Begging to Differ With Similarity Accounts of Counterfactuals

Widespread agreement among philosophers on a given topic is rare. However, it is enjoyed by the Stalnaker/Lewis similarity accounts of counterfactuals. Roughly, they say that the counterfactual

if \( p \) were the case, \( q \) would be the case

is true if and only if

at the nearest \( p \)-worlds, \( q \) is true.

I disagree with these accounts, for many reasons. A recurring problem is that they render true various implausibly specific counterfactuals. I suggest an alternative proposal for the right-hand side:

at the sufficiently near \( p \)-worlds, \( q \) is true.