

VK D14

DEMONSTRATION SCENARIO “VERRIJKT KONINKRIJK”

Case Study Pillarization (‘Verzuiling’)

1)

Dr Loe De Jong wrote the largest share of his historical book series *Het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in de Tweede Wereldoorlog* during the 1960s and 1970s while Dutch society disposed itself from the so-called ‘verzuiling’. This typical Dutch social structure of ‘pillarization’ has often been used as a label to describe the way in which Dutch society for the largest part of the 20th century had been divided into protestant-christian, catholic, social-democrat and liberal ‘zuilen’ (pillars): relatively isolated structured systems of social organizations segregated by their ideology.

Verrijkt Koninkrijk revolves around the historical research question: **To what extent does De Jong** - as director of the State Institute for War Documentation (RIOD, currently known as NIOD) and sole author of *Koninkrijk* - **portray Dutch society as a collectivity of various groups?** In order to make possible a comparison with other relevant social groups we have included three other specific subnational communities representing essential positions in the Dutch experience of World War 2: communists, national-socialists, and Jews. This addition should contribute to our understanding of the dynamics of collective identity. The ways in which these three groups were structured may have differed somewhat – or perhaps even fundamentally – from the regular pillars, but their inclusion in the analysis may help to illuminate the contrast and cohesion between all groups, as perceived and portrayed by De Jong – who has been accused of history writing in black and white: presenting a too polarized depiction of certain positions in WW2.

We first determined where and how often De Jong explicitly uses the terms ‘zuil’ (pillar or column), ‘verzuiling’ (pillarization’ or compartmentalization) and variants thereof

- zuil* and verzuil*

Answer: This can be answered by the search.loedjongdigitaal.nl search engine

Zuil* = 21 times (sections)

[:http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=zuil*&granularity=section&order=&view=html](http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=zuil*&granularity=section&order=&view=html):

Verzuil* = 39 times:

http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=verzuil*&granularity=section&order=&view=html

A closer reading of the relevant parts of De Jong’s work showed that he prefers to refer to such groups or communities as ‘volksdeel’ (‘portion - or share – of the population’) rather than to use the term ‘zuil’. We therefore decided to map the use of this term as well as its plural form,.

- volksdeel* and volksdelen

Volksdeel* = 68 times:

http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=volksdeel*&granularity=section&order=&view=html

The plural form 'volksdelen' proved not to occur in the corpus:

<http://www.loedejongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=volksdelen&granularity=section&order=&view=html>

2)

Then the next question was how often and with which specific communities De Jong linked the terms 'volksdeel' ('portion of the population'), 'zuil(en)' ('pillar(s)') and verzuil *. The answer to this was found by enriching the concept 'Verzuiling' from the NIOD-thesaurus (which is used in the NIOD library and archives) with section references containing any of the terms mentioned in the previous question. With the aid of a SPARQL query Back of the Book (botb)-concepts related to 'pillars' occurring in the same sections, could now be found.

```
niod:Verzuiling niod:parRef ?par.
```

```
?pillarconcept niod:pageRef ?page.
```

```
?page niod:parRef ?par.
```

```
?pillar niod:pillarlink ?pillarconcept.
```

This yielded 134 results, summarized in the table below

niod:Communism	9
niod:National-Socialism	9
niod:Liberalism	10
niod:Jewry	12
niod:Sociaal-Democracy	22
niod:Protestantism	40
niod:Catholicism	58

In addition, we wanted to know which nouns and adjectives were present in the proximity of these terms. The following SPARQL query returns a table, presenting for each pillar or community the entities appearing in that section.

```
niod:Verzuiling niod:parRef ?par.
```

```
?page niod:parRef ?par.
```

```
?pillarconcept niod:pageRef ?page.
```

```
?pillar niod:pillarlink ?pillarconcept.
```

```
?entity niod:pRef ?par.
```

In addition, all named entities appearing in sections with a pillar term (niod: Verzuiling) can be

niod:entity-Nederland	35	niod:entity-Anti-Revolutionaire_Partij	8
niod:entity-Nederlandse	35	niod:entity-Breda	8
niod:entity-Zuiden	19	niod:entity-Colijn	8
niod:entity-Episcopaat	15	niod:entity-Nederlanders	8
niod:entity-KRO	13	niod:entity-Quay	8
niod:entity-Londen	13	niod:entity-Haarlem	7
niod:entity-Duitse	12	niod:entity-Jong	7
niod:entity-Avro	11	niod:entity-VPRO	7
niod:entity-Vara	11	niod:entity-Christelijke_Radio-Vereniging	6

listedthrough:

niod:Verzuiling niod:parRef ?par.

