

Author's response

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Title: Misanthropolis: Do Cities Promote Misanthropy?

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1 Response to Editor

Dear Professor Zhao,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a revised draft. We have revised the manuscript in light of the reviewer's suggestions. We list below in inline format our brief responses to reviewer' comments and attach at the end tracked changes that show precisely the additions and deletions in the manuscript. In light of the positive peer reviewer' recommendations we are hopeful that you will be able to make a positive decision. We appreciate your consideration. Thank you.

Best,
the Authors

2 Response to Reviewer #2

Reviewer #2: Many thanks for your revisions. The literature review content and structure is much improved but I still find that the literature review has some very general, strong, and unnuanced trends being pointed at, with limited recent citations.

Thank you for acknowledging our revisions. We have now revised the literature review and also the manuscript to ensure that our statements are nuanced. We have also included more recent citations to strengthen our arguments.

Here are some examples below, but please carefully review your statements, citations, and generalizations that you draw: This sentence is illustrative of the limitations I point at above:

"Many people are drawn to metropolitan areas given the positive aspects of city life amenities, freedom, productivity, research and innovation, economic growth, wages, and multiple efficiencies related to density in transportation, public goods provision, and lower per capita pollution (Tonnies, [1887] 2002; O'Sullivan,)." These are grand, generalized statements that could be further nuanced.

We have rephrased this sentence and have also added references to corroborate our claims.

Similarly, that sentence "that urban living has drastically improved many aspects of life (e.g., Glaeser, 2011):" is only reflective of one citation, one from the main writer on the advantages of city life. There is no nuance or additional references for the statement. What does this statement mean: "Moreover, cities are less polluted than they used to be, there is more redevelopment (e.g., Glaeser, 2011): , and the younger generations are happier living in cities."

We have added more references to strengthen our argument, and completely rephrased this paragraph. This helped with the flow and made arguments more clear and focused.

Similarly this one is also left un-nuanced: "urbanites tend to have larger social networks and socialize more frequently while having more opportunities to meet new friends or partners (Mouratidis, 2018, 2017)." Some would say that cities are also more anonymous and trigger more superficial relations.

We have rephrased the passage in question to make it more nuanced, but we are essentially quoting Mouratidis 2017, 2018. We acknowledge that cities are more anonymous and trigger more superficial relations, for example:

" Although city life is related to impersonal social relations, studies show that cities actually have higher levels of social interaction, participation in religious groups and volunteering than the suburbs." We also discuss in the paper how the anonymity of cities is what might draw misanthropes to live there. See for example pages 4 and 16.

This sentence was also added without much elaboration and referencing. The authors should engage more in depth with that statement: "Still, urbanization does not need to lead to extreme overcrowding, and attention should be paid to the many potential drivers of crowding such as uneven urban development, gentrification and displacement, as well as inequality in large globalizing cities."

We added references and some elaboration—our paper is about misanthropy, however, and full elaboration of other aspects is beyond the scope.

3 Tracked Text Changes

(see next page)