

Dependent variable

I think the fraternal interest group-hypothesis presupposed that at least one of the groups opposed in war is a fraternal interest group and not a group of a different composition. The existing war variables all do specify diverse types of warring groups but not fraternal interest groups, so a new special dependent variable had to be defined.

Results

From all this followed with regard to our further treatment of the hypothesis and its components:

1. *Independent variable*

- Our attempt to define fraternal interest groups operationally is closely related to the approach of Paige and Paige (1981). However some revisions had to be made. One of their defining elements – explicit decision making of those groups about waging war – had to be omitted in order to fit in as an independent variable into the context of the hypothesis under consideration.
- Moreover it is possible to refine Paige and Paige's composite variable by rendering the single variables (brideprice, patrilineality, size of political subunit) more precise.
- Since residential proximity potentially is a group-building factor, it has to be considered as well. For that reason a variable is included in our codebook, concerning the regional dispersion or proximity of such a specified group.

2. *Control variables*

- The applicability of the hypothesis is restricted to societies without a central political authority resp. societies, where there is no 'effective' political authority, i. e. an authority, which is able and disposed to prevent the groups from engaging in violent conflict management.
- Societies with complex social stratification should preliminarily be excluded from the asserted validity of the hypothesis.

3. *Dependent variable*

- Finally a dependent variable was constructed suitable to the fraternal interest group-hypothesis. It is called "Frequency of violent conflict management between groups, among which there is at least one fraternal interest group or a part of it".

References

- Boehm, C. 1984: Blood Revenge. The Anthropology of Feuding in Montenegro and Other Tribal Societies. Kansas: University Press of Kansas.
- Hanser, P. 1985: Krieg und Recht. Wesen und Ursachen kollektiver Gewaltanwendung in den Stammesgesellschaften Neuguineas. Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag.