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[Abstract Title]

Natural hazards in Japan: A systematic review of perceptions, intentions, and behaviors

[Abstract]

Many studies argue that individuals with high risk perception or high disaster-preparedness intention are more likely to take the proper actions toward disaster prevention or appropriately behave in an emergency despite the paradox involving perception and behavior in broad contexts of social science. This study investigates this paradox in disaster sciences by reviewing Japanese journal articles on the association between perception (or intention) and behavior. The author studied 433 articles in 25 Japanese journals and found that they used a wide variety of terms, especially those related to perception, whose definitions are fragmented across social science and natural science. This makes it difficult to find positive correlations between perception and behavior, that is, increasing risk perception does not necessarily lead to disaster prevention or preparedness. Considering these results, future studies should consider (1) evaluating behavior instead of perception and focusing on the lack of physical and social resources, (2) incorporating ecological factors such as nudge and affordance, and (3) examining underlying factors that are shared within a community, such as taboo or trauma.

[Keywords]

Risk perception paradox, planned behavior, natural hazards, Japan