.006)	0.012 (0.007)	0.031* (0.015)
Observations	3,287	1,345	1,255	18,878	15,354	2,417
Mean of Y	0.613	0.624	0.622	0.701	0.727	0.591
Adj R2	0.038	0.024	0.097	0.072	0.061	0.132
<i>Panel B. Irish and English defendants and victims</i>						
Irish defendant, English victim	0.093** (0.037)	0.070 (0.068)	0.128** (0.045)	0.023 (0.015)	0.018 (0.014)	0.077** (0.021)
Irish defendant, Irish victim	0.028 (0.055)	-0.098 (0.124)	0.065 (0.053)	-0.026 (0.033)	-0.067*** (0.017)	0.017 (0.067)
English defendant, Irish victim	-0.044 (0.058)	-0.099 (0.088)	-0.067 (0.085)	-0.014 (0.023)	-0.007 (0.018)	-0.028 (0.054)
Observations	1,019	369	462	4,542	3,550	743
Mean of Y	0.620	0.615	0.636	0.699	0.731	0.580
Adj R2	0.028	0.006	0.108	0.081	0.071	0.190
<i>Panel C. Irish and English defendants, all victims</i>						
Irish defendant, non-Irish victim	0.070*** (0.020)	0.084*** (0.027)	0.067* (0.031)	0.029* (0.014)	0.022 (0.016)	0.058*** (0.012)
Irish defendant, Irish victim	0.048 (0.046)	-0.055 (0.099)	0.065 (0.055)	-0.013 (0.030)	-0.060** (0.024)	0.005 (0.068)
English defendant, Irish victim	-0.034 (0.055)	-0.080 (0.058)	-0.051 (0.084)	-0.012 (0.025)	-0.005 (0.022)	-0.051 (0.056)
Observations	1,845	723	744	10,038	7,992	1,452
Mean of Y	0.614	0.614	0.626	0.694	0.723	0.588
Adj R2	0.035	0.019	0.102	0.071	0.06	0.144
Offense FE and controls	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results for the sub-sample of cases with victim information and exactly one victim (columns (1)-(3): 1880-1886 based on the bombings campaign sample and columns (4)-(6): 1800-1899 based on the Old Bailey Corpus sample). Panel A replicates our baseline from Column (3) in Table 2 for this sample. Panel B restricts the sample to Irish and English defendants and victims, and shows results for Irish and English defendants with Irish and English victims, respectively (omitted category: English defendant with English victim). Panel C uses the sample of Irish and English defendants and all victims, and shows results for Irish and English defendants with Irish and non-Irish (English or non-distinct) victims, respectively (omitted category: English defendant with non-Irish victim). Columns (1)/(4) show results for all offenses, columns (2)/(5) and (3)/(6) for property and violent offenses, respectively. The dependent variable in all panels/columns is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial. Controls: female, number of defendants, capital offense. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Table 8. Potential Origins of the Gaps – Potato Famine (1838-1859)**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Outcome:	<b>Guilty by jury verdict</b>				
Offense Category:	<b>All</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Violent</b>	<b>Violent</b>	<b>Violent</b>
Specification:	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	+ Occupations	+ Name Origin
<i>Panel A. Irish versus English defendants, one post-period</i>					
Defendant classified Irish	0.024 (0.017)	0.023 (0.022)	0.018 (0.030)	0.038 (0.027)	0.008 (0.024)
Post-famine (1846-59)	-0.084*** (0.027)	-0.099*** (0.015)	-0.120 (0.111)	-0.139 (0.107)	-0.118 (0.108)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-famine (1846-59)	0.022 (0.016)	0.022 (0.019)	0.066** (0.025)	0.048 (0.030)	0.070** (0.028)
Observations	19,053	13,985	1,878	1,822	1,878
Mean of Y	0.723	0.730	0.690	0.691	0.690
Adj R2	0.073	0.055	0.078	0.072	0.074
<i>Panel B. Irish versus English defendants, two post-periods</i>					
Defendant classified Irish	0.024 (0.017)	0.023 (0.022)	0.018 (0.030)	0.038 (0.027)	0.008 (0.024)
Famine (1846-52)	-0.071** (0.027)	-0.101** (0.037)	-0.032 (0.050)	-0.016 (0.047)	-0.032 (0.046)
Post-famine (1853-59)	-0.086*** (0.026)	-0.103*** (0.016)	-0.123 (0.102)	-0.141 (0.102)	-0.119 (0.103)
Defendant classified Irish x Famine (1846-52)	0.018 (0.015)	0.016 (0.017)	0.061*** (0.011)	0.044* (0.020)	0.068** (0.021)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-famine (1853-59)	0.029 (0.023)	0.039 (0.035)	0.073 (0.053)	0.052 (0.059)	0.074 (0.054)
Observations	19,053	13,985	1,878	1,822	1,878
Mean of Y	0.723	0.730	0.690	0.691	0.690
Adj R2	0.072	0.055	0.077	0.072	0.073
Offense FE and controls	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x
SES/Occupations (Census)				x	
Name prevalence Irish counties (Grenham)					x

NOTE - The table shows regression results for the time period around the potato famine (1838-1859) as described in Section 6.1. Panel A shows results with 1846-1859 as the post-period, Panel B when splitting the post-period into two (1846-1852 and 1853 to 1859). Column (1) shows results for all offenses, (2) for property offenses, and (3) to (5) for violent offenses. Columns (1), (2) and (3) show the baseline specification; the other columns add controls for (i) the share with the defendant's surname in the most common occupations, and (ii) the share of households in Irish counties with the defendant's surname. The dependent variable in all panels/columns is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial. Controls: female, number of defendants, capital offense. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

## **Online Appendix**

**Appendix A. Further Details on Irish/English Name Classification and Validity Tests**

**Appendix B. Further Data Descriptions and Other Appendix Tables and Figures**

**Appendix C. Historical Records**

## **Appendix A. Further Details on Irish/English Name Classification and Validity Checks**

As described in Section 3.2 of the main text, since the Old Bailey Proceedings do not systematically record defendant ethnicity or place of birth, a fundamental analysis step is to identify Irish and non-Irish courtroom participants. We do this by measuring surname ethnicity using the 1881 Census, which does include country of birth. In other words, we use the names of first-generation immigrants from Ireland to England to identify names that are distinctly Irish. In the following, we describe the data sources (1881 Census and additional sources) and the steps we undertook in terms of data cleaning and the matching by name to the Old Bailey data.

### **Data Sources and Data Cleaning**

#### ***A. 1881 Census***

We retrieved the 1881 Census data from the UK Data Service (<https://ukdataservice.ac.uk>), Study Number 4177: *1881 Census for England and Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man [Enhanced Version]* (Wollard and Schurer, 2000). These records include the county and parish of the person, their surname and first name, their relationship to the head of household, marital status, gender, age, occupation, place of birth and disabilities. We do not have permission to publicly share these raw data files.

To prepare the data for our analyses, we first undertook some basic data cleaning steps. We use names for residents of all counties in England and Wales, and clean the names by removing special characters, numbers etc. To identify the origin of a name, we use the county of birth and classify persons as born in: Ireland, Scotland, England/Wales, other. From there, we collapse the data by surname and first name, respectively, to compute the number and share of individuals with a given name by birth country. We use this information to compute the surname and first name ratios as described in the text (see Section 3.2).

To construct control variables for occupations/socio-economic status (as used in Section 4.3), we focus on the 1881 Census records for persons in London and the Home Counties (Berkshire, Buckingham, Essex, Hampshire, Hertford, Kent, Middlesex/London, Oxford, Surrey, Sussex). We retrieve a list of occupations with more than 5000 observed individuals overall (across names) and combine very similar occupations into one, e.g., tailor and tailor assistant. We code occupations with less than 5000 observations as “other/not coded/missing”. We use this information to collapse the data by surname and occupation, generating variables that measure the share of individuals with a given surname in each of these most common (and not coded) occupations.

#### ***B. Historically Irish Surnames Dataset***

We retrieved a list of Irish surnames and name variants from Adam Crymble’s Historically Irish Surnames Dataset (Crymble, 2015).<sup>40</sup> This dataset is based on a subsample of males in the 1841 Census of England and Wales and includes historically Irish surnames, including their rootnames and (up to eight) name variants for those included in the sample.

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<sup>40</sup> See <https://sandbox.zenodo.org/record/20985#.YwSBgy0RpQL> for more details and the raw data.

### ***C. Griffith's Valuation***

Griffith's Valuation was a mid-nineteenth-century property survey in Ireland with the aim of enabling a reform to standardize local taxation.<sup>41</sup> The results of the survey were published between 1847 and 1864, and recorded the name of every occupier of property in Ireland (with the only omission of slums in Dublin, Belfast and Cork). The data contain the count of households of all surnames for Ireland overall and by county. We obtained the data for Ireland from *Grenham's Irish Surnames* (CD-ROM, 2003) and updates plus the data by county directly from John Grenham by email. We are grateful to John Grenham for sharing his data with us so generously. From the raw data, we created variables measuring the number and the share of households with a given surname in Ireland and by county in Ireland. We are again not permitted to share these raw data.

### **Matching by Name**

To match the surname ratios constructed from the 1881 Census data as well as the information from the Griffith's Valuation to our main data (the Old Bailey data), we proceed in two steps.

#### ***Step 1. File with names and name ratios***

We start by using the names from the main Old Bailey dataset (both surnames and first names, undergoing similar cleaning steps as described for the Census names). We merge these names with the *Historically Irish Surnames* by Crymble (2015), retrieving a list of Old Bailey names with (when available) their rootname and name variants of the same surname. Next, we merge these Old Bailey names (both surnames and first names separately) with the Census names and name information (ratios): We start with matching by the original name, and then increase the matching rate by additionally matching by the respective rootname and name variants of the name in the Old Bailey records. This is only relevant in cases in which we cannot match the original Old Bailey name to a Census name, but the rootname or a name variant (if available).

We follow a similar procedure to merge these records with (i) the names and household information from the Griffith's Valuation (data provided by John Grenham) to add information on the number/share of households with a given name in Ireland and Irish counties, and (ii) with information from Irish transportee lists to add a variable measuring the share of transportees with a given surname (see Section 4.3 for further details on this dataset).

Overall, these matching procedures result in the list of Old Bailey names matched to (i) Census names and name information (for both surnames and first names), (ii) the number/share of households with that name in Ireland and Irish counties (for surnames) and (iii) extra information from the transportee lists (for surnames). Matching rates are high: For 96.9% of defendants in our Old Bailey sample (from 1800-1899), we can identify their surname or a surname variant in the Census while the comparable first name statistic is 99.6%.

#### ***Step 2. Merging with analysis data***

In the second step, we merge this list of names and name information back to the main analysis data from the Old Bailey. To be able to classify names of different agents in the Old Bailey data, we merge the data by (i) defendant name (1800-1899), (ii) victim name (1880-1886) and

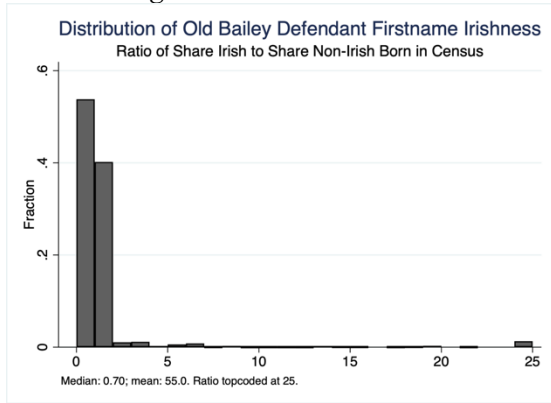
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<sup>41</sup> See John Grenham's website: [https://www.johngrenham.com/browse/retrieve\\_text.php?text\\_contentid=66](https://www.johngrenham.com/browse/retrieve_text.php?text_contentid=66).

