

Review of: "An approach to the background, methods and challenges of research in disasters"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Authors,

I appreciate the effort you have put in to bring together a important piece of work. More than suggestions for review, I have queries regarding some of the design/methodological decisions that you have made with regard to :

1. Going for a selective literature review instead of an exhaustive systematic review
2. How and why do you narrow down to epidemiological methods
3. The history is largely pertaining to the health research in the context of disasters, is there a specific reason for this focus, and if I have understood you correctly, would it be possible to make this focus explicit.
4. As the paper claims of the larger field of disaster research and focuses on epidemiological research, the finding seem to be missing out the larger field and its updates or history.
5. If the discussion and conclusion section could substantiate/demonstrate how each of the interpretations are arrived at using the literature review, it would add more rigor to the arguments being made by the paper.

with thanks

Jacquleen