

Review of: "How Social Infrastructure Saves Lives: A Quantitative Analysis of Japan's 3/11 Disasters"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper centers on a timely topic and deserves exploration to enrich the scholarly discussion on infrastructure building/investments and disaster risk reduction in the age of climate disasters. It provides a comprehensive understanding of social infrastructure's role in community resilience building tackling precarity and further makes applicable policy recommendations.

There is one perspective I would like to address. The author mentioned the information technology sector is one of the 16 critical sectors as critical infrastructure, according to the U.S. government definition (pg.2). However, based on Table 1, the categorisation of infrastructure types does not include the information technology sector. As we all live in a digital era in the face of climate disasters, how about the digital social infrastructure impacting disaster management? For instance, social media groups and networks have played a critical role in disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, according to current studies, especially those centring on disaster social media. Moreover, the interaction between social (physical) infrastructure and digital solutions/infrastructure would be interesting for further exploration, given that we are entering a post-pandemic era. In addition, scholars and practitioners increasingly point out that digital solutions are essential for building age-friendly communities and cities for the elderly, the vulnerable population that this research focuses on. Perhaps the author can provide more insights into this perspective in the future research.

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