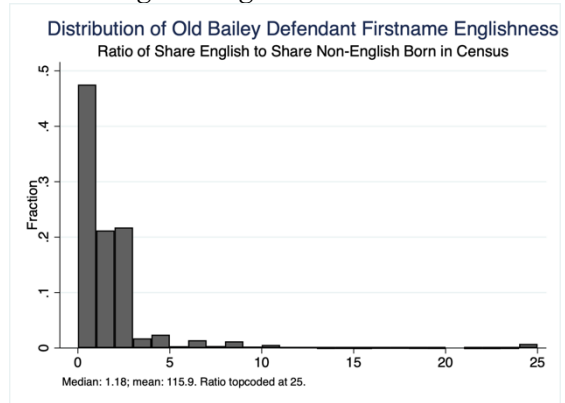
(iii) juror name (1800-1860). This results in our analysis sample as described in the text in which we can use the name ratios for defendants, victims and jurors to classify them as Irish, English and non-distinct and use the extra information for each name.

# Appendix Figure A1. First name classification

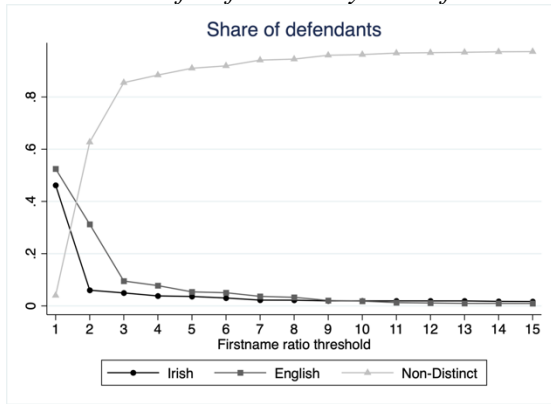
Panel A. Histogram Irish Firstname Ratios



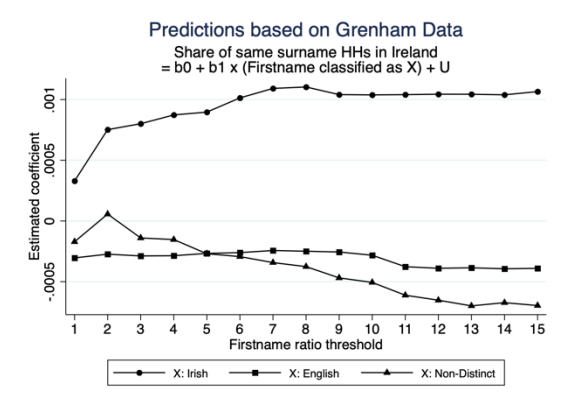
Panel B. Histogram English Firstname Ratios



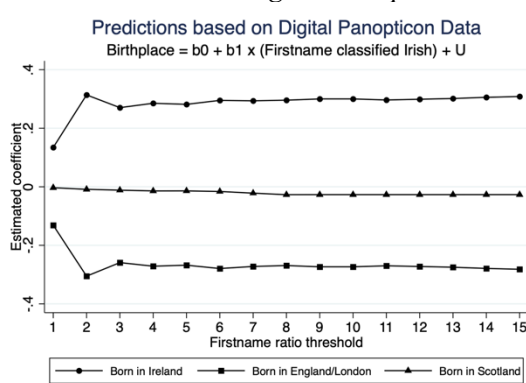
Panel C. Share of Defendants by Classification



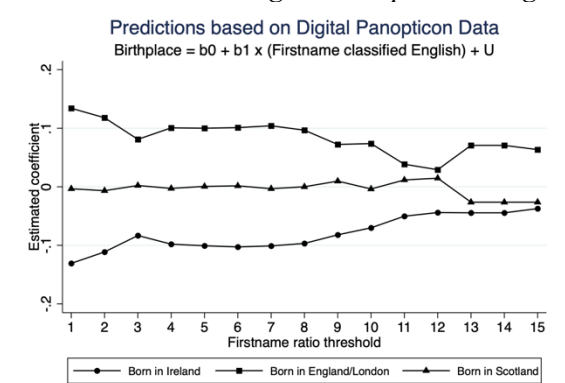
Panel D. Validation w/ Grenham Data



Panel E. Validation w/ Digital Panopticon - Irish



Panel F. Validation w/ Digital Panopticon - English



NOTE - Panels A and B plot histograms of the Irish and English first name ratios for defendants in the Old Bailey data, respectively. Ratios larger than 25 are top-coded at 25 for ease of presentation. Panel C depicts the share of defendants that we classify as Irish, English or non-distinct varying the threshold for the first name ratio from 1 to 15. Panel D to F plot coefficients from regressions of external measures for the defendant's ethnicity on the classification based on the first name ratio, iterating through thresholds as shown on the x-axis. In Panel D, dots represent regressions with Irish classified defendants as right-hand side variable, squares with English classified defendants and triangles with non-distinct defendants. In Panels E and F, dots represent regressions when the outcome is "born in Ireland", squares when the outcome is "born in England/London" and triangles when the outcome is "born in Scotland". In Panel E, the right-hand side variable is a dummy for the defendant being classified Irish and in Panel F being classified English. For all panels, see Section 3.2 for details.

**Appendix Table A1. Most common Irish, English and Non-distinct Names (Part I)**

Name	N	Irish ratio	English ratio	Name	N	Irish ratio	English ratio	Name	N	Irish ratio	English ratio
<b><u>Irish Surnames</u></b>				<b><u>English Surnames</u></b>				<b><u>Non-Distinct Surnames</u></b>			
Sullivan	734	22.32	0.06	Jones	2893	0.20	5.10	Smith	4680	0.56	1.43
Murphy	474	25.50	0.05	Williams	2312	0.24	4.61	Brown	2169	0.75	0.93
Kelly	414	15.25	0.09	Harris	744	0.29	3.47	Johnson	1385	0.55	1.62
Donovan	290	21.45	0.07	Thomas	654	0.15	6.67	Davis	1331	0.42	2.60
Murray	273	7.77	0.11	Edwards	599	0.22	3.75	Wilson	1057	0.72	0.75
Ryan	265	25.65	0.06	Evans	541	0.19	5.79	Taylor	978	0.31	2.29
Bryan	225	4.03	0.34	Roberts	513	0.21	4.41	Thompson	906	0.74	0.84
Welch	220	3.40	0.39	Baker	469	0.31	3.59	White	849	0.94	1.05
Riley	218	4.11	0.34	Cooper	457	0.23	3.66	Clark	806	0.70	1.06
Fitzgerald	217	19.03	0.07	Lewis	454	0.25	4.34	Green	725	0.61	1.92
Connor	217	20.59	0.07	Price	383	0.37	3.07	King	636	0.90	1.25
Burke	215	22.11	0.07	Webb	368	0.23	4.68	Wood	615	0.30	2.14
M Carthy	198	15.30	0.09	Stevens	354	0.26	3.44	Martin	592	1.25	0.79
Mccarthy	184	22.15	0.07	James	351	0.18	4.78	Wright	580	0.33	2.14
Dunn	174	3.05	0.38	Parker	315	0.29	3.14	Collins	579	2.72	0.49
Crawley	164	5.85	0.25	Knight	277	0.26	3.82	Robinson	572	0.53	1.83
Mahoney	159	26.78	0.05	Bailey	270	0.33	3.19	Jackson	567	0.35	2.32
Driscoll	154	21.23	0.07	Chapman	267	0.22	3.99	Allen	510	0.68	1.43
Hurley	144	9.57	0.15	Powell	260	0.33	3.43	Moore	510	1.27	0.95
Barry	143	13.60	0.10	West	257	0.34	3.10	Turner	503	0.30	2.87
Hamilton	132	4.45	0.15	Watts	239	0.23	4.07	Walker	481	0.38	1.39
Campbell	131	5.06	0.10	Griffiths	239	0.20	5.24	Ward	462	0.98	1.23
Conner	130	15.82	0.09	Richards	239	0.16	5.50	Phillips	437	0.41	2.38
Roach	128	8.50	0.17	Pearce	230	0.21	4.96	Hall	436	0.40	2.18
Daley	128	18.63	0.08	Wells	227	0.17	3.47	Hill	429	0.38	2.26
Higgins	121	5.52	0.25	Hawkins	226	0.35	3.29	Clarke	415	1.03	1.14
Burns	121	12.43	0.10	Cole	221	0.32	3.69	Miller	406	0.70	0.66
Carroll	119	19.57	0.07	Payne	217	0.27	3.48	Adams	388	0.48	1.67
Lynch	116	21.18	0.07	Brooks	216	0.27	4.02	Carter	386	0.36	2.78
Leary	112	13.48	0.11	Lloyd	216	0.27	4.19	Lee	386	0.83	1.48



**(Part II)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Irish ratio</b>	<b>English ratio</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Irish ratio</b>	<b>English ratio</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Irish ratio</b>	<b>English ratio</b>
<b><u>Irish Firstnames</u></b>				<b><u>English Firstnames</u></b>				<b><u>Non-Distinct Firstnames</u></b>			
Daniel	1149	3.37	0.35	Frederick	1721	0.15	6.27	John	22066	1.55	0.66
Michael	1113	37.80	0.04	Alfred	1221	0.10	8.37	William	19000	0.57	1.39
Catherine	876	6.11	0.20	Benjamin	885	0.20	4.72	James	11396	1.76	0.51
Patrick	589	80.77	0.02	Walter	495	0.15	3.75	Thomas	11053	1.24	0.91
Peter	526	5.85	0.16	Arthur	492	0.24	4.26	George	9310	0.26	2.34
Jeremiah	364	8.58	0.17	Isaac	460	0.25	4.07	Henry	6381	0.39	2.57
Dennis	305	19.86	0.07	Emma	460	0.09	10.51	Charles	5219	0.37	2.41
Andrew	291	3.98	0.13	Caroline	391	0.26	3.77	Mary	4956	1.62	0.72
Timothy	284	13.18	0.11	Louisa	346	0.20	4.82	Joseph	4115	0.52	2.12
Cornelius	275	6.79	0.21	Martha	342	0.26	3.54	Edward	3356	1.15	1.12
Bridget	214	66.18	0.02	Abraham	334	0.25	4.30	Ann	3324	1.44	0.83
Julia	169	3.58	0.39	Harriet	329	0.19	4.96	Robert	3099	0.70	0.76
Catharine	151	5.49	0.22	Edwin	254	0.12	8.01	Elizabeth	3098	0.47	1.70
Martin	151	19.50	0.07	Albert	236	0.09	10.39	Richard	2780	0.72	1.67
Hugh	108	5.09	0.18	Susannah	215	0.34	3.29	Sarah	2462	0.41	2.69
Nicholas	101	4.24	0.30	Harry	207	0.10	9.23	Samuel	2108	0.44	2.25
Anthony	97	4.83	0.27	Frank	197	0.34	3.26	Mary Ann	1787	1.62	0.72
Johanna	89	18.64	0.07	Emily	154	0.18	5.79	Jane	1321	0.65	0.96
Lawrence	80	6.84	0.19	Alice	151	0.33	3.31	Eliza	1112	0.69	1.66
Owen	77	5.29	0.27	Jacob	148	0.18	5.82	Margaret	1057	2.98	0.31
Luke	56	3.61	0.40	Na	148	0.00	342.42	David	899	0.68	0.62
Maurice	56	4.23	0.34	Amelia	137	0.23	3.51	Ellen	867	1.83	0.68
Bartholomew	49	15.36	0.09	Lewis	132	0.20	3.50	Francis	809	1.48	0.78
Honora	34	39.09	0.04	Joshua	123	0.22	4.75	Hannah	596	0.50	2.47
Barnet	32	3.26	0.45	Jonathan	116	0.15	4.87	Maria	508	1.06	1.18
Bernard	32	14.30	0.10	Lucy	106	0.24	4.53	Alexander	497	1.74	0.09
Eugene	30	6.92	0.20	Solomon	100	0.14	7.87	Charlotte	449	0.30	2.90
Winifred	23	4.08	0.35	Lydia	97	0.14	7.58	Stephen	414	1.00	1.31
Barnard	23	14.76	0.09	Herbert	88	0.08	11.09	William Henry	332	0.57	1.39
Felix	20	7.11	0.19	Ernest	81	0.07	12.82	Philip	300	1.76	0.73