?entity niod:pRef ?par.

Dit levert 1940 entities op. Waarbij de onderstaande tabel de meest frequente (>5) laat zien:

This results in 1940 entities. The table below shows the most frequent (> 5) ones:

niod:entity-Gerbrandy	10	niod:entity-CHU	6
niod:entity-NCRV	10	niod:entity-De_Standaard	6
niod:entity-Utrecht	10	niod:entity-Drees	6
niod:entity-Vereniging_van_Arbeiders_Radio-Amateurs	10	niod:entity-Eindhoven	6
niod:entity-Amsterdam	9	niod:entity-Militair_Gezag	6
niod:entity-ARP	9	niod:entity-Nederlandse_Volksbeweging	6
niod:entity-Den_Bosch	9	niod:entity-NVV	6
niod:entity-Duitsers	9	niod:entity-Oranje	6
niod:entity-Joodse	9	niod:entity-RKSP	6
niod:entity-NSB	9	niod:entity-SDAP	6
niod:entity-Volksbeweging	9	niod:entity-Seyss-Inquart	6

3)

Furthermore, we wanted to determine where and how often De Jong uses words which can identify the separate pillars/communities. This includes not only the four traditional pillars but also to the three communities that play such an important role in this World War II history. We distinguish the seven communities as follows:

- Catholics: `kathol*/rooms-kathol*/rooms*/RK*`;

Answer: http://www.loedejongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=kathol*+OR+rooms-kathol*+OR+rooms*+OR+RK*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

1191 hits

- Protestant-Christians: `protestant*`;

Answer: http://www.loedejongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=protestant*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

423 hits

- Liberals: `libera*`;

Answer: http://www.loedejongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=libera*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

341 hits

- Socialists: `socialis*/sociaal[-]democra*`;

Answer: http://www.loedejongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=socialis*+OR+sociaal-democra*+OR+sociaaldemocra*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

1453 hits

- Jews: jood*/joden*/israeli*;

Answers:

http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=jood*+OR+joden*+OR+israeli*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

3944 hits

- National Socialists: nationaal[-]socialis*;

Answer: http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=nationaal-socialis*+OR+nationaalsocialis*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

hits: 106

- Communists: communis* [searching for marxis* is not relevant as this can also refer to socialists/social-democrats]

Answer:

http://www.loedjongdigitaal.nl/search/?q=communis*&granularity=paragraph&order=&view=html

Hits: 1053

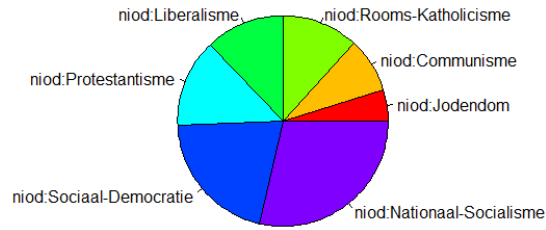
4)

We then wanted to determine where and how often De Jong mentions names selected by us of persons and bodies that we have been able to link to one of the seven researched pillars/communities (and which are therefore considered in this study as a representative of a particular pillar/community). [For every pillar/community we had selected about ten named entities of leading and influential public personalities mainly from the political and religious sphere, names of political parties, trade unions and (legal as well as underground) press media.]

Answer: using SPARQL query the following table was constructed

```
SELECT DISTINCT ?s ?page ?botb WHERE { ?s skos:inScheme niod:PillarConcepts. ?s niod:pillarlink ?botb. ?botb niod:pageRef ?page.}
```

niod:Jodendom	150
niod:Communisme	259
niod:Rooms-Katholicisme	365
niod:Liberalisme	378
niod:Protestantisme	417
niod: Sociaal-Democratie	645
niod:Nationaal-Socialisme	885



In order to be able to compare how the relationship was between the separate pillars/communities during World War II (and/or between the immediate preceding and following years) and the way this is (re)presented by De Jong some historical data are helpful.

