

Example of a Good Review

Review of G. Marx, "Do Juggling Clowns Improve Airport Security?"

This paper describes a series of experiments to answer the question whether deploying juggling clowns at airport screening portals can improve homeland security.

Overall, I believe this paper offers an innovative approach to airport security. The paper is certainly appropriate for JPS and of interest to readers, but I would recommend it not be accepted without addressing the following significant problems:

1. While the author offers a compelling hypothesis and the "controlled" experiments are well explained, the paper underestimates or glosses-over the degree to which the author has controlled the experimental parameters. The paper must discuss in more detail the limitations of the level of control.
2. The authors seem to be unaware of the important work in this area by Prof. Smith of the Open Circus University. The paper should cite and discuss the Smith work to better place the author's work in proper context.
3. The fourth paragraph on page 3 is unintelligible and should be re-written.
4. The axis in figure 4 needs to be better labeled.
5. It would help the reader if the data on page 6 were plotted in a 3D graph.
6. Throughout the paper, the author should use units that are either from the English System or from the Metric System, rather than from the Circus System, which will not be familiar to the majority of readers.
7. I would like to see a more detailed discussion of why the author believes that the size of the giant red nose should correlate so strongly to security efficacy.
8. The Conclusion Section makes a number of assertions that are not well-demonstrated or argued elsewhere in the paper. For example, the author speculates that loud bicycle horns offer little additional security benefits, yet offers no data or arguments to support this idea. Either these assertions should be better discussed and motivated, or else they should be eliminated from the Conclusion.