NOTE - This table shows the most common names in our analysis sample that we classify as Irish, English or non-distinct following the classifications described in Section 3.2. The top panel shows the list of surnames, the bottom panel for first names. For each Irish, English and non-distinct classified name, the table shows the number of defendants in our analysis sample plus their Irish and English ratios (see Section 3.2).

**Appendix Table A2. Cross-Validation of Surname Classifications**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
<b>Data Source:</b>	<b>Digital Panopticon</b>			<b>Grenham Data</b>	<b>Manual Validation</b>			<b>Firstname Classification</b>		
<b>Outcome:</b>	Born in Ireland	Born in London/England	Born in Scotland	Share of households in Ireland with surname	Irish name origin	English name origin	Non-distinct name origin	Classified Irish	Classified English	Classified non-distinct
<i>Panel A. Irish</i>										
Defendant Classified Irish	0.293*** (0.015)	-0.294*** (0.015)	0.002 (0.005)	0.0015*** (0.0000)	0.502*** (0.023)	-0.407*** (0.014)	-0.093*** (0.024)	0.167*** (0.003)	-0.054*** (0.002)	-0.113*** (0.003)
Observations	6,394	6,394	6,394	124,843	3,324	3,324	3,324	157,108	157,108	157,108
R-squared	0.113	0.097	0.000	0.088	0.449	0.084	0.004	0.063	0.004	0.011
<i>Panel B. English</i>										
Defendant Classified English	-0.120*** (0.007)	0.137*** (0.008)	-0.017*** (0.004)	-0.0011*** (0.0000)	-0.117*** (0.007)	0.343*** (0.017)	-0.241*** (0.017)	-0.044*** (0.001)	0.022*** (0.002)	0.022*** (0.002)
Observations	6,394	6,394	6,394	124,843	3,324	3,324	3,324	157,108	157,108	157,108
R-squared	0.030	0.034	0.003	0.084	0.047	0.115	0.056	0.010	0.001	0.001
<i>Panel C. Non-Distinct</i>										
Defendant Classified Non-Distinct	-0.059*** (0.008)	0.044*** (0.009)	0.015*** (0.004)	0.0002*** (0.0000)	-0.136*** (0.008)	-0.125*** (0.017)	0.275*** (0.017)	-0.028*** (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	0.026*** (0.002)
Observations	6,394	6,394	6,394	124,843	3,324	3,324	3,324	157,108	157,108	157,108
R-squared	0.008	0.004	0.002	0.005	0.067	0.016	0.076	0.004	0.000	0.001

NOTE - The table shows regression results for cross-validation of our surname classifications. We regress external measures regarding the defendant's ethnicity on dummy variables indicating our classification based on the surname (Irish in Panel A, English in Panel B, non-distinct in Panel C). In columns (1) to (3), the dependent variables are dummy variables for whether the person was born in Ireland, London or Scotland (retrieved from the Digital Panopticon, see Section 3.2 for details). In column (4), the dependent variable is the share of households in Ireland with the same surname (retrieved from Grenham's data based on the Griffith's Valuation, see Appendix A for details). In columns (5) to (7), the dependent variables are dummy variables for whether the name has an Irish, English or non-distinct origin (based on manual coding from genealogy websites, see Section 3.2 for details). In columns (8) to (10), the dependent variables are dummy variables for whether we classify the defendant's first name as Irish, English or non-distinct (see Section 3.2 for details). Robust standard errors are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

## **Appendix B. Further Data Descriptions and Other Appendix Tables and Figures**

### **Further Data Description: Old Bailey Corpus**

To augment the data based on the Old Bailey Proceedings (see Section 3.2 of the main text), we use data from the Old Bailey Corpus, version 2.0 (Huber et al., 2016). The Old Bailey Corpus is a corpus based on a selection of the trials reported in the Old Bailey Proceedings. It consists of 637 selected Proceedings and contains speech-related texts from 1720 to 1913, and contains additional information about each speaker involved in the trials (coded from the speech sequences reported in the proceedings). This includes gender, age, occupation (according to the Historical International Standard Classification of Occupations HISCO), social class (according to HISCLASS), and the role of the speaker in the courtroom: defendant, judge, victim, witness, lawyer, and interpreter.

#### ***A. Victim names***

We retrieved the files from The Old Bailey Corpus (OBC), which comprehends 24.4 million words in 637 XML files. Using Python, we searched through each trial to find the speaker's ID, name, surname, and role in the courtroom. The python script produced CSV files uniquely identifying trial by defendant observations and including the names and surnames of victims. We subsequently imported these files into Stata. From there, we merged the information to the main analysis sample by trial and defendant ID and recovered for those trials that merged the name(s) of the victims involved in the case.

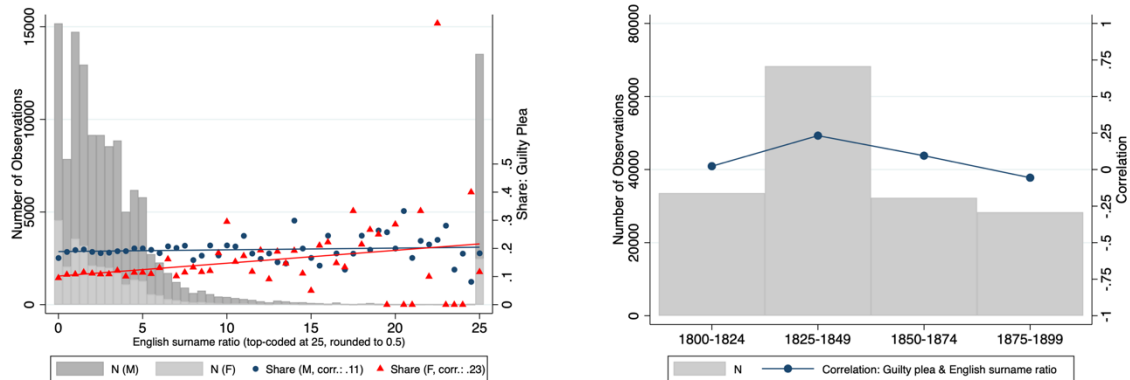
#### ***B. Data on Social Class Status***

We retrieved the files from The Old Bailey Corpus (OBC), which comprehends 24.4 million words in 637 XML files. Using Python, we searched through each trial to find the relevant information for each speaker (trial ID, gender, age, occupation, social class, and role).

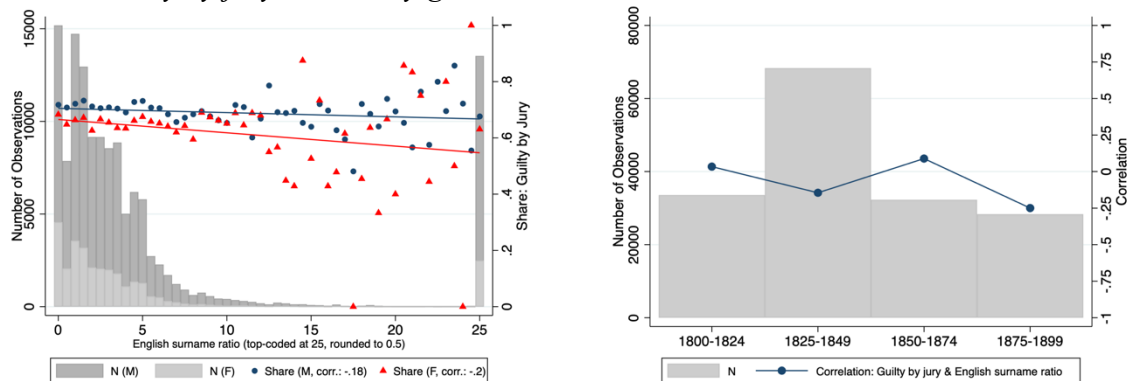
The Python script produced CSV files that were subsequently imported into Stata. As this dataset does not contain the speaker ID, but instead is structured by speech sequence (naming only the speaker role), we restrict the sample to (i) single defendant cases or (ii) multiple defendant cases where all (speaking) defendants have the same gender and social class. From there, we collapse the data to the trial level and merged the information to the main analysis sample by trial ID.

