

# Review of: "How Social Infrastructure Saves Lives: A Quantitative Analysis of Japan's 3/11 Disasters"

Eddie Bernard

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## **Review of Daniel Aldrich's "*How Social Infrastructure Saves Lives: A Quantitative Analysis of Japan's 3/11 Disasters*" by Eddie Bernard**

Aldrich makes a good case for investments in "Social Infrastructure" to protect affected populations following a natural or man-made disasters. However, in his arguments using the 2011 Japanese tsunami data, he fails to mention the vulnerability of existing facilities. One of the great tragedies of the 2011 tsunami was the death of people who evacuated to designated shelters where the tsunami hazard was underestimated. This tragedy was repeated throughout the region where an estimated 31 of 80 designated tsunami evacuation buildings were destroyed (Japan times, 2011).

I would suggest that one requirement for more "social infrastructure" is the location of the facility be safe from natural hazards. Furthermore, I believe the data of death for those 65+, presented in the article, be adjusted for this omission.