

Review of: "Caution Signages and Their Relevance in Commuter Safety in High-Density Construction and Traffic Areas of Two Smart Cities in Odisha: A Cross-Sectional Study to Ensure Eco-Mobility"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for your contribution to this complex issue on the inter-relationship between signage, knowledge and road safety outcomes. Your background research has been extensive and valuable to demonstrate there is a defining correlation.

To enhance the quality of your outcome/conclusion, I suggest that the following be considered:

1. Consistency and clarity in describing your data - it is apparent that 26 signs were used with the 240 participants. However, the age breakdown in the segregation varies throughout the paper e.g. 11-21, 21-50, and >50 compared with 11-20, 21-59 and more than 60 (and gender etc). Notwithstanding this confusion, while the sample size of 240 may be considered appropriate, dissecting into smaller groups for specific issues, weakens the credibility of the particular issues. (i.e. the paper would benefit from construct, simplicity, clarity and flow)
2. Your methodology appears to be repeated in two sections of the paper. That would benefit from clarity and the descriptors mentioned only once. Some research is repeated as well.
3. Expressions would benefit from being self-explaining. e.g. You mention "if appropriate protective gear is worn while driving" - I presume this means - no helmets or protective clothing on motor cycles or no seat belts in motor cars??
4. When establishing a correlation between signage and crashes, the complexity is extensive, notwithstanding the limitations mentioned, the seriousness of the crash and other alleged causation factors must be considered relevant to the both the tables and the discussion
5. The lack of knowledge in signage in the research from other countries, is very valuable as justification for conducting this research in India and presented as you have reported. However, your research itself is endeavouring to corroborate these international findings and therefore should be able to "stand alone" in its conclusion to substantiate there is a major problem in India with lack of road user education and compliance on this critical deficiency. i.e. your research should be as robust as possible, support your assertions, justify your recommendations and prove your study was successful.
6. Thank you for your contribution to this critical discussion.

