

# Review of: "God's characteristics as reported by near-death experiencers"

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

The subject of the article is a challenging one, finding another pathway to gain knowledge about God's and Jesus' characteristics by studying spiritual experiences. The authors deserve credit for this and I consider it to be a relevant subject. In its present state the article needs extensive revisions for it to be published. These are methodological primarily, which will be outlined below.

The main aim is to replicate Long and Perry's God study. What is the research question here?

A difference with the Long and Perry study is to include near-death-like experiences. This is a major difference despite similarities on the Greyhound scale. It remains unclear why this other type of experiences was included. The authors might as well have limited themselves to real near-death-experiences. If not, one would at least wish to receive more information under the Results: how many of the 303 experiences studied were near-death-like? And did they demonstrate the same patterns as real NDE?

303 records were included out of a total of 4709. It appears that the inclusion- and exclusion-criteria need further specification. What did the authors do when doubting whether or not to include an experience?

The Methods section contains many quotes. These are nice and informative. However, one wonders why they are not given in the Results section.

I find it difficult to understand the explanation of Figure 1 (not the comment).

In Figure 2 the characteristics are compared between different groups. However, the not religious group appears to be very small in table 1 (34 out of 303) when comparing to the religious group (237 out of 303). Table 1 does not mention the size of the group with 'unknown' religious affiliation, but I assume this group to be small as well (32 out of 303?). It will be difficult to draw conclusions about the smaller groups. This should be mentioned in the Comment, the Discussion and in the Limitations. Also, the numbers of those with unknown religious affiliation should be given in Table 1.

Hopefully the comments will help to implement improvements.

