

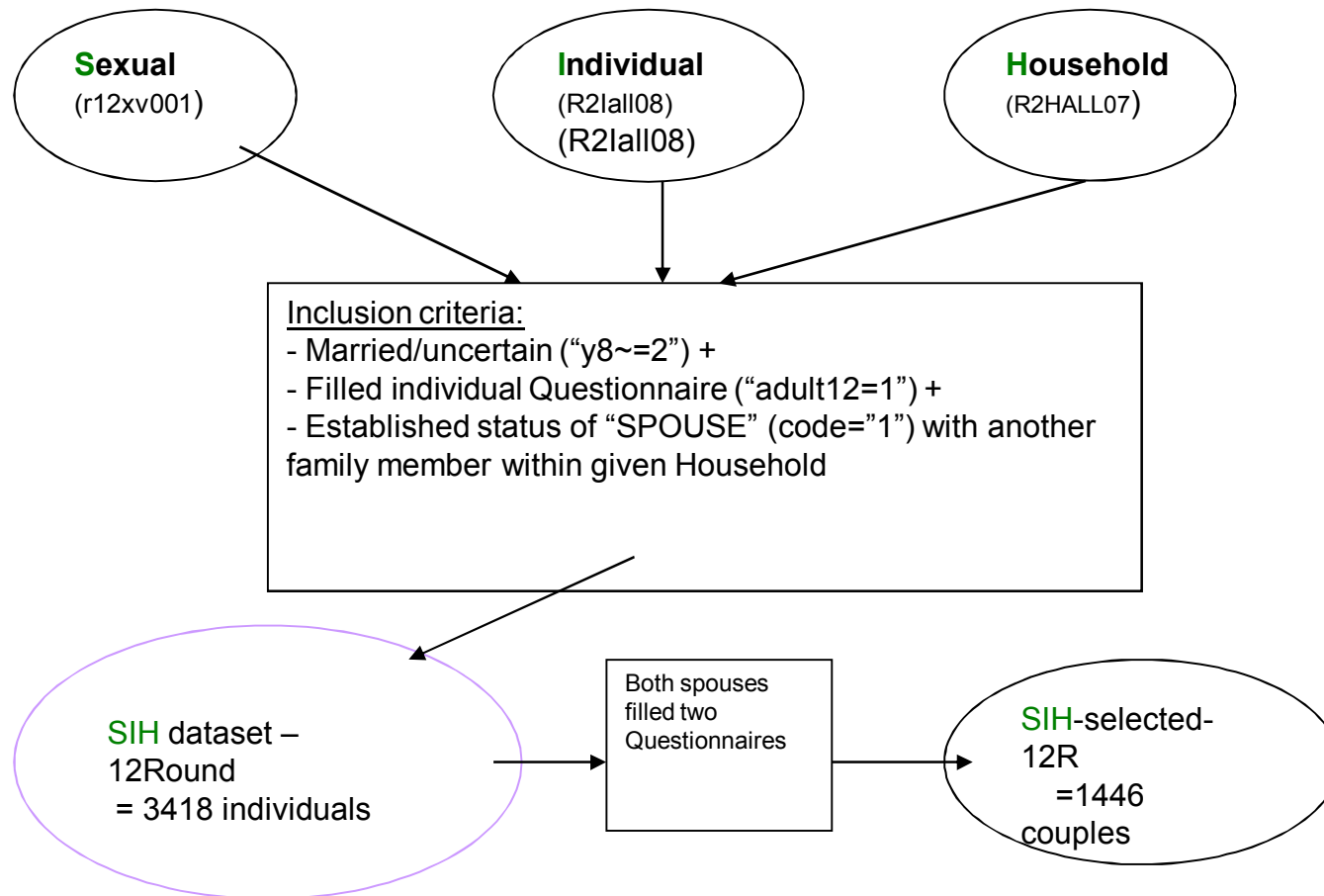



Well-Being of a Couple: are cross-cultural differences involved in a putative pathway?

Proposal on analysis with RLMS and ? data

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Working database (as an example, RLMS-2003)