Results of Dutch Parliamentary elections ('Tweede Kamer') - May 26, 1937

Political Party	Abbreviation.	Number of votes	%	Number of seats in parliament
Rooms-Katholieke Staatspartij	RKSP	1170431	28,84%	31
Sociaal-Democratische Arbeiderspartij	SDAP	890661	21,95%	23
Anti-Revolutionaire Partij	ARP	665501	16,40%	17
Christelijk-Historische Unie	CHU	302829	7,46%	8
Vrijzinnig Democratische Bond	VDB	239502	5,90%	6
Nationaal-Socialistische Beweging	NSB	171137	4,22%	4
Liberaal Staatspartij "de Vrijheidsbond"	LSP	160260	3,95%	4
Communistische Partij van Nederland	CPN	136026	3,35%	3
Christelijk Democratische Unie	CDU	85004	2,09%	2
Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij	SGP	78619	1,94%	2
Rev.-Socialistische Arbeiderspartij	RSAP	32846	0,81%	-
Katholiek Democratische Partij	KDP	27665	0,68%	-
Hervormde (Gereformeerde) Staatspartij	HGSP	24543	0,60%	-
Actie Bouwman	AB	21191	0,52%	-
Christelijk Nationale Actie	CNA	20487	0,50%	-
Kiesvereniging Algemeen Belang	KAB	9038	0,22%	-
Nederlands Volksfascisme "Zwart Front"	ZF	8178	0,20%	-
Ned. Boeren-, Tuinders- en Middenst.part.	NBTMP	6891	0,17%	-
Verbond voor Nationaal Herstel	VNH	6270	0,15%	-
Nat.-Soc. Ned. Arbeiderspartij	NSNAP	998	0,02%	-

Source: <http://www.nlverkiezingen.com/TK1937.html>

Ratios in percentage of the various pillars/communities, based on the election results of Dutch parliament in 1937 (last Dutch pre-war elections)

Source: <http://www.nlverkiezingen.com/TK1937.html>

Catholics (RKSP)	28,84%
Protestant-Christians (ARP, CHU, CDU, SGP)	27,89%
Socialists (SDAP)	21,95%
Liberals (VDB, LSP)	9,85%
National-Socialists (NSB)	4,22%
Communists (CPN)	3,35%
<i>Jewry (unidentifiable here)</i>	--

Relationships columns / communities based on census denomination in 1930 (last pre-war census)

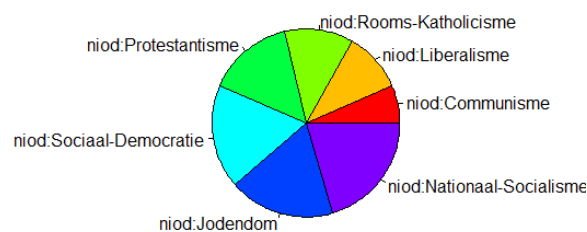
[SOURCE: <http://statline.cbs.nl/StatWeb/publication/?VW=T&DM=SLNL&PA=71124ned&D1=a&D2=a&D3=a&D4=0-11&HD=130327-2154&HDR=T,G3&STB=G1,G2>]

Protestantisme (Nederduitsch Hervormd, Waalsch Hervormd, Remonstrant, Christelijk Gereformeerd, Doopsgezind, Evangelisch Luthersch, Hersteld Evangelisch Luthersch, Behorend tot de gereformeerde kerken)	3.609.291
Rooms-Katholicisme	2.890.022
Jodendom (Nederlandsch Israëliet, Portugeesch Israëliet)	111.917
<i>Sociaal-Democratie (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>Liberalisme (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>Nationaal-Socialisme (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>Communisme (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
Total Dutch population	7.935.565

Protestant-Christians	45,5%
Catholicis	36,4%
Jews	0.01%
<i>Socialists (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>Liberals (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>National-Socialists (unidentifiable here)</i>	--
<i>Communists (unidentifiable here)</i>	--

5)

The combined search for the named entities and pillar indicator terms results in new named entities which manually have to be checked in order to establish whether they belong to the same pillar/community or if they belong to another pillar/community or do not clearly belong to any of the pillars/communities. We have done this using back-of-the-book index terms instead of named entities. With this extensive list other numbers come forward, resulting in the following pie chart.



6)

Next we wanted to determine where and how often pillar/community indicator terms and representatives of a certain pillar/community appear in seclusion or in the proximity of pillar/community indicator terms and representatives of other pillars/communities. This provides an indication of the degree of internal focus, respectively cross-pillar/external focus described by De Jong.