## Appendix Figure B1. Correlation Between Court Outcomes and Surname Englishness

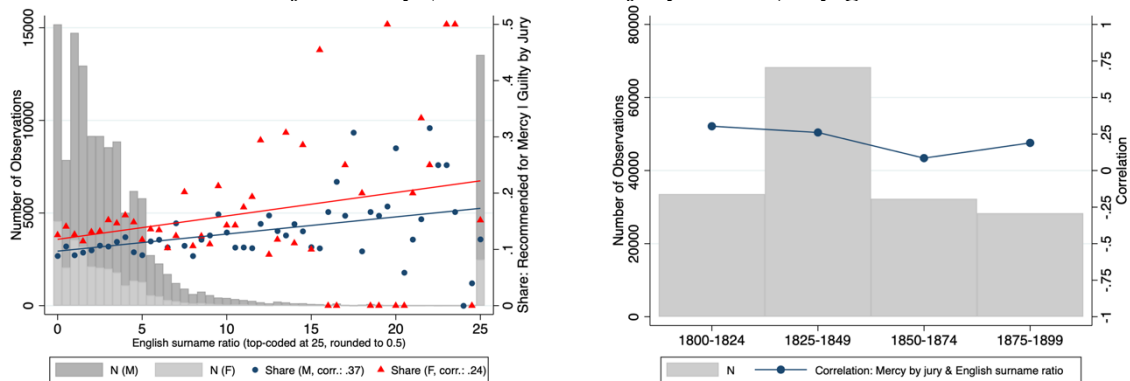
Panel A. Guilty plea, by gender and over time



Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict, by gender and over time



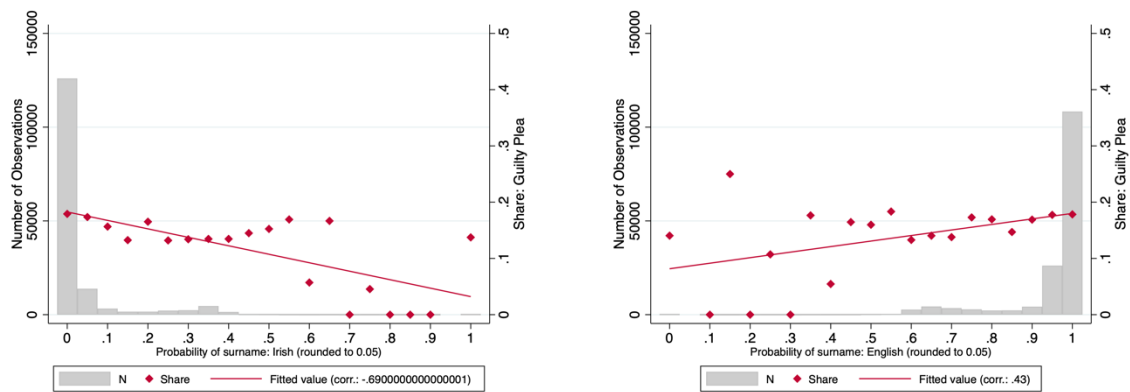
Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on jury verdict), by gender and over time



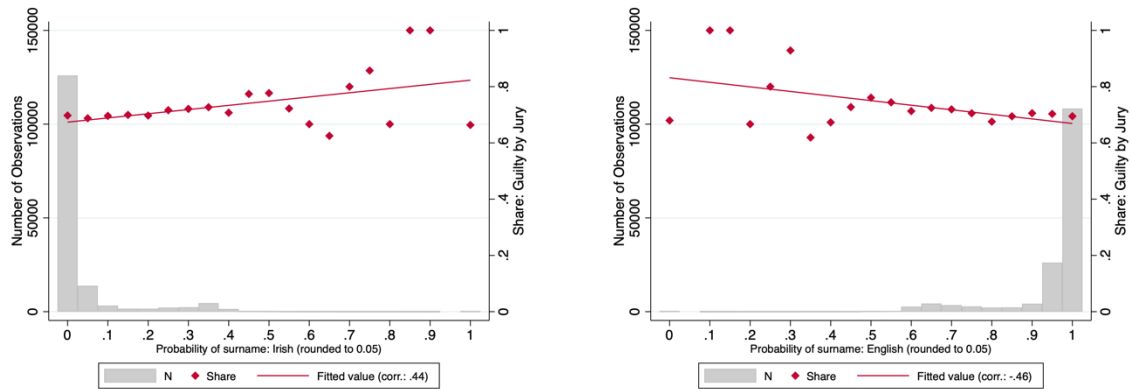
NOTE - The left figure in each panel shows the average outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: recommendation for mercy) for each English surname ratio (in bins of .5) and calculates the correlation coefficient, for males (circles) and females (triangles) separately. The gray bars indicate the number of observations in each of the bins. The right figure in each panel plots the correlation coefficient for each outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: recommendation for mercy) by quarter of the century. The gray bars indicate the number of observations underlying these correlations. See Section 3.3 for details.

## Appendix Figure B2. Correlation Between Court Outcomes and Surname Probabilities

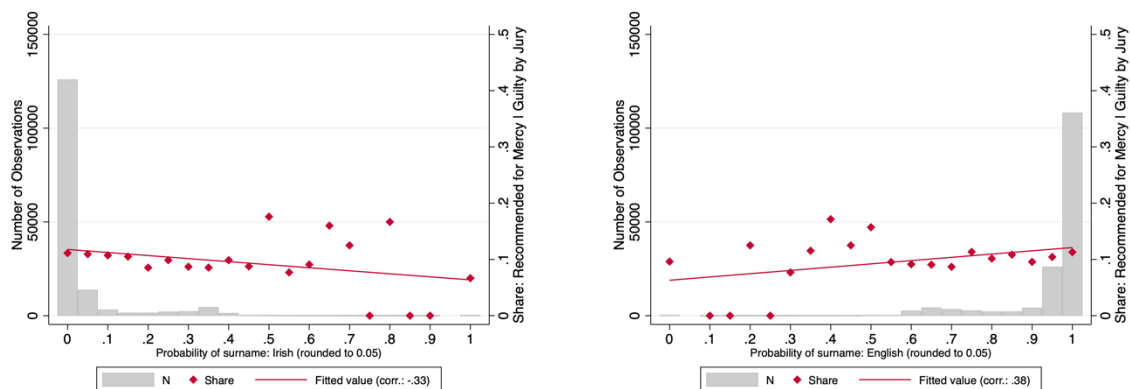
### Panel A. Guilty plea



### Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict



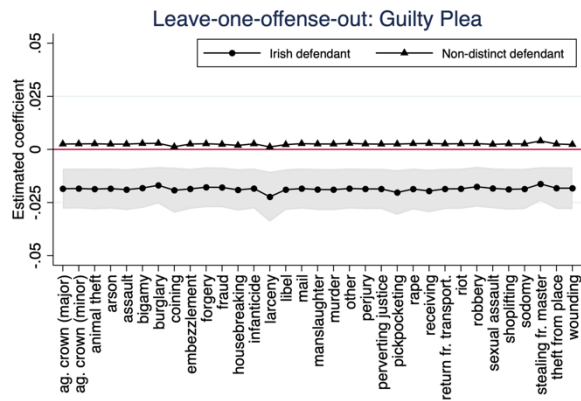
### Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on jury verdict)



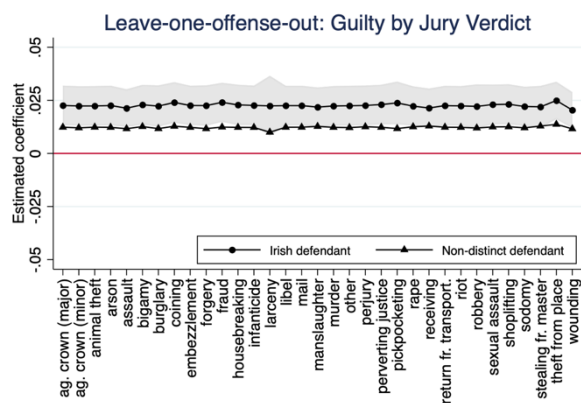
NOTE - The left (right) figure in each panel shows the average outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, and Panel C: recommendation for mercy) for each probability of a surname to be Irish (English) (in bins of .05) and calculates the correlation coefficient. The gray bars indicate the number of observations in each of the bins. See Section 3.3 for details.

## Appendix Figure B3. Robustness Tests – Leave-One-Offense-Out

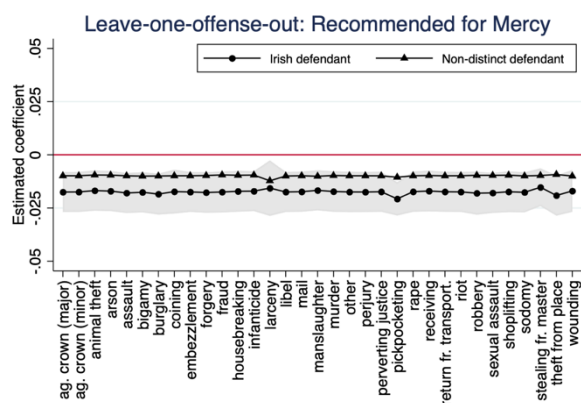
Panel A. Guilty Plea, All Offenses



Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses



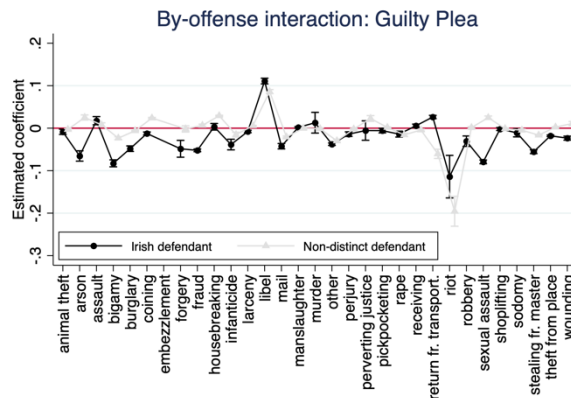
Panel C. Recommendation for Mercy, All Offenses



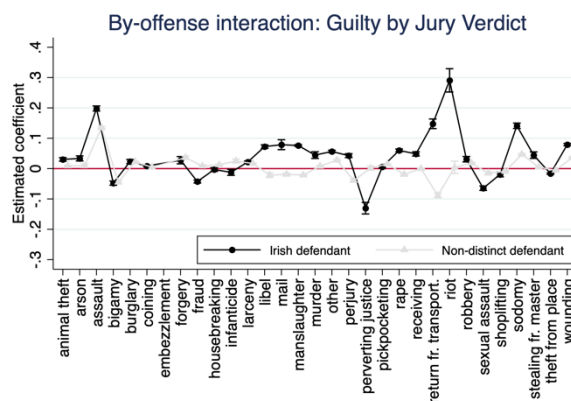
NOTE - The figure shows the estimated coefficients when leaving one offense out at the time for each outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, Panel C: recommended for mercy). The markers depict the estimated coefficients using our baseline specification as in column (3) of Table 2. The dots refer to the coefficient for Irish defendants, the triangles to those for non-distinct defendants. The gray shaded area shows the 95% confidence interval for the Irish defendant coefficient. We estimate a separate regression for each offense left out as indicated on the x-axis.

## Appendix Figure B4. Robustness Tests – By-Offense Interactions

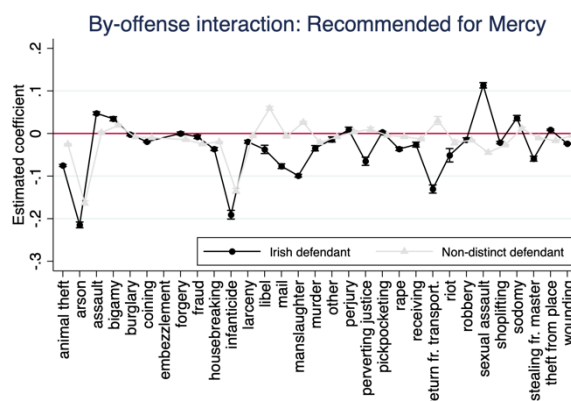
Panel A. Guilty Plea, All Offenses



Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses



Panel C. Recommendation for Mercy, All Offenses



NOTE - The figure shows the estimated coefficients when interacting the measure for Irish/non-distinct with the offence categories for each outcome (Panel A: guilty plea, Panel B: guilty jury verdict, Panel C: recommended for mercy). The markers depict the estimated coefficients for the interaction term (from one regression) using our baseline specification as in column (3) of Table 2. The dots refer to the coefficient for Irish defendants, the triangles to those for non-distinct defendants. The bars show the 95% confidence intervals.

