

Figure 1.1 Using the Method of Agreement

Countries 1 through 4 all went to war, and by comparing them against each other, you will note that they “agree” on only one attribute: ethnic diversity. The country that did not “agree” on this characteristic also did not go to war. The method of agreement finds the thing that all countries have in common—and in this example leads to the conclusion that ethnic diversity is a cause of civil war.

