Operationalization and Conceptualization
Homework 2

SOC 201 - Research Methods

March 5, 2018

Directions

Choose three concepts either from the list below or of your own choosing. Conceptualize each concept in two different ways. Then operationalize each conceptualization in two different ways and identify an appropriate measure for each operationalization. For each measure, identify what level of measurement is involved. In total, you should have 3 constructs, 6 different concepts (2 for each construct), and 12 different operationalizations (and 12 ways of measuring the operationalized term, one for each operationalization). Note: You must be as specific as possible when it comes to choosing a measure. For example, if a measure for one of your operationalized concepts involves a monetary amount, you must specify what type of currency and the year of the currency (for example, annual income in 2016 US dollars).

List of Suggested Concepts

- Racism
- Religiosity
- Intelligence
- Career satisfaction
- Student success in school
- Aggression
- War

Example 1

- **Construct:** Poverty
- **Conceptualization:** 1) Absolute poverty 2) Relative poverty
- **Operationalization:**
  - Absolute poverty
    - Income in 2016 US dollars (**measure:** annual income in 2016 US dollars - ratio level of measurement)
    - Below or above poverty threshold (**measure:** above or below US poverty threshold in 2016 US dollars - binary level of measurement)
  - Relative poverty
    - Gini coefficient (**measure:** b/w 0 and 100 as a % - interval level of measurement)
    - Poverty gap index (**measure:** b/w 0 and 100 as a % - interval level of measurement)

Example 2

- **Construct:** Health
- **Conceptualization:** 1) Lifestyle Choices 2) Physical Indicators
- **Operationalization:**
  - Lifestyle Choices
    - Routine exercise (**measure**: Number of times per week of exercise. -ratio level of measurement)
    - Healthy diet (**measure**: Amount of daily added sugars in a diet -ratio level of measurement)
  - Physical Indicators
    - Weight (**measure:** weight in pounds % - ratio level of measurement)
    - Obesity based on Body Mass Index threshold (**measure:** Above 25 BMI is obese below 25 is not - binary level of measurement)