

# Causal clauses with *fordi* ‘because’ in (formal) spoken Danish

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This article investigates the form and function of *fordi* ‘because’ clauses in formal spoken Danish. The corpus consists of the minutes and video recordings of five debates in the Danish Parliament. It is shown that verb-second (V2) order is much more frequent than verb-third (V3) – indicating that V2 is not only a feature of colloquial spoken language – and that *fordi* can introduce interrogative clauses (as in *fordi hvad handler det om i skrøbelige stater?* ‘because what is it all about in vulnerable states?’). In addition, it is discussed to what extent the choice between V2 and V3 is predicted by the meaning of the *fordi* ‘because’ clause.

**KEYWORDS:** word order, subordination, Germanic; V2, embedded root phenomena