

Review of: "The Effects of Greenery in Balconies of Apartments on People's Well-Being: Using Virtual Reality"

Sheila Walbe Ornstein¹

¹ Universidade de São Paulo

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear authors,

The idea behind this article and research is interesting and related to the post-COVID period, balconies, and greenery in balconies. However, the article needs improvements as follows:

1. Make clear the uniqueness of the article as many similar researchers are carrying on research about correlated topics after the pandemic period.
2. The authors must include additional information (physical ones/layouts) about the needs and preferences of the residents regarding the chosen balconies and about the best balcony. The plans of these balconies must be included in the initial part of the article, including their physical and size characteristics. The same must be done for the best balcony. Also, a physical idea about the context where these balconies would be, as, for instance, the size of the whole apartment and how many bedrooms, should be presented.
3. The authors must explain how many initial interviews were carried out and what kind of script supported these interviews.
4. It is not completely clear how the authors reached the 45 participants. Are they from the same city? Are they from the same neighbourhood?
5. The authors must explain better why a 45-participant sample would be enough to carry out the research.
6. About the questionnaire, Table 1 could be replaced by a paragraph where you explain the terms and the scale.
7. About the questionnaire scale, the intermediate score "neutral" must be more clear, as questionnaires for perception or satisfaction measurements could have an intermediate score, but it means "inside the expectations" and not necessarily "neutral."
8. When the authors cite Table 2, please separate "Table" and "2."
9. Finally, but not less important, according to Ethics procedures, there is a need to previously require that all participants of the research (interviewers and questionnaire respondents) sign a free and informed consent form before taking part in the research. How did the authors take care of this issue during the research that supports the article? This aspect must be explained in the initial part of the methodological procedures.