### Church books(*)

One begins one's Swedish research with the church books. The ministers maintained the church books in order to record what happened in the parish and who lived in the parish. The birth, marriage and death books are arranged in chronological order noting when someone was born, married or died. The household examination books show everyone in the household, where they lived in the parish, moving information and much more. The primary books (household/congregation, moving, birth, marriage and death) are available.

Around 1695, there were some changes regarding the information recorded in the church books. At this time the name for these records was changed from household records (husförhörslängder) to parish books (församlingsböcker) but most of the information remained the same. There is a privacy law in Sweden that limits the availability of records younger than 70 years online. But that does not mean that all records older than 70 years are online. If a volume has some records that are protected by the privacy law, we cannot publish it. As a complement, we are photographing the SCB extracts for birth, marriage and death records for the years 1925-1945.

### Estate Inventories

Information in the church books provides the foundation for one's family research. In these records one can see where one was born, who he or she married, where they lived and the children's names. Who were they actually? One wants to learn more about them.

The estate inventories are the next step one takes after the church books. Legislation was enacted in 1734 requiring that an estate inventory be performed upon one's death. Some were created before this date. Not all estate inventories have been preserved and often what was preserved is a transcription.

In the preamble (ingressen) of the estate inventory, one finds information about the deceased and heirs. Then follows the deceased's inventory of his assets and debts.

### Other

Other **Tax registers** are a great replacement for missing church books. These were updated yearly and even though they are not as detailed as the household records, you can follow families farm by farm in these records. The **tax register 1941 (Mantalslängder 1941)** is a good replacement when records are missing because of privacy laws.

Tax registers include everything from murder to purchase of farms. Legislation was enacted in 1734 requiring that an estate inventory be performed upon one's death. Some were created before this date. Not all estate inventories have been preserved and often what was preserved is a transcription.

The court books include everything from murder to purchase of farms to the assignment of guardians for minors. There is a privacy law in Sweden that limits the availability of records younger than 70 years online. But that does not mean that all records older than 70 years are online. If a volume has some records that are protected by the privacy law, we cannot publish it. As a complement, we are photographing the SCB extracts for birth, marriage and death records for the years 1925-1945.

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