## Appendix Figure B5. Most Common Defendant Surnames and Occupations (Part I)

Panel A. Twenty Most Common Irish Surnames

Occupation/Surname	Sullivan	Murphy	Kelly	Donovan	Murray	Ryan	Bryan	Welch	Riley	Fitzgerald	Connor	Burke	M Carthy	Mccarthy	Dunn	Crawley	Mahoney	Driscoll	Hurley	Barry
Scholar	0.240	0.241	0.259	0.257	0.254	0.262	0.285	0.277	0.262	0.257	0.260	0.281	0.235	0.199	0.276	0.275	0.264	0.259	0.250	0.282
Agricultural labourer	0.006	0.006	0.003	0.010	0.007	0.006	0.010	0.027	0.015	0.004	0.007	0.007	0.000	0.015	0.005	0.015	0.009	0.015	0.009	0.004
Dressmaker	0.011	0.010	0.014	0.007	0.016	0.015	0.013	0.017	0.016	0.015	0.014	0.011	0.000	0.005	0.013	0.015	0.009	0.011	0.011	0.015
Laundress	0.028	0.030	0.028	0.021	0.016	0.029	0.019	0.023	0.017	0.025	0.018	0.027	0.000	0.027	0.017	0.022	0.023	0.022	0.011	0.019
Labourer	0.100	0.086	0.043	0.100	0.025	0.061	0.049	0.035	0.050	0.060	0.066	0.053	0.118	0.095	0.025	0.055	0.093	0.091	0.096	0.054
Carpenter	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.010	0.005	0.008	0.006	0.006	0.003	0.005	0.004	0.000	0.004	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.001	0.006	0.008
Annuitant	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.002	0.012	0.003	0.006	0.008	0.004	0.008	0.002	0.003	0.000	0.005	0.004	0.006	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.010
Bricklayer	0.014	0.012	0.009	0.017	0.007	0.014	0.011	0.012	0.009	0.010	0.012	0.014	0.000	0.016	0.006	0.014	0.013	0.015	0.014	0.006
Coach-/carman	0.008	0.007	0.007	0.011	0.007	0.006	0.011	0.008	0.006	0.008	0.003	0.013	0.000	0.004	0.011	0.013	0.007	0.006	0.006	0.009
Charwoman	0.018	0.018	0.014	0.018	0.010	0.013	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.014	0.012	0.015	0.000	0.022	0.007	0.012	0.018	0.018	0.015	0.012
Housemaid	0.002	0.004	0.006	0.002	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.005	0.003	0.005	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.008	0.003
Gardener	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.006	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.001
Housekeeper	0.006	0.003	0.008	0.004	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.005	0.008	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.000	0.009	0.006	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.007	0.008
Tailor	0.023	0.026	0.021	0.022	0.016	0.028	0.016	0.005	0.017	0.020	0.018	0.018	0.000	0.022	0.009	0.012	0.034	0.033	0.024	0.021
Cook	0.004	0.006	0.011	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.009	0.005	0.006	0.005	0.009	0.005	0.000	0.011	0.005	0.005	0.002	0.006	0.005	0.002
Servant	0.039	0.040	0.036	0.032	0.033	0.044	0.026	0.029	0.027	0.035	0.041	0.037	0.000	0.026	0.031	0.035	0.044	0.042	0.025	0.037
Clerk	0.002	0.003	0.007	0.000	0.006	0.002	0.006	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.004	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.004	0.002	0.000	0.004	0.004
Painter	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.006	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.004
Baker	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.000
Butcher	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.006	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
Blacksmith	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.001
Needlewoman	0.003	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.006	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.007	0.000	0.007	0.002	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.004	0.003
Nurse	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.001
Porter	0.004	0.004	0.006	0.003	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.002	0.005	0.005	0.006	0.005	0.000	0.009	0.004	0.002	0.006	0.003	0.005	0.006
Milliner	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.006	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.005	0.002
Machinist	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.001	0.004	0.009	0.004	0.005	0.005	0.000	0.002	0.006	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.001	0.003
Cabinet maker	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.001
Draper	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.010	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.004
Shoemaker	0.004	0.005	0.005	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.007	0.005	0.003	0.000	0.005	0.005	0.006	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.006
Grocer	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.059	0.000	0.008	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.003
Bootmaker	0.004	0.004	0.006	0.003	0.002	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.008	0.008	0.005	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.006	0.009	0.004	0.001	0.005
Plasterer	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.004	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.001	0.003	0.003	0.006	0.001
Police constable	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.001
Warehouse man	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.000	0.059	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003
Printer	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.001	0.004	0.004	0.008	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.004
Plumber	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.003
Hawker	0.009	0.007	0.006	0.009	0.005	0.008	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.003	0.011	0.009	0.000	0.013	0.003	0.004	0.008	0.009	0.007	0.004
Soldier	0.005	0.008	0.009	0.001	0.005	0.010	0.006	0.000	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.010	0.000	0.002	0.004	0.002	0.006	0.004	0.002	0.008
Victualler	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000
Joiner	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.001
Mariner	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.002
Dealer	0.005	0.002	0.002	0.006	0.002	0.004	0.003	0.001	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.008	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.004
Strawplaiter	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Governess	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001
Teacher	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Ironer	0.005	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.002	0.001
Wheelwright	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Barnmaid	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.001
Solicitor	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Builder	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000
None	0.013	0.017	0.019	0.014	0.020	0.021	0.014	0.007	0.008	0.018	0.017	0.019	0.059	0.011	0.009	0.005	0.013	0.012	0.014	0.008
Not coded / other	0.319	0.320	0.333	0.329	0.361	0.328	0.340	0.304	0.318	0.320	0.330	0.325	0.452	0.362	0.323	0.340	0.320	0.317	0.307	0.326



(Part II)

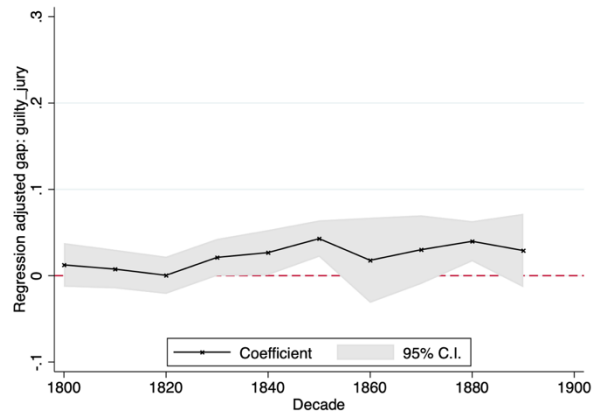
Panel B. Twenty Most Common English Surnames

