

*This manuscript provides a very interesting perspective on the pandemic and its psychosocial consequences. The integration of cognitive (cognitive dissonance) with psychoanalytic (object relations) and social theories (information communication) was quite unique. However, the authors must acknowledge that they are using many different concepts/theories that the average reader might not be familiar with. Therefore, they might have to explain certain concepts in more detail.*

*For example, I found the 'Abstract' somewhat difficult to understand because there were too many terms & phrases such as 'perspective of a multidimensional multi-level social-ecological theoretical framework, which as a multi-optimal heuristic reference model and related to other ecological approaches', which were not very clear in the first instance. In contrast, the main text was easier to understand because the concepts were elaborated upon and explained more clearly.*

Answer: Thank you for this helpful suggestion, which we included into the revision. We strengthened the abstract in a more condensed style and clarified the terms as follows.

*However, if readers find the abstract too difficult, they may not be interested in the rest of the manuscript. Therefore, the authors may have to rewrite the 'Abstract' to make it simpler to understand. Moreover, throughout the manuscript the authors have used terms such as*

Answer we clarified in a Box 1

\*‘infodemic’ = used by WHO in spring 2020 to characterize the enormous amount of information which in addition has a strongly differing validity. Now large research projects are running regarding optimization of expert communication in health issues.

Source: [https://www.who.int/health-topics/infodemic#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/infodemic#tab=tab_1)

\*‘cancel culture’ = media strategy that aims to ignore, devalue, delegitimize, and exclude opinions and their proponents that are not conform with the opinion of the media and / or politics they represent (compare: political correctness)

Source: Eve Ng: Cancel Culture. A Critical Analysis. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham 2022,

\*‘spiral of silence’ = circular mechanism of production of public opinion by self-silencing of critical individuals that feel that their opinion is not compatible with the opinion of the majority and that in turn hinders mass media to thematize these deviant opinions - what is not in the media is not a topic in the society.

Source: Noelle-Neumann, E.: 1984. The Spiral of Silence. Public Opinion – Our Social Skin. Chicago University Press, Chicago

\*‘Great Reset’ = claim for a fundamental change in economy and politics in context of Covid-19, published by K. Schwab and T. Malleret, that was interpreted by friends of conspiracy beliefs as a vision of self-empowerment by elites.

Source: Schwab, K., Malleret, T. 2020. COVID-19: The Great Reset. World Economic Forum, Geneva

\*‘situated individuals’ = conception of an individual person as the result of (former) interactions between the person and her environment, as a contrast to the idea of the existence of a decontextualized individuality.

Source: Mischel, W., & Shoda, Y. (2010). The situated person. In B. Mesquita, L. F. Barrett, & E. R. Smith (Eds.), *The mind in context* (pp. 149–173). The Guilford Press.  
often without elaborating what these terms mean.

Similarly, parts like –

*'This fragmented character of the socio-cultural environment in turn favors the individual development of "dissociated personalities"*

\*Hypothesis that a fragmented and inconsistent cultural world of values enforces the development of inconsistent personalities

*and thus in this*

*\*"fragmented acceleration society "* = this term should indicate that modern society is not only fragmented but also accelerating as it can be seen in finance markets where computer exchange in micro-seconds monetary values (algorithmic trading).

*a fundamental*

*\*"loss of (coherent) resonance"* = resonance means the social response of actions of an individual; coherence means synergies of individual's action and social reaction but also refers to the intra-personal coherence.

Source: Rosa, H. 2021. Resonance: A Sociology of Our Relationship to the World. Polity Publisher, Cambridge UK

*of the individuals [8] arises.*

*...in relation to borderline personality disorder, narcissism and identity and authenticity [9,10,11].'- are difficult to comprehend.*

*I would suggest another box on the lines of box 1 to provide brief definitions of all these new terms.*

We included and added Box 1 to elaborate the terms.

*Finally, although the authors propose a number of mechanisms to explain the psychosocial repercussions of the pandemic, it is not clear if any of these causal theories were examined during the pandemic either in the general population or among patients with mental illnesses. In fact, there is a distinct lack of evidence, which could support (or refute) their proposals. This becomes important, because according to the authors' guidelines, a 'field of vision' article should include 'recent perspectives of seminal articles, on hot topic articles, or the latest articles in the research field in order to keep readers at the forefront of research and increase the impact of their clinical research'.*

Answer: Up to our knowledge only parts of our psychosocial picture of the whole were tested empirically and we refer to these pieces of scientific work. The significance of our view point is that it tries to design an a-priori picture of the situated person that can help to understand contradictions in empirical research or at least can help to refer to broader conceptual framework if it comes to the need to interpret collected data.

As we only can make a call for this integrative view we are not able to collect supporting material because we also lack "integrative institutions" that support such overarching kinds of psychosocial research. Many thanks for your helpful suggestions.