

# Review of: "Post-Pandemic Reflections from Sub-Saharan Africa: What We Know Now That We Wish We Knew Then"

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

The article rigorously examines the insights gained from the COVID-19 pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa, specifically focusing on the experiences in Nigeria and Uganda. It effectively advocates for the separation of science from politics and emphasizes the importance of evidence-based decision-making by involving public health professionals. The emphasis on separating medical practice from business interests and giving priority to patient care is a critical focal point. Additionally, the article rightly underscores the need to differentiate proven public health practices from untested behaviors and stresses the importance of culturally sensitive prevention strategies.

Notwithstanding, the article could benefit from a more concise presentation, as some sections seem lengthy and overly detailed. Moreover, while the recommendations are valuable, they could be more explicitly outlined to facilitate easier understanding and implementation. Providing concrete examples or case studies from Nigeria and Uganda would enhance the practical applicability of the suggested strategies. Finally, improving the transitions between sections and streamlining the narrative structure would enhance the overall readability of the article. For further edits, please see my comments below:

## Abstract

"The commonly heard aphorism about history repeating itself suggests an endless cycle of recurring events. However, George Santayana offered a similar sentiment when he said, "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it". This emphasizes that the responsibility for the recurrence of events lies not with history itself, but with humanity. It underscores that if we desire change, it is our responsibility to initiate it, rather than attributing it to external forces such as fate, luck, or time."

- This strong opening statement should be placed in the introduction section. It is a matter of style, but it is worth considering.

## Introduction Section

- For refinement, please begin the introduction with a concise summary of the main points the article will address, offering readers a roadmap of what to expect.

## Subheading Precision

- Clearly define the subheadings to guide readers through the different sections, ensuring that each subheading reflects the content it introduces.

### **Paragraph Cohesion**

- Please ensure a smooth flow between paragraphs by using transitional phrases that connect ideas and maintain the logical progression of the narrative.

### **Concise Language**

- Please avoid unnecessary complexity in language and strive for clarity and brevity, making the content accessible to a broader audience.

### **Case Studies Integration**

- Please incorporate specific case studies or examples from Nigeria and Uganda to illustrate key points, adding a practical dimension to the theoretical framework.

### **Conclusion**

- Succinctly recap the main takeaways and restate the recommendations, reinforcing the core messages for readers.

### **Visual Elements**

- Consider incorporating visual elements such as charts or graphs to supplement textual information, enhancing understanding and engagement.

### **Consistent Tone and Style**

- Maintain a consistent tone and writing style throughout the article, promoting a cohesive reading experience.