

## HEAT CAN MEAN HOT UNDER THE COLLAR



AUGUST 09, 2013 4:30 AM • BY [DEIRDRE BAKER](#)

A large new study says that as the world gets warmer, people are more prone to get hot under the collar. Scientists found that aggressive acts — such as violent crimes and wars — become more likely with each added degree of temperature.

The research analyzed 60 studies of: the historic collapses of empires, recent wars and violent crime rates in the United States. Included were even cases in which baseball pitchers deliberately threw at batters. They found a common thread: Extreme weather —

hot or dry — means more violence.

An author of the study, economist Solomon Hsiang of the University of California-Berkeley, said that when the weather gets bad, people tend to be more willing to hurt others. It was published online by the journal *Science*.

— *The Associated Press*