Occupation/Surname	Jones	Williams	Harris	Thomas	Edwards	Evans	Roberts	Baker	Cooper	Lewis	Price	Webb	Stevens	James	Parker	Knight	Bailey	Chapman	Powell	West
Scholar	0.2635	0.2600	0.2702	0.2551	0.2656	0.2628	0.2577	0.2751	0.2701	0.2634	0.2677	0.2726	0.2734	0.2729	0.2618	0.2868	0.2743	0.2691	0.2592	0.274
Agricultural labourer	0.0154	0.0133	0.0289	0.0140	0.0263	0.0164	0.0183	0.0353	0.0311	0.0148	0.0164	0.0358	0.0343	0.0187	0.0269	0.0394	0.0319	0.0413	0.0221	0.029
Dressmaker	0.0168	0.0197	0.0159	0.0173	0.0176	0.0169	0.0198	0.0162	0.0153	0.0154	0.0134	0.0142	0.0162	0.0173	0.0161	0.0163	0.0166	0.0147	0.0166	0.018
Laundress	0.0135	0.0142	0.0147	0.0139	0.0150	0.0125	0.0100	0.0131	0.0110	0.0128	0.0138	0.0148	0.0147	0.0123	0.0145	0.0124	0.0155	0.0110	0.0148	0.013
Labourer	0.0293	0.0271	0.0245	0.0230	0.0235	0.0273	0.0258	0.0281	0.0282	0.0228	0.0296	0.0304	0.0330	0.0295	0.0323	0.0298	0.0296	0.0256	0.0239	0.033
Carpenter	0.0116	0.0117	0.0110	0.0140	0.0117	0.0117	0.0136	0.0109	0.0096	0.0118	0.0080	0.0097	0.0108	0.0146	0.0117	0.0111	0.0137	0.0084	0.0091	0.009
Annuitant	0.0080	0.0089	0.0066	0.0093	0.0072	0.0077	0.0096	0.0055	0.0079	0.0086	0.0110	0.0077	0.0067	0.0088	0.0080	0.0050	0.0077	0.0076	0.0098	0.006
Bricklayer	0.0074	0.0069	0.0080	0.0048	0.0090	0.0065	0.0049	0.0073	0.0076	0.0060	0.0081	0.0091	0.0064	0.0091	0.0075	0.0117	0.0090	0.0070	0.0085	0.006
Coach-/carman	0.0089	0.0079	0.0083	0.0076	0.0111	0.0096	0.0092	0.0100	0.0109	0.0085	0.0068	0.0090	0.0084	0.0085	0.0082	0.0089	0.0098	0.0079	0.0083	0.009
Charwoman	0.0065	0.0062	0.0068	0.0056	0.0075	0.0065	0.0050	0.0061	0.0054	0.0054	0.0064	0.0059	0.0052	0.0044	0.0061	0.0054	0.0057	0.0053	0.0041	0.006
Housemaid	0.0066	0.0059	0.0050	0.0084	0.0050	0.0063	0.0055	0.0053	0.0043	0.0070	0.0045	0.0060	0.0045	0.0065	0.0059	0.0061	0.0053	0.0046	0.0068	0.005
Gardener	0.0037	0.0032	0.0042	0.0033	0.0061	0.0045	0.0041	0.0055	0.0050	0.0030	0.0032	0.0050	0.0056	0.0034	0.0066	0.0066	0.0049	0.0057	0.0055	0.005
Housekeeper	0.0060	0.0065	0.0061	0.0065	0.0063	0.0061	0.0079	0.0070	0.0061	0.0064	0.0092	0.0053	0.0058	0.0074	0.0061	0.0072	0.0060	0.0059	0.0088	0.006
Tailor	0.0084	0.0094	0.0127	0.0129	0.0074	0.0105	0.0066	0.0067	0.0054	0.0126	0.0095	0.0038	0.0072	0.0059	0.0058	0.0043	0.0068	0.0049	0.0061	0.005
Cook	0.0100	0.0087	0.0057	0.0079	0.0058	0.0094	0.0082	0.0062	0.0053	0.0074	0.0083	0.0053	0.0068	0.0065	0.0051	0.0061	0.0044	0.0055	0.0063	0.006
Servant	0.0353	0.0346	0.0302	0.0351	0.0311	0.0315	0.0322	0.0317	0.0331	0.0323	0.0325	0.0302	0.0320	0.0376	0.0328	0.0337	0.0296	0.0325	0.0314	0.034
Clerk	0.0046	0.0043	0.0028	0.0063	0.0056	0.0053	0.0054	0.0028	0.0027	0.0033	0.0048	0.0037	0.0031	0.0040	0.0025	0.0037	0.0037	0.0039	0.0033	0.002
Painter	0.0062	0.0066	0.0047	0.0057	0.0053	0.0056	0.0073	0.0058	0.0051	0.0064	0.0060	0.0043	0.0058	0.0045	0.0065	0.0046	0.0040	0.0046	0.0075	0.005
Baker	0.0022	0.0018	0.0033	0.0026	0.0020	0.0016	0.0019	0.0037	0.0026	0.0026	0.0029	0.0033	0.0023	0.0028	0.0027	0.0025	0.0034	0.0024	0.0020	0.003
Butcher	0.0026	0.0023	0.0037	0.0023	0.0031	0.0020	0.0016	0.0034	0.0035	0.0018	0.0049	0.0039	0.0029	0.0018	0.0025	0.0021	0.0032	0.0023	0.0028	0.002
Blacksmith	0.0024	0.0023	0.0034	0.0029	0.0020	0.0026	0.0016	0.0026	0.0041	0.0026	0.0025	0.0026	0.0025	0.0039	0.0028	0.0020	0.0033	0.0023	0.0027	0.003
Needlewoman	0.0028	0.0035	0.0025	0.0034	0.0034	0.0030	0.0033	0.0027	0.0025	0.0029	0.0027	0.0023	0.0020	0.0036	0.0021	0.0024	0.0015	0.0021	0.0028	0.002
Nurse	0.0024	0.0030	0.0024	0.0029	0.0022	0.0031	0.0033	0.0022	0.0021	0.0027	0.0027	0.0022	0.0019	0.0032	0.0025	0.0024	0.0025	0.0017	0.0018	0.002
Porter	0.0043	0.0048	0.0036	0.0039	0.0045	0.0046	0.0026	0.0043	0.0031	0.0040	0.0040	0.0036	0.0043	0.0041	0.0035	0.0033	0.0032	0.0042	0.0037	0.005
Milliner	0.0024	0.0033	0.0017	0.0028	0.0022	0.0036	0.0025	0.0019	0.0017	0.0032	0.0022	0.0014	0.0023	0.0027	0.0023	0.0015	0.0021	0.0024	0.0027	0.001
Machinist	0.0045	0.0043	0.0032	0.0047	0.0037	0.0037	0.0043	0.0021	0.0034	0.0031	0.0029	0.0026	0.0026	0.0034	0.0034	0.0023	0.0036	0.0029	0.0055	0.001
Cabinet maker	0.0027	0.0019	0.0016	0.0023	0.0030	0.0021	0.0021	0.0017	0.0019	0.0034	0.0029	0.0019	0.0016	0.0026	0.0025	0.0019	0.0025	0.0014	0.0013	0.001
Draper	0.0052	0.0035	0.0022	0.0046	0.0037	0.0052	0.0042	0.0038	0.0025	0.0053	0.0035	0.0024	0.0025	0.0047	0.0031	0.0025	0.0033	0.0026	0.0048	0.002
Shoemaker	0.0021	0.0017	0.0024	0.0027	0.0026	0.0023	0.0025	0.0018	0.0017	0.0017	0.0019	0.0017	0.0019	0.0029	0.0020	0.0022	0.0012	0.0022	0.0018	0.001
Grocer	0.0039	0.0045	0.0040	0.0038	0.0040	0.0040	0.0046	0.0058	0.0043	0.0032	0.0056	0.0049	0.0047	0.0029	0.0043	0.0037	0.0057	0.0040	0.0025	0.003
Bootmaker	0.0035	0.0038	0.0031	0.0041	0.0030	0.0039	0.0035	0.0023	0.0028	0.0037	0.0030	0.0042	0.0026	0.0044	0.0055	0.0026	0.0022	0.0040	0.0033	0.002
Plasterer	0.0019	0.0017	0.0019	0.0023	0.0010	0.0028	0.0024	0.0025	0.0014	0.0032	0.0019	0.0006	0.0018	0.0024	0.0021	0.0018	0.0012	0.0009	0.0028	0.001
Police constable	0.0012	0.0011	0.0010	0.0020	0.0025	0.0014	0.0011	0.0019	0.0015	0.0024	0.0017	0.0018	0.0016	0.0029	0.0016	0.0015	0.0011	0.0012	0.0008	0.001
Warehouse man	0.0025	0.0024	0.0013	0.0018	0.0020	0.0029	0.0017	0.0015	0.0017	0.0014	0.0027	0.0016	0.0012	0.0021	0.0008	0.0011	0.0019	0.0014	0.0020	0.001
Printer	0.0025	0.0018	0.0012	0.0021	0.0020	0.0026	0.0021	0.0013	0.0015	0.0011	0.0024	0.0012	0.0011	0.0018	0.0010	0.0013	0.0012	0.0015	0.0027	0.001
Plumber	0.0017	0.0017	0.0014	0.0017	0.0015	0.0013	0.0020	0.0014	0.0012	0.0011	0.0014	0.0016	0.0019	0.0016	0.0019	0.0020	0.0016	0.0027	0.0007	0.001
Hawker	0.0026	0.0032	0.0019	0.0027	0.0015	0.0017	0.0009	0.0018	0.0020	0.0022	0.0014	0.0016	0.0008	0.0011	0.0011	0.0010	0.0005	0.0018	0.0007	0.000
Soldier	0.0024	0.0026	0.0012	0.0022	0.0017	0.0022	0.0024	0.0007	0.0016	0.0020	0.0024	0.0009	0.0005	0.0013	0.0010	0.0008	0.0020	0.0009	0.0015	0.000
Victualler	0.0013	0.0009	0.0017	0.0011	0.0014	0.0013	0.0015	0.0013	0.0013	0.0014	0.0022	0.0018	0.0012	0.0014	0.0010	0.0011	0.0012	0.0017	0.0008	0.001
Joiner	0.0023	0.0027	0.0011	0.0023	0.0015	0.0024	0.0014	0.0012	0.0013	0.0015	0.0011	0.0007	0.0013	0.0015	0.0016	0.0010	0.0012	0.0020	0.0013	0.001
Mariner	0.0014	0.0018	0.0009	0.0011	0.0007	0.0010	0.0014	0.0016	0.0012	0.0019	0.0002	0.0017	0.0008	0.0009	0.0019	0.0008	0.0011	0.0010	0.0012	0.001
Dealer	0.0019	0.0013	0.0023	0.0020	0.0013	0.0016	0.0013	0.0015	0.0013	0.0007	0.0010	0.0009	0.0012	0.0016	0.0014	0.0005	0.0014	0.0010	0.0017	0.001
Strawplaiter	0.0003	0.0002	0.0010	0.0000	0.0008	0.0010	0.0015	0.0008	0.0007	0.0000	0.0008	0.0019	0.0014	0.0012	0.0005	0.0007	0.0001	0.0026	0.0002	0.000
Governess	0.0010	0.0014	0.0006	0.0012	0.0008	0.0012	0.0013	0.0009	0.0009	0.0023	0.0024	0.0013	0.0009	0.0005	0.0010	0.0011	0.0008	0.0016	0.0005	0.000
Teacher	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.000
Ironer	0.0013	0.0009	0.0011	0.0014	0.0014	0.0007	0.0011	0.0013	0.0007	0.0008	0.0005	0.0015	0.0012	0.0015	0.0013	0.0012	0.0013	0.0009	0.0020	0.000
Wheelwright	0.0006	0.0010	0.0009	0.0010	0.0013	0.0005	0.0008	0.0011	0.0012	0.0003	0.0006	0.0014	0.0006	0.0013	0.0006	0.0011	0.0008	0.0030	0.0010	0.001
Barmaid	0.0012	0.0010	0.0010	0.0012	0.0007	0.0019	0.0009	0.0010	0.0013	0.0010	0.0011	0.0009	0.0008	0.0009	0.0011	0.0011	0.0013	0.0009	0.0012	0.001
Solicitor	0.0009	0.0010	0.0007	0.0009	0.0011	0.0008	0.0014	0.0005	0.0007	0.0023	0.0005	0.0015	0.0008	0.0018	0.0013	0.0007	0.0005	0.0004	0.0017	0.000
Builder	0.0008	0.0011	0.0010	0.0005	0.0015	0.0010	0.0006	0.0007	0.0009	0.0010	0.0010	0.0008	0.0007	0.0009	0.0009	0.0011	0.0011	0.0009	0.0007	0.001
None	0.0092	0.0101	0.0068	0.0110	0.0103	0.0083	0.0090	0.0092	0.0087	0.0089	0.0105	0.0090	0.0095	0.0100	0.0091	0.0058	0.0065	0.0091	0.0111	0.008
Not coded / other	0.3260	0.3361	0.3112	0.3227	0.3064	0.3279	0.3282	0.2960	0.3083	0.3140	0.3220	0.3082	0.3024	0.3195	0.3012	0.2946	0.2986	0.3005	0.3109	0.309

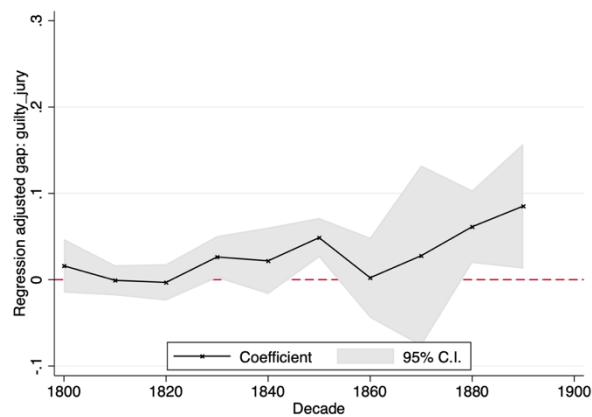
NOTE - The figure shows a heatmap of the twenty most common surnames of Irish (Panel A) and English (Panel B

## Appendix Figure B6. Disparate Treatment of Irish Defendants by Decade

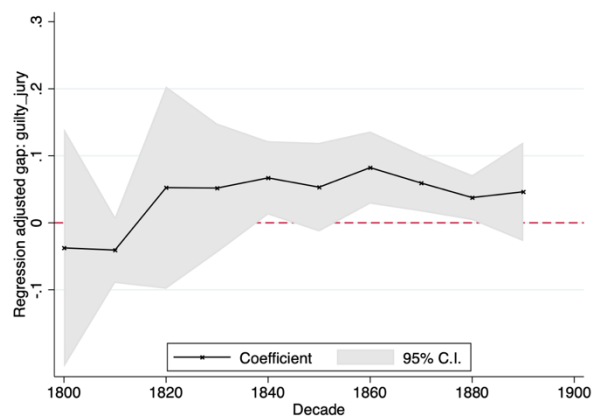
*Panel A. Guilty by Jury Verdict, All Offenses*



*Panel B. Guilty by Jury Verdict, Property Offenses*



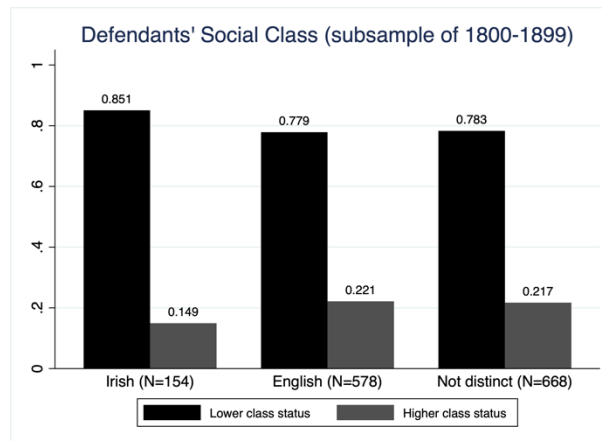
*Panel C. Guilty by Jury Verdict, Violent Offenses*



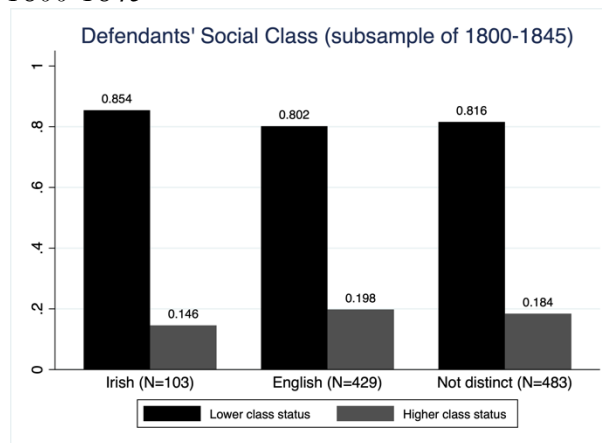
NOTE - Each figure shows the estimated coefficient for Irish defendants (black marker) and 95% confidence interval (gray shaded area) when estimating our baseline specification (see column (3) of Table 2) separately by decade. The x-axis shows the first year of each decade. The outcome is a dummy variable for whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial. Panel A includes all offenses, Panel B property and Panel C violent offenses.

