

WHEN $N = \text{POPULATION}$

QUESTION: Why bother using statistics to study civil wars when our "sample" is all civil wars?

Because of fundamental uncertainty. We might have all observed civil wars but we don't have observations for civil wars that did not happen.

"When a theory pertains to the process through which some sequence of events came about, the set of possible events, in addition to actual ones, is relevant"

Chris Albon

-Gailmard 2014