

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.

Dan Aldrich sets a very high bar with the statement “social infrastructure projects would based on this data, save more lives during a natural hazard than putting the same money into standard, gray infrastructure such as seawalls.” There are missing perimeters, but the data supports that social infrastructure is certainly a vital element of community resilience. Aldrich offers three questions at the conclusion of his analysis. I would offer two more. The first is how social media plays into a social infrastructure framework, and the other is, given these findings, there appears to be little validity with Census Data-based Social Vulnerability Indexes given their minimal, if any, weight apportioned to social capital.