

were carried. With a data management program we are able to save up new data sets and to open up new ways of analysis.

The sample we selected is a subset of the so-called Standard Cross-Cultural Sample or SCCS for short, a world-wide sample of cultures.

Standard Cross-Cultural Sample (SCCS)
George P. Murdock & Douglas R. White

Regional differences in the project group has six members, one member for each of these domains. The six domains contribute in rather different ways to the explanation of war. In this research in the six domains is not equally advanced. Thus the members of the research group had to face rather different tasks. This situation will be reflected in the following series of papers. Each paper will address the problems specific to these domains.

It might be appropriate to point to the fact that this research is a type of secondary analysis. And this means that hypothesis construction and variable selection are carried out by the availability of data. That is, there have been some hypotheses and variables that are of interest to us in this research, but since there is no data in the original reports they had to be dropped. There are obvious interactions between variables of different domains and we expect to the dependent variables. The domain partition has been made in order to test the hypothesis since most of the domains are explained by reasons of anthropology, but in the final analysis of the data, the boundaries of the domains are irrelevant. The explanation of war and peace certainly is of a multidimensional nature that is not limited to one domain. It could be that there are cross-domain interactions between variables, but because the existing theories are rather generally distributed among the six domains, the full needed multidimensional test is not possible. The data has been reorganized.

Our project started work in 1985. The hypothesis development has been completed in 1987, and our project has now entered a coding phase. In the development and data analysis phase we want the whole research project to be carried out. The central task in this phase is to test the hypothesis. It was guided by the hypothesis that certain variables have a significant effect on our dependent variable, i.e. war. It is possible to test this hypothesis by using the existing SCCS codes published in the *Journal of World Cultures*. The data is not printed on paper but is stored on diskettes. This allows us to transfer the coded data by pushing a few buttons on the keyboard of a personal computer. The program we used is SYSTAT or SPSS. The investigations have shown the explanation of war has to be multidimensional.