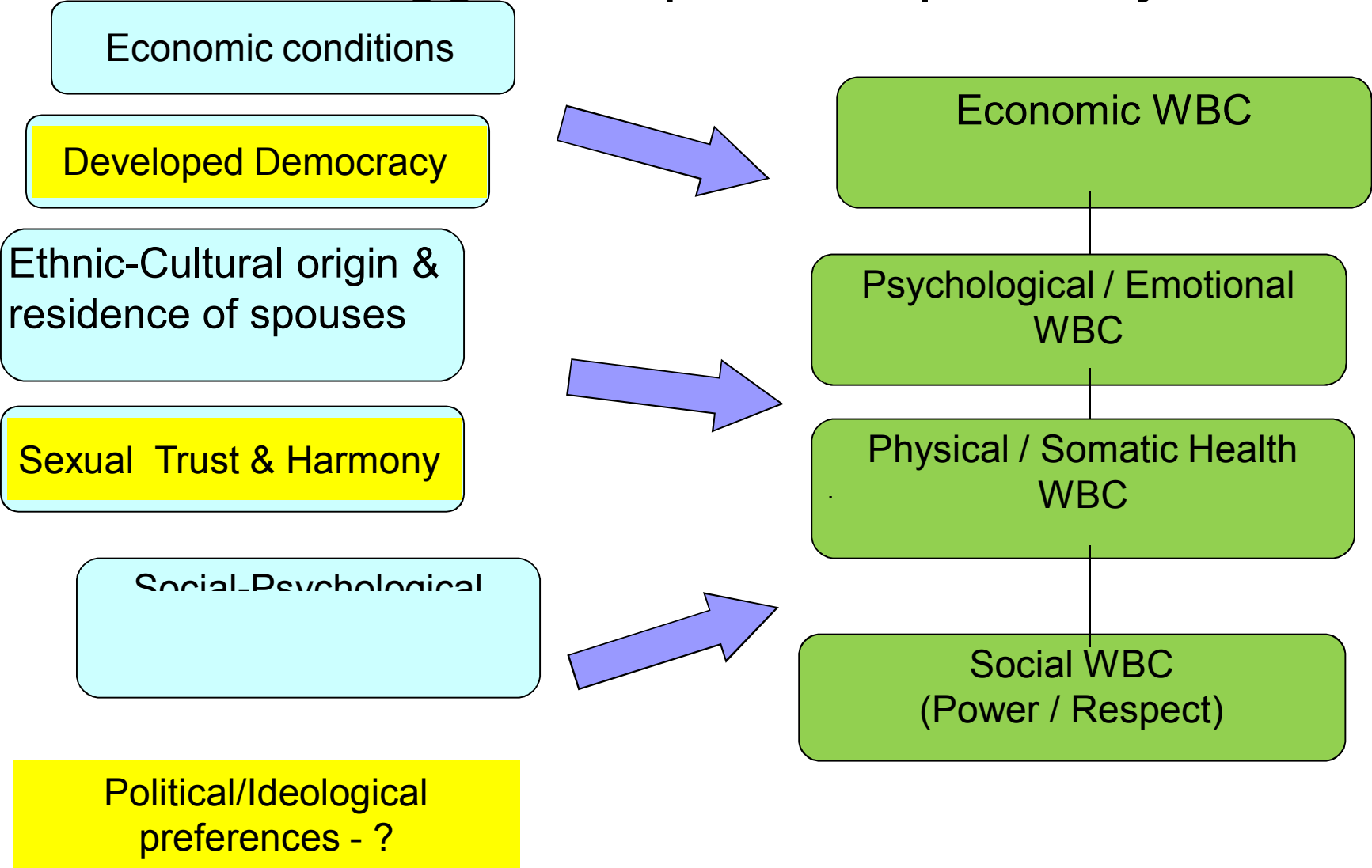




How the Ethnic-Cultural component is involved in the relationship between Spousal Relations (in addition to social-economic factors) and the Well-Being of a Couple in different subdimensions?

“it doesn't matter HOW (financial conditions) to live, what is important for WHAT (meaning of life) and with WHOM (interpersonal relations)”

Suggested putative pathway





Outcome variable

- 1) Economic WBC = EWBC

QQ on economic hardship (e.g., _j60.4A, _j60.5A, _j66, _66.1), satisfaction with payment/salary, necessity in additional job(-s),

- 2) Psychological/Emotional WBC = PWBC

Psychological main scale - 17 sentences (from _j117.01 till _j117.17), which can be combined - 'overall index of psychological WB'.

- 3) Physical/Somatic Health WBC = HWBC

Combination of several variables of self-rated health

- 4) Social WBC (Public Recognition) = SWBC

Combination of definite QQ re. nine-steps at the ladders
- Richness, Power, Respect (_J:62, 63, 64)



Ind.var – “Ethnic-Cultural origin & residence of spouses”

- *Macro-level approach :*
 - 1) ethnic regions with Muslim majority
(*e.g. Tatarstan Republic*)
 - 2) ethnic regions with Orthodox religion
(*Chuvashia, Osetia, ethnic parts of Siberia*);
 - 3) the rest - general Russia.



Ind.var – “Ethnic-Cultural origin & residence of spouses”

- *micro-level* approach:
 1. “Strict ethnic” person – *Tatar or Chuvach born in “their” Republics and live by the time of survey;*
 2. “Mixed ethnic identity”: *i) Dagestani (Muslim) or ii) Ossetian (Orthodox) born in Tula, and still live there or moved to Yaroslav, however he/she knows native language since childhood; + iii) Russians born in Muslim ethnic regions and still live there;*
 3. “General Russian identity” - *all other Russians plus persons with ‘hidden/latent’ ethnic identities (what about Jew? Soviet Germans?)*

Combinations of three categories brings us three concordant pairs and three disconcordant pairs of ethnic identities.



Framework for Main Hypothesis:

- **Combined overall evaluation of Well-Being on the couple level depends on ethnic-cultural socialization of spouses, current economic conditions and psychological climate within a couple.**

- *Notes:*

1. *Factor itself is neither sufficient nor necessary, and it requires different combinations of various factors.*
2. *Some combinations can result in the same level of Well-Being on a couple level.*



Working hypotheses

- H1. Both spouses' optimism in WB evaluation is defined by
 - i) their similarity in traditional ethnic-cultural origin and residence,
and/or
 - ii) psychologically comfortable 'climate' in a family.
- H-alternative1. However, based on this suggestion it would be possible to state, that all unions of persons with the same ethnicity are happier than mixed ones in Economic Well-Being, therefore, it can be different for one or all four WBs designed in this data-analysis.

- H2. WB of a couple is defined primarily by the current economic living conditions regardless on the extent of concordance in ethnic-cultural background.
- H alternative2. However, for some couples living in poor conditions there is not any relationship between high level of salary & household assets and their Emotional (or Existential) WB, for example. Moreover, high living standards can not be guarantee of the spousal compliance on positive evaluation of WB.



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