## Appendix Figure B7. Defendants' Social Class (Old Bailey Corpus)

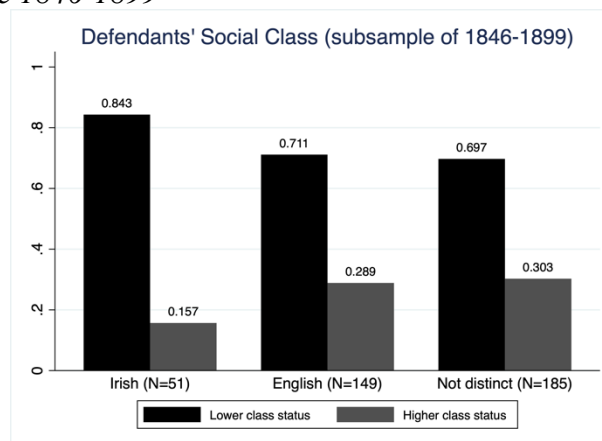
### Panel A. 1800-1899



### Panel B. Pre-Famine 1800-1845



### Panel C. Post-Famine 1846-1899



NOTE - Each figure shows the share of defendants who are classified as of lower social class (black bars) or higher social class (gray bars), based on the subset of the sample with information from the Old Bailey Corpus (see text and the data description in Appendix B for details). Panel A includes observations from the entire sample period (1800-1899), Panel B for the pre-famine period (1800-1845) and Panel C for the famine and post-famine period (1846-1899).

**Appendix Table B1. Share of Irish, English, and Non-Distinct Defendants by Offense**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	All	Irish		English		Non-Distinct	
<b>Details offense category (combined)</b>	N	N	Share	N	Share	N	Share
(Missing)	167	15	0.10	54	0.35	86	0.55
Against crown (major)	48	14	0.30	15	0.33	17	0.37
Against corwn (minor)	98	10	0.11	40	0.43	43	0.46
Animal theft	2962	162	0.06	1366	0.47	1364	0.47
Arson	458	47	0.11	213	0.49	176	0.40
Assault	953	193	0.21	334	0.36	389	0.42
Bigamy	1497	105	0.07	718	0.50	627	0.43
Burglary	8857	1047	0.12	3391	0.39	4150	0.48
Coining offenses	10733	1418	0.14	3839	0.37	5245	0.50
Embezzlement	4447	248	0.06	2093	0.48	2014	0.46
Forgery	4975	374	0.08	2175	0.46	2202	0.46
Fraud	5275	394	0.08	2254	0.45	2411	0.48
Housebreaking	3515	385	0.11	1372	0.40	1676	0.49
Infanticide (combined)	758	51	0.07	364	0.50	317	0.43
Larceny (combined)	50407	5694	0.12	19647	0.40	23642	0.48
Libel	504	45	0.10	206	0.44	216	0.46
Mail	1177	76	0.07	574	0.50	499	0.43
Manslaughter	1831	246	0.14	751	0.42	780	0.44
Murder	1153	176	0.16	468	0.43	435	0.40
Other (combined)	3230	308	0.10	1341	0.44	1412	0.46
Perjury	796	59	0.08	361	0.47	342	0.45
Perverting justice	379	53	0.14	156	0.42	159	0.43
Pickpocketing	13647	1948	0.15	4904	0.37	6455	0.49
Rape	1392	158	0.12	608	0.46	563	0.42
Receiving	6813	653	0.10	2894	0.44	3101	0.47
Return from transportation	148	15	0.10	56	0.38	75	0.51
Riot	105	17	0.17	38	0.38	44	0.44
Robbery (combined)	6827	1493	0.22	2277	0.34	2892	0.43
Sexual assault (combined)	976	75	0.08	418	0.45	436	0.47
Shoplifting	1728	238	0.14	627	0.38	796	0.48
Sodomy (combined)	854	62	0.08	364	0.45	388	0.48
Stealing from master	10674	1016	0.10	4741	0.46	4628	0.45
Theft from place	10570	1088	0.11	4144	0.41	4976	0.49
Wounding	4528	864	0.20	1609	0.38	1769	0.42

NOTE - The table lists the offenses included in our analysis sample (in alphabetical order). Column (1) displays the number of observations (i.e., defendant by trial) for each offense for all offenses. Columns (2)-(3), (4)-(5) and (6)-(7) list the number of observations by offense for Irish, English and non-distinct defendants as well as the share of Irish, English and non-distinct defendants of all defendants for each offense.

**Appendix Table B2. Baseline with Alternative Clustering (Part I)**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	<b>All offenses</b>				
Sample:	<b>1800-1899</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<i>Panel A. Guilty plea</i>					
Defendant classified Irish	-0.019	-0.003	-0.022	-0.009	-0.031
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.005)***	(0.004)	(0.006)***	(0.005)*	(0.013)**
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.003)***	(0.003)	(0.004)***	(0.008)	(0.008)***
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.003)***	(0.002)	(0.004)***	(0.008)	(0.009)***
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.006)***	(0.006)	(0.009)***	(0.009)	(0.015)**
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.005)***	(0.006)	(0.008)***	(0.005)*	(0.013)**
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.006***	0.589	0.002***	0.102	0.044**
<i>Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict</i>					
Defendant classified Irish	0.023	0.007	0.020	0.030	0.034
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.005)***	(0.009)	(0.007)***	(0.012)**	(0.012)***
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.004)***	(0.009)	(0.006)***	(0.010)***	(0.011)***
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.005)***	(0.009)	(0.007)***	(0.011)***	(0.011)***
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.007)***	(0.012)	(0.011)*	(0.017)*	(0.017)**
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.005)***	(0.013)	(0.008)**	(0.012)**	(0.013)***
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.000***	0.612	0.022**	0.044**	0.016**
<i>Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>					
Defendant classified Irish	-0.017	-0.002	-0.025	-0.013	-0.014
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.005)***	(0.003)	(0.009)***	(0.008)	(0.008)*
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.003)***	(0.005)	(0.005)***	(0.007)*	(0.007)**
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.003)***	(0.005)	(0.005)***	(0.007)*	(0.007)*
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.006)***	(0.006)	(0.010)***	(0.011)	(0.011)
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.005)***	(0.005)	(0.010)**	(0.009)	(0.008)*
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.002***	0.679	0.002***	0.140	0.118
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def., capital)	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x

**(Part II)**

	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
	Property offenses					Violent offenses				
Sample:	1800-1899	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	1800-1899	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<i>Panel A. Guilty plea</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	-0.017	0.002	-0.022	-0.010	-0.048	-0.01	-0.001	-0.018	0.001	-0.02
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.006)**	(0.001)	(0.008)**	(0.011)	(0.030)	(0.004)*	(0.002)	(0.011)	(0.010)	(0.007)**
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.003)***	(0.002)	(0.004)***	(0.013)	(0.016)***	(0.005)**	(0.002)	(0.008)**	(0.009)	(0.010)**
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.003)***	(0.002)	(0.004)***	(0.013)	(0.017)***	(0.005)*	(0.002)	(0.010)*	(0.010)	(0.009)**
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.007)**	(0.002)	(0.009)**	(0.018)	(0.033)	(0.006)*	(0.002)	(0.014)	(0.014)	(0.009)**
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.007)**	(0.002)	(0.009)**	(0.010)	(0.030)	(0.005)**	(0.004)	(0.011)	(0.014)	(0.010)*
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.060*	1.000	0.002***	0.458	0.426	0.002***	1.000	0.254	0.846	0.002***
<i>Panel B. Guilty by jury verdict</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	0.019	0.002	0.019	0.025	0.069	0.049	-0.017	0.066	0.08	0.034
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.005)***	(0.008)	(0.008)*	(0.012)*	(0.016)***	(0.020)*	(0.035)	(0.026)**	(0.018)***	(0.013)**
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.005)***	(0.009)	(0.006)***	(0.015)	(0.020)***	(0.011)***	(0.037)	(0.024)***	(0.018)***	(0.018)*
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.005)***	(0.009)	(0.007)**	(0.015)	(0.020)***	(0.012)***	(0.042)	(0.023)***	(0.020)***	(0.018)*
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.006)***	(0.010)	(0.011)*	(0.016)	(0.020)***	(0.022)**	(0.041)	(0.030)**	(0.027)***	(0.020)*
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.006)***	(0.012)	(0.011)*	(0.013)*	(0.016)***	(0.022)**	(0.053)	(0.025)***	(0.023)***	(0.022)
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.000***	1.000	0.166	0.072*	0.014**	0.210	1.000	0.000***	0.106	0.070*
<i>Panel C. Recommended for mercy (conditional on guilty verdict by jury)</i>										
Defendant classified Irish	-0.017	-0.003	-0.023	-0.019	-0.019	-0.017	0.030	-0.051	-0.026	0.003
SE clustered by offense (baseline)	(0.007)**	(0.002)	(0.010)**	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.008)*	(0.018)	(0.018)**	(0.017)	(0.012)
Heteroskedasticity robust SE	(0.004)***	(0.005)	(0.006)***	(0.010)*	(0.012)	(0.008)**	(0.035)	(0.020)**	(0.014)*	(0.012)
SE clustered by offense and year	(0.004)***	(0.004)	(0.006)***	(0.011)*	(0.012)	(0.008)**	(0.027)	(0.020)**	(0.015)*	(0.012)
SE two-way clustered by offense and year	(0.007)**	(0.007)	(0.010)**	(0.014)	(0.017)	(0.010)*	(0.023)	(0.023)**	(0.021)	(0.017)
SE cluster bootstrapped by offense	(0.008)**	(0.003)	(0.012)*	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.009)*	(0.035)	(0.024)**	(0.027)	(0.023)
p-value wild-cluster bootstrap by offense	0.002***	1.000	0.010**	0.170	0.384	0.002***	1.000	0.002***	0.022**	0.788
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def., capital)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results corresponding to Tables 2 and 3, using the baseline specification. Each row shows for the main coefficient the standard error or p-value for different approaches to inference. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Appendix Table B3. Potential Origins of the Gaps – Potato Famine for Pleas and Mercy**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Outcome:		Guilty plea		Recommended for mercy		
Offense Category:	All	Property	Violent	All	Property	Violent
<i>Panel A. Irish versus English defendants, one post-period</i>						
Defendant classified Irish	-0.037*** (0.010)	-0.036** (0.013)	-0.028 (0.016)	-0.029*** (0.009)	-0.024** (0.010)	-0.054* (0.026)
Post-famine (1846-59)	0.221*** (0.021)	0.243*** (0.030)	0.095 (0.054)	-0.029 (0.021)	-0.006 (0.032)	-0.075 (0.111)
Defendant Irish x Post-famine (1846-59)	0.012 (0.010)	0.013 (0.012)	0.002 (0.011)	0.010 (0.009)	-0.001 (0.008)	0.014 (0.030)
Observations	24,608	18,537	1,987	13,767	10,213	1,295
Mean of Y	0.226	0.246	0.0549	0.135	0.150	0.108
Adj R2	0.0812	0.0771	0.0615	0.0705	0.0626	0.122
<i>Panel B. Irish versus English defendants, two post-periods</i>						
Defendant classified Irish	-0.037*** (0.010)	-0.036** (0.013)	-0.028 (0.016)	-0.029*** (0.009)	-0.024** (0.010)	-0.054* (0.026)
Famine (1846-52)	0.215*** (0.032)	0.277*** (0.036)	0.025 (0.026)	-0.026 (0.021)	-0.026 (0.032)	-0.051 (0.082)
Post-famine (1853-59)	0.224*** (0.022)	0.250*** (0.029)	0.103 (0.054)	-0.029 (0.021)	-0.008 (0.032)	-0.073 (0.128)
Defendant Irish x Famine (1846-52)	0.019* (0.010)	0.024 (0.014)	0.018 (0.011)	0.010 (0.009)	-0.004 (0.006)	0.018 (0.030)
Defendant Irish x Post-famine (1853-59)	-0.001 (0.018)	-0.018 (0.023)	-0.019 (0.017)	0.012 (0.015)	0.007 (0.015)	0.008 (0.056)
Observations	24,608	18,537	1,987	13,767	10,213	1,295
Mean of Y	0.226	0.246	0.0549	0.135	0.150	0.108
Adj R2	0.0812	0.0771	0.0621	0.0704	0.0625	0.121
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def.)	x	x	x	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results for the time period around the potato famine (1838-1859) as described in Section 6.1 and in Table 8. Panel A shows results with 1846-1859 as the post-period, Panel B when splitting the post-period into two (1846-1852 and 1853 to 1859). The dependent variable in columns (1) to (3) is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant pled guilty, and in columns (4) to (6) whether the defendant was recommended for mercy after a guilty jury verdict. Results are shown for all, property and violent offenses as indicated at the top of each column. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

