

(of the Israeli public) to the threat of armed conflicts, despite it being a major threat in Israel. In particular, studies performed thus far suggest that Israeli preparedness behavior does not adhere to classical correlates of preparedness behavior, such as perception of likelihood or severity. This makes behavioral prediction models inapt in describing preparedness patterns among the Israeli population.

Methods: A cross-sectional study based on an Internet survey was performed in 2016. The sample included 385 participants from a diverse socio-demographic background representing the different sectors of Israeli society. The questionnaire included a preparedness index, measurement of the sense of preparedness, Trait Anxiety Inventory, Life Orientation Test, Behavioral Inhibition System (BIS) & Behavioral Activation System (BAS) Scales, and ego defenses.

Results: The results suggest that optimistic and rational individuals report significantly greater levels of preparedness, whereas people scoring high on the trait anxiety scale, and those with a tendency to use denial coping mechanisms, report significantly lower levels of preparedness. In addition, the BIS was found to be significantly, negatively associated with reported preparedness. See Table 1.

Conclusion: The results of the current study suggest that trait anxiety and optimism appear to be substantially associated with preparedness behavior, and the latter can serve as a predictor of said behavior. Motivating preparedness behavior could draw inspiration from the results of our study.

	PI	Sense of prep.	Anxiety	Optimism	BIB	BAS	Denial
Sense of prep.	.418**						
Anxiety	-.256**	-.315**					
Optimism	.231**	.132*	-.596**				
BIS	.167**	-.184**	.406**	-.175**			
BAS	.013	-.028	.021	.209**	.347**		
Denial	.111*	.147**	.272**	-.035	.253**	.146**	
Rationalism	.113*	.132*	-.036	.051	.091	.200**	.079

Table 1. Spearman correlations of preparedness indices and psychological constructs. (N = 385).

* - Correlation is significant on the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

** - Correlation is significant on the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

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A Media Analysis of Canadian Disasters: How are Capability and Vulnerability Framed?

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Study/Objective: The purpose of this study is to present a media analysis of articles related to 12 Canadian disasters.

The specific research question is: What are the dominant discourses related to capability and vulnerability in mainstream media surrounding Canadian disasters? Our objective is to explore how persons in the general population and those living with functional limitations are portrayed in the media in all phases of disaster.

Background: Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and severe, disproportionately affecting people living with functional limitations. The Sendai Framework emphasizes the need for an all-of-society approach to promote engagement of those disproportionately affected by disasters (UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction UNISDR, 2015). To do this, community assets must be identified and developed to promote inclusive social participation. The lives of persons living with functional limitations are represented through mainstream media. It is therefore important to explore the language used in the media to provide insight into societal perceptions of capability and vulnerability, to develop strategies for inclusive practice.

Methods: A multiple case study design (Yin, 1998) was used to perform a media analysis of 12 Canadian disasters (eg. Fort McMurray wildfire). Cases were chosen to represent different types of events across Canada, between 2009 to 2016. The dataset was analyzed using discourse and sentiment analysis.

Results: The results of this study provide an interpretation of how capability and vulnerability are portrayed in mainstream media, and how the consideration of language and power relations influences implementation of an all-of-society approach to disaster risk reduction.

Conclusion: Potential contributions of this study include raising awareness of the role of discourse in promoting social participation in disaster risk reduction strategies; including the need for a balanced approach in discussing assets and gaps that make up community contexts that support resilience. These findings will also contribute important knowledge for the application of an equity lens in disaster risk reduction.

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Preparedness Promoting and Delaying - What Factors Influence Civilian Preparedness to Armed Conflicts?

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Study/Objective: The purpose of this study was to explore the promotion and inhibition effects of several socio-psychological factors on households' preparedness to armed conflicts in Israel.

Background: Emergency preparedness is a key factor in public resilience when facing adversities. The most prominent emergency threat for the Israeli population is the risk of an armed conflict. Yet, most Israelis tend to ignore the civil defense authorities recommendations for household adjustment to war. Other studies suggest that classical socio-psychological mechanisms of preparedness are irrelevant when tested in Israeli context, making promotion of preparedness behavior a challenging task.