Answer: can be read in the following analysis. Similar analyzes using the semantic layer are possible as well.

This is done with the following query:

```
PREFIX dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>
PREFIX niod: <http://purl.org/collections/nl/niod/>
PREFIX skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
PREFIX dbp-prop: <http://nl.dbpedia.org/property/>
PREFIX dbp-res: <http://nl.dbpedia.org/resource/>
SELECT DISTINCT *
WHERE {
  ?s1 skos:inScheme niod:PillarConcepts.
  ?s1 niod:pillarlink ?botb1.
  ?botb1 niod:pageRef ?page1.
  ?page1 niod:parRef ?par.
  ?s2 skos:inScheme niod:PillarConcepts.
  ?s2 niod:pillarlink ?botb2.
  ?botb2 niod:pageRef ?page2.
  ?page2 niod:parRef ?par.
```



```

    FILTER (?botb1 != ?botb2).
}

```

This gives all occurrences of two *different* terms associated with a pillar and appearing on a page that has a common section.

This yields the following results

	Communism	Jewry	Liberalism	National-Socialism	Protestantism	Catholicism	Social-Democracy
Communism	644	168	54	132	204	158	350
Jewry	168	2254	107	491	377	205	273
Liberalism	54	107	628	140	796	584	418
National-Socialism	132	491	140	2692	449	309	577
Protestantism	204	377	796	449	1970	1261	804
Catholicism	158	205	584	309	1261	984	430
Social-Democracy	350	273	418	577	804	430	820
Total	1710	3875	2727	4790	5861	3931	3672

On the diagonal we find the occurrences of *different* terms associated with the *same* pillar/community in the *same* section. In the other cells we find for two pillars/communities the occurrences of associated terms in the same section. We can also see much more protestant than communist terms occur.

Normalized (i.e., values in cell divided by the total) and rounded results are shown in the table below:

	Communism	Jewry	Liberalism	National-Socialism	Protestantism	Catholicism	Social-Democracy
Communism	0.38	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.10
Jewry	0.10	0.58	0.04	0.10	0.06	0.05	0.07
Liberalism	0.03	0.03	0.23	0.03	0.14	0.15	0.11
National-Socialism	0.08	0.13	0.05	0.56	0.08	0.08	0.16
Protestantism	0.12	0.10	0.29	0.09	0.34	0.32	0.22
Catholicism	0.09	0.05	0.21	0.06	0.22	0.25	0.12
Social-Democracy	0.20	0.07	0.15	0.12	0.14	0.11	0.22

The results indicate among others, that in the case of National Socialism often various terms referring to this specific community occur in proximity of each other (0.56). This also applies to Jewry (0.58). However, in the case of Social Democracy this occurs much less (0:22). Looking at combinations of terms referring to different pillars/communities, it becomes clear that Communist terms occur most often in the proximity of Social-Democratic terms while they occur the least in the proximity of Liberal terms.

The table below shows for two different pillars/communities the number of terms that match each other:

pillar/community 1	pillar/community 2	Match
Liberalism	Protestantism	0.29
Protestantism	Catholicism	0.22
Liberalism	Catholicism	0.21
Communism	Social-Democracy	0.20
Liberalism	Social-Democracy	0.15
Protestantism	Social-Democracy	0.14
Jewry	National-Socialism	0.13
National-Socialism	Social-Democracy	0.12
Communism	Protestantism	0.12
Catholicism	Social-Democracy	0.11
Communism	Jewry	0.10
Jewry	Protestantism	0.10
National-Socialism	Protestantism	0.09
Communism	Catholicism	0.09
Communism	National-Socialism	0.08
Jewry	Social-Democracy	0.07
National-Socialism	Catholicism	0.06
Jewry	Catholicism	0.05
Liberalism	National-Socialism	0.05
Communism	Liberalism	0.03
Jewry	Liberalism	0.03

The table shows that Liberal terms and Protestant co-occur most often. Jewish and Liberal terms co-occur the least.

7)

Finally, we aimed to determine which adjectives are located in the proximity of names of individuals and institutions related to specific pillars/communities in order to determine to what extent these adjectives can be interpreted as positive or negative. The idea behind this was to determine, through Dutch sentiment mining, to what extent the work of De Jong expressed a specific judgment about the various pillars/communities. Unfortunately we had to abandon because the list of adjectives was not available.