**Appendix Table B4. Potential Shocks to Perceptions – Clerkenwell and Fenian Bombing Campaign**

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Outcome:	Guilty by jury verdict		
Offense Category:	All	Property	Violent
Specification:	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline
<i>Panel A. Clerkenwell Outage, one post-period</i>			
Defendant classified Irish	0.034 (0.032)	0.011 (0.025)	0.132*** (0.023)
Post-Clerkenwell (Dec 1867 - 1872)	0.056 (0.112)	0.112 (0.179)	0.098 (0.211)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-Clerkenwell	0.009 (0.034)	-0.034 (0.039)	-0.006 (0.031)
Observations	4,452	1,678	1,341
Mean of Y	0.642	0.647	0.614
Adj R2	0.0553	0.0214	0.0840
<i>Panel B. Clerkenwell Outage, two post-periods</i>			
Defendant classified Irish	0.034 (0.032)	0.011 (0.025)	0.132*** (0.023)
Post-Clerkenwell attack and trial (Dec 1867 - May 1868)	0.062 (0.116)	0.111 (0.182)	0.092 (0.221)
Post-Clerkenwell execution (May 1868 - 1872)	0.009 (0.132)	0.085 (0.229)	0.055 (0.173)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-Clerkenwell attack and trial	-0.041 (0.062)	-0.078 (0.087)	0.015 (0.121)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-Clerkenwell execution	0.013 (0.035)	-0.030 (0.040)	-0.009 (0.024)
Observations	4,452	1,678	1,341
Mean of Y	0.642	0.647	0.614
Adj R2	0.0550	0.0203	0.0828
<i>Panel C. Fenian Bombing Campaign, by year post first London attack</i>			
Defendant classified Irish	0.064* (0.036)	0.058 (0.061)	0.119** (0.037)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-1881	0.025 (0.058)	0.024 (0.133)	-0.004 (0.133)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-1882	-0.018 (0.084)	0.125 (0.117)	-0.177** (0.072)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-1883	0.047 (0.056)	0.051 (0.103)	0.054 (0.112)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-1884	-0.026 (0.070)	0.079 (0.170)	-0.072 (0.042)
Defendant classified Irish x Post-1885	-0.007 (0.057)	-0.016 (0.130)	0.028 (0.090)
Observations	2,797	863	786
Mean of Y	0.635	0.620	0.623
Adj R2	0.0456	0.0236	0.0981
Offense FE and controls (female, num.def., capital)	x	x	x
Year and month FE	x	x	x

NOTE - The table shows regression results for the time period around the Clerkenwell Outage (1863-1872) in Panels A and B, and around the Fenian Bombing Campaign (1880-1886) in Panel C (see Section 6.2 for details). Panel A shows results for the Clerkenwell Outage with 1867-1872 as the post-period, Panel B when splitting the post-period into two (between attack and execution of convicted attacker, 1867-1868, and post the execution, 1868 to 1872). Panel C shows results for the Fenian Bombing Campaign, allowing for separate post-coefficients for each year into the campaign. The dependent variable is a dummy variable indicating whether the defendant was found guilty in a jury trial. Results are shown for all, property and violent offenses as indicated at the top of each column. Each panel restricts the sample to Irish and English classified defendants. In Panels A and B, we omit the trial of the Clerkenwell Outage itself; in Panel C we omit the trials related to the bombings. Robust standard errors clustered by offense are shown in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.



Appendix C. Historical Records

Appendix Figure C1. Historical English Newspaper Clippings: No Irish Need Apply

Morning Advertiser, May 27, 1828

**WANTED**, in a respectable Public-House, a Female **SERVANT** of **ALL-WORK**. One of undeniable character may apply at the Rose, Old Bailey. All letters must be post-paid, and no Irish need apply.

**WANTED**, in a respectable Public-house, a good **SERVANT** of **ALL-WORK**, where a Lad is kept—a good character required. Apply at No. 18, New North-street, Red Lion-square. No Irish need apply.

**WANTED** a **SERVANT** of **ALL-WORK**, at a respectable Public-House; one who has been accustomed to wait on a parlor—none need apply whose character will not bear the strictest inquiry; also a **LAD**, to carry out beer and make himself generally useful. Apply at the Mitre, Upper-street, Islington.—No Irish need apply.

Morning Advertiser, May 1, 1836

**WANTED** a **SERVANT** of **ALL-WORK**, where a boy is kept; she must understand plain cooking—no Irish need apply. Apply at the Blue Anchor, Bell-court, Fenchurch-street.

Morning Advertiser, August 4, 1846

**WANTED** a respectable Female **SERVANT** of **ALL-WORK**, for a respectable Public house. Inquire at the Lion and Hans, Redcross-street, Borough (not the house). No Irish need apply. Apply early this morning.

The Morning Post, October 1, 1881

**"NO IRISH NEED APPLY."**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Your correspondent Sir Charles Domville asks, "Would it not be just and prudent to cease to employ Irishmen of any class, to cease to give them houses, and force them to leave England?" I am a loyal Irishman and object to Sir Charles Domville's proposal on account of its injustice and imprudence. There are a million Irish resident in England, the vast majority of them good and loyal subjects, who do not carry dynamite in their pockets, and have no inclination to blow up any person or building. Sir Charles would not except any class of Irishmen from his ban. What about the numerous Irish landlords and others who have taken refuge in London, driven out of their own country by Mr. Parnell's "Boycotters"—would he include them? That the Irish in England are suffering to some extent by the malpractices of their countrymen is beyond doubt. I was walking in Fulham a few days ago, when I met a poorly-dressed workman, who accosted me thus, "Would yer honner give me a loight for me pipe?" "Certainly," said I, "have you any tobacco?"

The Daily News, October 11, 1855

**"NO IRISH NEED APPLY."**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Although the above opprobrious epithet is to be found occasionally in the leading journal, I regret to say that it is more frequently to be seen in the columns of another morning contemporary—emanating, too, almost exclusively from the licensed victuallers of the metropolis. Of course, I do not impugn the right of any person to employ whom he please—to like or dislike any section of the whole human family; but I do challenge the right of a man—no matter what his status in society may be—to insult a race or a people, when his object could be attained as effectually without having recourse to such objectionable means.

I have observed that several members of the trade express their wishes as follows:—"Wanted, an English servant of all work," &c., in which case, I am sure, "No Irish" would "apply;" and thus the obvious intention of the advertiser is understood, and his sanctum remains unmolested by the footsteps of any wandering Milesian. Not wishing to employ a native of the Emerald Isle such a "landlord" adopts a course which intelligence and decorum dictate, and which, so far, redounds to his own good sense and discretion.

The "No Irish need apply" along is worthy only the lowest and most illiterate class of society. Does not the sneer reveal a state of mind more to be pitied than scorned? In London there are hundreds of industrious, sober, honest, well-conducted members of that very grade to whom the vulgarity is applied; and to them it is a most gratuitous insult; having, at the same time, a tendency to retard that perfect fusion of the inhabitants of the United Kingdom, which every loyal subject of the crown should endeavour to foster and propagate.

At the present critical juncture of affairs—when England is engaged in deadly strife with a semi-barbarous and formidable foe—when her resources, including men as well as money, may possibly have to be strained to the utmost tension—it surely borders on the insane to be insulting the peasantry of Ireland, and continually blaring through the columns of a newspaper when a potman or a kitchenmaid is required, "No Irish need apply;" perhaps the same paper recording, in ghastly and sickening lines, the unmistakably Celtic names of hundreds of brave fellows who have shed their blood for the glory and honour and integrity of the British people and the British constitution. It is, to say the least, unquestionably bad taste, and should elicit the condemnation of every right-minded member of the community.

This is the time to pluck out such loathsome eyesores from the English journals; they might not inaptly, indeed, be generated by Russian organs, or other inveterate enemies of Albion—by those who hate British valour—hate the invincible courage and the indomitable bravery which win the hero's laurels for the Irish peasant—such as Corporal Quin or Sergeant Sullivan; for it is against their "order" the stereotyped phrase which heads this letter is wantonly, insensately, and contemptuously directed.—

Yours, &c.,  
AN IRISHMAN IN LONDON.

Oct. 8.

**Appendix Figure C2. Historical Depictions of the Clerkenwell Prison Explosion**



**House of Detention, Clerkenwell, after the explosion.**  
Original Publication: *Illustrated London News*, December 13, 1867



**Published in *Punch*, December 28, 1867**  
Artist, Sir John Tenniel, "'Fenian Guy Fawkes' Political Cartoon," *James Joyce Digital Interpretations*, accessed August 25, 2022, <https://jamesjoyce.omeka.net/items/show/33>.