

Notice to Contributors

Papers must be written in English. Authors should recognize that the journal has an international audience and is read by those for whom English is not their native language. Therefore, the style should be kept as simple as possible. Allusions to local phenomena not readily recognizable outside of national boundaries must be explicitly explained. Acronyms should not be used unless universally known.

Text material may be presented in any order appropriate for the topic being discussed. However, headings and subheadings should be judiciously used to divide a solid text. Substantive discussions should be ordered in the most relevant manner, but special attention should be paid to the following matters: theoretical and research articles must be scholarly as well as scientific, i.e., they must provide more than prefatory or nominal references to the literature and offer an awareness of existing trends and issues in the area under discussion. For an article to be a contribution to the field, authors should indicate where its place is in the history of disaster studies and avoid another "discovery of the wheel". Implications of theoretical and research articles must also be made explicit. The contribution of the article to public policy, or planning, future research and/or theoretical advances must be clearly stated. Within the article itself, authors must give readers an answer to the question, "so what?" Articles without an appropriate treatment of the literature or clear indications or substantive implications are very unlikely to be accepted for publication.

The journal is multi- and inter-disciplinary, so jargon peculiar to one field must be avoided. The active is preferred over passive voice. Articles may be written in the first person, as well as the third person. Sexist and racist language is unacceptable.

There are no fixed lengths for theoretical and research articles, but manuscripts over 30 double-spaced typed pages (including footnotes, tables, and references) would have to be highly exceptional to be accepted. It is the responsibility of authors to determine the length of their papers. Therefore, extra long manuscripts should not be submitted in the hope that journal referees and editors will suggest how a shorter, more acceptable paper could be produced. Such recommendations will not be provided. Brief articles of only several pages are acceptable, but authors should consider if such a contribution might be more appropriate for the unrefereed, "Feedback from the Field" section of the journal.

Qualitative research reports are as equally acceptable as quantitative studies. Historical research can be as appropriate

as a focus on the contemporary situation. While the methodological and substantive scope of the journal is wide, and while efforts will be made to provide for the expression of unorthodox as well as traditional views, the journal is not a vehicle for ideological polemics, pseudo scientific presentations or mystic philosophical musings.

After an initial screening by one of the editors, copies of the manuscript are sent to at least two referees. Unless there is unanimity, normally a third reviewer will be used. The judgement of the referees will weigh very heavily in the final evaluation by the journal editors. Reviewers are urged to provide specific comments for the writers of the submitted manuscripts. These comments will be sent to manuscript authors.

Reference Format

In the Text:

All source references are to be identified at the appropriate point in the text by the last name of the author, year of publication and pagination where needed.

a. If author's name is in the text, follow it with year in parentheses; "... Perry (1980) ..."

b. If author's name is not in the text, insert, in parentheses, the last name and year, separated by a comma; "... (Boss, 1982) ..."

c. Pagination follows year of publication after a colon; "... Hill (1975:36) ..."

d. Give both last names of dual authors; for more than two use "et al." in the text.

e. Separate a series of references with semicolons; "... Hill, 1975; Boss, 1980) ..."

In the List of References:

List all source citations by author, and within author by year of publication. List name of all authors. If there is more than one reference to the same author and year, distinguish them by letters a, b, etc. added to the year; "... Turner (1964a) ...". Give the publisher's name in as brief a form as is fully intelligible. If cited material is unpublished, use "forthcoming" with name of journal and publisher; otherwise use "unpublished".

Davis, Elisabeth, and Pauline Boss

1980 Coping Strategies of Rural Divorced Women. Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Extension Service.

Fritz, Charles E.

1961 "Disaster." Pp. 151-184 in G.W. Baker and D.W. Chapman (eds.), Man and Society in Disaster. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World.

Rossi, Peter H., James D. Wright, Eleanor Weber-Burdin and Joseph Pereira

1983 "Victimization by Natural Hazards in the United States, 1970-1980: Survey Estimates." International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters 1:467-482.

Trost, Jan

1980 Unmarried Cohabitation. Västerås, Sweden: International Library.