



SPSS Tip 11.1 Troubleshooting *PROCESS* ■■■■

Knowing the following about *PROCESS* might help to prevent weird stuff happening:

- If the variable names entered into *PROCESS* are longer than 8 characters, it blows up. Therefore, make sure your variable names are 8 characters or fewer, or select for *PROCESS* to truncate them by clicking [Long names](#) (Figure 11.6). Be careful, though, because if you have variables with similar long names *PROCESS* will get confused. For example, if you had two variables in the data editor called **NumberOfNephariousActs** and **NumberOfBlackSabbathAlbumsOwned** they would both be shortened to **numberof** (or possibly **number-1** and **number-2**). *PROCESS* will get confused about which variable is which. If your output looks weird, then check your variable names.
- Don't call any of your variables **xxx** (I'm not sure why you would) because that is a reserved variable name in *PROCESS*, so naming a variable **xxx** will confuse it.
- *PROCESS* is also confused by string variables, so only enter numeric variables.