Interactive comment on “The past, present, and future of soils and human health studies” by E. C. Brevik and T. J. Sauer

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The manuscript "The past, present, and future of soils and human health studies" by Brevik and Sauer provides a comprehensive look at the multidisciplinary and evolving field of soils and human health. The authors provide a strong case for linking classical soil science with health disciplines, and challenge the scientific community and funding agencies to support cross-disciplinary studies to move this important field forward.

The manuscript is well-written, though quite dense. Count them–there are 169(!) references. Clearly this serves as a very compact annotated bibliography of soils and human health research. Well done.

I concur with the comments provided by the two previous reviewers and see that these have already been adopted by the authors. I would also recommend that "contaminate" be changed to "contaminant" on p. 64, l. 22. Alas, this is my sole editorial suggestion for improvement–the rest of the paper is fine.

I find the topic of soils and human health to be enigmatic. Both fields are well-understood and have received intense scientific scrutiny centuries. However, there is a stark paucity of studies that have formally linked soils and human health. I applaud the authors for making this connection in such a rigorous way and for promoting global, multidisciplinary research so crucial to the well-being of humanity.

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