8)

The interpretation of the findings shows that De Jong as the author of *Het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in de Tweede Wereldoorlog* was conscious of the fact that Dutch society, during the historical period described by him, was composed of several communities. The finding that De Jong, as a simple query indicates, hardly used the term pillar - nor the overall concept of pillarization - in his description and analysis of the WWII history, confirms the departure points of this project . It points out that De Jong was not a strong supporter of the use of this concept with which vertical segments of society (from the "common people" to the elite) were distinguished. De Jong's preference for the term 'volksdeel' [see p .1] , which can be observed by searching through the corpus, indicates that parts of society in his point of view, could indeed be distinguished from each other but not by strict vertical lines.

This seems to be a strong indication that De Jong considered pillarization too rigid a concept. A possible reason for this is the fact that while one pillar was based on religion, another pillar was founded on political ideology. This resulted in overlap and complexity , which was reinforced by the fact that people could move from one political movement to another or, less common but not impossible, from one denomination to another.

The approach of pillarization chosen here uses above all a quantitative perspective. The starting point was to relate the representation of these groups in the work of De Jong to the number of people in a pillar. This turns out to be rather complex for several reasons. The exact size of a community at a given moment cannot be determined with certainty but can only be inferred based on a combination of election results (reflecting the political affinity of adults) and censuses (which show the total size of society view and classification by denomination). Both data types have been collected separately at different times and are not available for the period of the German occupation but only for adjacent periods.

The seven communities distinguished in this project are all represented in the work of De Jong . The aim of the author was to show the developments in the Dutch history as it took shape under the influence of the German military presence. This presence changed the Dutch relations , both quantitatively (e.g. the increase in the NSB membership and the killing of Jews) and qualitatively (e.g. prominence of national socialists within the political spectrum and the significant role of communists in the resistance). The quantitative and qualitative aspects cannot be separated from each other, but in the historical representation by De Jong the latter aspect weighed the most. This calls for careful treatment of the data as the results regarding the pillar indicator terms from the search machine (which can be considered of quantitative nature) are intended to be used for drawing qualitative conclusions about the respective share of the different communities in the occupation history, and the representation of this by De Jong.

As a consequence, it is currently not possible on the basis of the now disclosed corpus to make a final judgment on the various communities in De Jong's war history. It is however clear that communities based on political principles are – as can be deduced from the data made available in this project – more strongly represented in his work than communities based on religion. Furthermore, it is striking that, after National Socialism (the dominant wartime community), Social

Democracy is the second most represented community in De Jong's work, despite the fact that it was not the largest pillar before the war [see p.7], nor was it the most severely affected community during wartime. Moreover, the question arises to what extent De Jong considered the link of an individual with a specific pillar/community of importance and actually stated such a link. This calls for further research on an individual level.

An important point concerns the quality of the OCR, which does not reach a coverage of 100% (as has been observed in the course of this project). Determining the precise degree of OCR quality was however outside the scope of this study. It is also clear that, for example, a search for an important representative of the NSB, such as A.A. Mussert, does not lead to certain entries for this person because the OCR sometimes misreads the name as Miissert or another variant. It is important that a researcher using the corpus of Verrijkt Koninkrijk, is aware of this shortcoming. Some caution is therefore needed, also in regard to conclusions that can be based on the search results as there is a significant risk of incompleteness. When searching for common named entities this problem can be partly overcome, because the search engine also uses the terms from the back of the book index of *Het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in de Tweede Wereldoorlog*.

Another problem that can be found by the user of Verrijkt Koninkrijk is the possible ambivalence of terms. Apart from the quality of OCR, misunderstandings can be caused due to misinterpretations. A geographical named entity like Batavia can be found both in the (former) Dutch East Indies and in the United States. In the work of De Jong this will generally refer to the former but this can only be checked manually. A similar case occurs when personal named entities match geographical named entities. But because of practical considerations, during the Verrijkt Koninkrijk project, we have opted for automatized processing.

These observations argue for a closer future involvement of the users of the corpus Verrijkt Koninkrijk in order to improve the observed shortcomings. Historians, and other users of the corpus, can be asked to report perceived OCR errors and incorrectly interpreted named entities as well as providing the correct interpretation. The disclosure of the voluminous work of De Jong realized in this project, although with some restrictions, is an important step in increasing the accessibility of (the historiography of) the Dutch WWII history. Nevertheless, it requires help from its users. The availability through a website could contribute to mobilize a committed community to further continue this work.