

Review of: "Maths Fear Reasons and Steps to Reduce"

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This article tackles a very interesting subject that really deserves to be considered.

For the moment, the article lacks a clear positioning: what is the purpose of the article? Is it to present an experiment? A theoretical framework for tackling math anxiety, as announced at one point? A review of the state of the art on the subject?

This lack of positioning is reflected in the structure of the article.

As far as research is concerned, it seems to me that any assertion should either be a hypothesis, be supported by research, or be a result.

From this perspective of taking nothing for granted, it seems to me that the assertions in the opening paragraphs should be backed up:

"The effects of anxiety, and of arithmetic anxiety, can linger throughout a child's development and education."

"Because of mathematics' central role in our daily lives".

Even if it is reasonable to think they are true, references would be necessary for me.

Id

"many students regard mathematics as difficult to understand and learn."

For me, "Many" doesn't mean anything, you'd need data.

"Mathematics is abstract for children": why? Mathematics is abstract by nature.

"Many students regard mathematics poorly": how many? What percentage of the population?

"As a result, mathematical achievement is low" in general? For all countries? It seems to me that this statement should also be clarified.

"As a result, research on math anxiety has seen widespread application in the quest to improve students' performance in mathematics" - is this statement true? On what is it based?

"Many studies have found..." is often a catchphrase... how many? Has there been a literature review on the subject?

"Maths is notoriously challenging compared to other subjects." Again, in the context of research, I think it's important to go beyond impressions.

In the whole introduction, it seems to me that the context would be enlightening. Is anxiety about maths the same in all countries? Is the author aiming for this level of generality, or are we talking about Saudi Arabia?

Moreover, we go from anxiety to phobia without explanation. Is it the same for the authors?

The authors claim to be building a new conceptual framework for analyzing mathematical anxiety, but it doesn't seem to me that this is the case in the article as it stands.

The part concerning the analysis of the phenomenon lacks explanation. Table 1 arrives unannounced and unanalyzed. What is the population? How do the authors analyze it?

Nor do we know where the proposals/advice to remedy math anxiety come from?

The structure of the article needs to be reworked. It lacks a guiding thread and transitions between sections...

I encourage the authors to propose a Version 2 with a clear choice of positioning with regard to the article's object, to deepen the analyses of the literature, and to adopt a writing style more in line with research standards.