

# Review of: "Contentious Biometric Voters Registration and Democratic Politics under COVID-19: The Myth of 'Social Distance' in an African State?"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

I am happy and with gratitude to review this manuscript which could help readers and policy maker to understand this particular problem. But it was bit years back (2020).

**General comment 1:** the document doesn't have line number, and this may create difficulty for reviewer to state clearly where the documents need improvement. But I will try to be accurate in showing areas of comments.

**Title:** Contentious Biometric Voters Registration and Democratic Politics under COVID-19: The Myth of 'Social Distance' in an African State?

**Comment 2:** the title was important but the word "contentious" was not popular and not easy to know for many readers. I suggest to replace it with "controversial". The word "in an African state doesn't clearly show which state it was. Hence it was better to write "in Ghana".

## Abstract

**Comment 3:** You have tried to summarize the document with few possible words. But your abstract have to show the gap in knowledge from previous reports or evidences.

**Comment 4:** how you have conducted your study (methodology) should be summarized as well. The word "fair" has repetition.

## Introduction

**Comment 5:** what you wrote in introduction parts should not be inconsistent with what you already write in abstract. Example; 1 meter social distance in abstract and 1.5 meter in introduction. You have to keep consistency of your writing

## The Politics of the New Biometric Voter Registration Exercise: Mapping the Democratic Right to Vote versus the Protection of Life

**Comment 6:** you have tired to show very important controversial problem 'election versus protection of life'. This is very important area and worth investigating. But you have to be careful about which information to report as well as about consistency in citing references. For example you have used individual ideas as sources of evidences (university lecturer), you have cited your evidences in different forms; example Author year (Elena 2020), author date (Ghanaweb, March 16),

author, data year (University world news 11 june 2020). But you have to keep consistency in referencing your evidence. Even for some references you have used superscript for others Harvard style.

## **Gauging the Implications of the Voters Registration on the Containment of the COVID-19**

### **Pandemic**

**Comment 7:** You have showed the implication of voters registration during COVID-19 pandemic in terms of increment in numbers of cases and deaths of this pandemic. But at the same time cases and deaths from this illness have increased in other parts of the world including African countries you have mentioned. Therefore you better compare the situation in other countries where election took place during COVID-19 pandemic and compare with Ghana.

### **Conclusion**

**Comment 8:** you have concluded about effects of voters registration on rising cases and deaths of COVID -19. But you must be careful about full conclusion of this issue. Because, irrespective of registering population for election COVID-19 cases and deaths have increased in almost all parts of the world during that time. Hence it was not clear whether voter registry or others condition increased numbers of cases and deaths from this illness was unclear.

Thank you very much!!