

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

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This article presents an interesting history of the evolution of disaster research, with an emphasis on the epidemiological approach that seems to have been at the origin of these studies.

However, while the presentation of all the historical phases is interesting, the article lacks detail on many points (see Supplementary data). It would be useful to reinforce it with more references to earlier studies, which would support the points analyzed. Furthermore, while disasters cannot be reduced to natural phenomena alone, neither should they be limited to social aspects. This should be emphasized in the paper as well.

Finally, the article states that it intends to discuss the current conceptual framework, but neither the results nor the discussion make this point. The discussion is very limited, and could appropriately focus on the different conceptual frameworks, as well as on the question of the place of the social sciences in the study of disaster risk nowadays.