

# **Themes and Counter-themes**

# *Morris Opler*

## Cultural theme:

A postulate or position, declared or implied, usually controlling behavior or stimulating activity, which is tacitly approved or openly promoted in a society.

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# CULTURAL THEMES: Morris Opler

## **1. LEVELS:**

- Components
- Assemblages
- Themes
- Culture

## **2. THEMES ---- counter-themes**

## **3. LIMITED NUMBER OF THEMES**

## **4. OPEN ENDED +**

## **5. DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO EASY COMPARISONS**

# MORRIS OPLER - WORLDVIEW THEMES

DOMINANT THEME  $\longleftrightarrow$  COUNTER THEME

U.S.:

Freedom  $\leftarrow \text{-----} \rightarrow$  Order

C. I. C.:

Equality  $\leftarrow \text{-----} \rightarrow$  Hierarchy

# Worldview Themes and Cultural Analysis

**HIERARCHY**

*Great Britain*  
*United States*

*Germany*

**FREEDOM**

**ORDER**

*Scandinavia*  
*North France*

*Russia*

**EQUALITY**

