

## **0. Introduction**

### **0.1. Background of the study**

The data of this handbook are part of the longitudinal study "Individual Development and Social Structure" (IDSS), that was taken up in 1976 (Edelstein, Keller & Schröder, 1990).

The aim of the study was to analyze the developmental trajectories of Icelandic children in cognition (Schröder 1989) and social cognition (Keller & Edelstein, 1991; Keller & Edelstein, 1993) and to investigate personality dimensions and ego resources (Hofmann, 1991) against the background of socialstructural constraints in a society undergoing an accelerated modernization process (Björnsson, Edelstein & Kreppner, 1977).

Figure A specifies the hypothetical relationships between the psychological and the sociological dimensions.

**Figure A Hypothetical model of developmental relationships**

