

# Review of: "Government Communication and Behavioral Change amidst COVID-19: Role of Awareness and Fear & Panic"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your invitation to review the manuscript entitled "*Government Communication and Behavioral Change amidst COVID-19: Role of Awareness and Fear & Panic*" submitted to Qeios. The study topic is relevant and pertains to the assessment of assess the effect of government communication on the behavioral change of citizens during COVID-19 pandemic, and the mediating role of awareness in this relationship.

Although there is much strength in the manuscript, some modifications are needed. The abstract needs some interpretations for comprehension. Language editing is suggested throughout the manuscript. The study rationale needs to be sharpened. The framed hypotheses should use futuristic statements.

The results are presented well. I suggest putting the results as per the study objectives in an orderly fashion for readability. The reporting of statistical values should follow a standard pattern.

The discussion also needs modifications. The discussion should generally be started by stating the study objectives followed by the major findings obtained. Then they are interpreted in light of extant theoretical and empirical findings. Novel findings should be highlighted. Interpretations of the results need improvements. For example, the authors should engage more space for interpreting the results in place of presenting them again and again. Thus, the discussion of the study may be modified to add more interpretations. Some suggestions for future directions and implications for prevention and policy may be added at the end of the discussion.

In essence, the study topic, its design, methods, write-up, and presentations are well presented. The study findings may extend significant contributions to the field of knowledge. As it stands, the manuscript requires some modifications before it is accepted.

I wish good luck to the authors in their current and future endeavors.

With best regards,

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