

(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 = 3S5).

\* - 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.

**Methods:** An online survey of 502 participants representing the adult Jewish population in Israel was conducted. A novel visual tool measuring personally salient appraisals and attitudes, called PRISM, and a set of questionnaires designed to assess public perception of preparedness-delaying and promoting factors were used. **Results:** We observed a correlation between the appraisal of the concept of preparedness and actual reported preparedness, but did not observe similar correlation between the latter and appraisal of the threat itself. In addition, we report that the leading factors for procrastination of preparedness behavior are low prioritization and ignoring of authorities' instruction during routine times (Table 1). The overwhelming majority of the sample indicated that they will engage in preparedness behavior, only when the threat becomes real and imminent. The results of the public-wide survey closely match those assessed by an experts' panel performed prior to this survey. **Conclusion:** The findings of this study demonstrate the complexity of the socio-psychological perspective of preparedness behavior in Israel. Further studies are needed in order to promote readiness and make resilience plans more effective in achieving their goals.

Factor	Mean ± SD	95%CI for mean	% of top scale responses <sup>a</sup>	Spearman correlation (r) with Preparedness Index
Low prioritization - people do not prioritize preparedness during routine times and/or assume they will have sufficient time to prepare right before the crisis;	4.26 ± 1.57	4.12-4.40	47.0%	-.021
Ignoring instructions - people tend to overlook the emergency preparedness recommendations and/or discard of personal responsibility;	4.10 ± 1.55	3.96-4.23	43.2%	-.134**
Lack of information - the public is missing information about the threat and how to prepare for it;	3.77 ± 1.63	3.36-3.92	33.9%	-.097*
Misunderstanding the threat - the public does not understand the extent and severity of the threat;	3.49 ± 1.64	3.35-3.64	26.7%	-.133**
Fear - the concept of war is intimidating and people prefer to avoid dealing with it	3.48 ± 1.71	3.33-3.63	28.7%	-.090*
Resources limit - people do not have the necessary resources (e.g., money) to prepare for war;	3.46 ± 1.87	3.30-3.63	29.7%	-.114**
Time limit — people do not have time to prepare for war during their daily routine;	3.32 ± 1.76	3.17-3.48	25.9%	-.123**
Faith - people believe they will not be affected by the emergency situation and/or leave it up to fate.	3.28 ± 1.86	3.12-3.45	25.4%	-.070
Misunderstanding the instructions — the public misunderstands the recommendations for war preparedness;	3.21 ± 1.79	3.05-3.36	24.6%	-.078

**Table 1.** Endorsement of preparedness-delaying factors by the Israeli Jewish public - descriptive statistics and correlation with reported preparedness (N = 502) (continued)

Factor	Mean ± SD	95%CI for mean	% of top scale responses <sup>a</sup>	Spearman correlation (r) with Preparedness Index
Lack of trust - the public does not trust the authorities and/or their recommendations;	3.12 ± 1.75	2.96-3.27	23.3%	-.065
Low self-efficacy — people perceive their self-efficacy to execute the recommendation as low.	3.03 ± 1.76	2.87-3.18	22.0%	-.020

**Table 1.** Endorsement of preparedness-delaying factors by the Israeli Jewish public - descriptive statistics and correlation with reported preparedness (N = 502).

Note: a. Top three options on a 7-point Likert scale (5, 6, & 7)

\* - significant at the 0.05 level (two-tailed) (non-significant in multiple comparison analysis):

\*\* - significant at the 0.01 level (two-tailed)

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**Enhancing Community Resilience in the Context of an Earthquake among Residents of a Peripheral City in Israel**  
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**Study/Objective:** To identify personal characteristics associated with low levels of community resilience; and factors that may affect resilience in the context of seismic threats.

**Background:** Community resilience is perceived as a core element in the field of emergency management, since it enhances the community members' ability to effectively cope with different adversities. Following a destructive earthquake, local communities, especially those located in the periphery, may have to cope alone with significant challenges such as coordinating rescue efforts, providing shelter and primary care for casualties. Thus, strengthening community resilience among these communities is of utmost importance.

**Methods:** A designated survey was conducted among residents of a major city in the northern periphery of Israel, subjected to significant seismic threats. The survey utilized a validated tool for measuring community resilience (CCRAM), and related elements such as personal characteristics; risk perception; and earthquake preparedness. A quantile regression model was employed to examine the association between the study variables across various quantiles of resilience scores, identifying significant associations among subjects with various resilience levels. A sensitivity analysis was performed by comparing the results to those of a standard linear model.

**Results:** The study included 306 adults (Mean age 35, 18-73 years). The results demonstrated that increased