

OPEN PEER REVIEW

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What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:

<https://brieflands.com/briefland/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html>



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Peer Review Report for "Influences of Puberty Development and Sexuality on Academic Performance Among Secondary Students of Ngamaba Tsalakoua of Brazzaville (Republic of Congo)"

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Review Timeline:

▶ Submit Date:	28 Nov 2022
▶ Revised Date:	10 Dec 2022
▶ Accepted Date:	12 Dec 2022

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | Revision (0)

30 Nov 2022

Dear Authors

refer to the attached file. the points and revisions are presented by comments and also track changes. however, some major points needed to be revised are as follows:

1- what do you mean by Ngamaba TSALAKOUA of Brazzaville in the title? name of city?

2- please kindly provide more quality figures for your paper. decimals must be shown by point (.) not comma (,).

3- all your used reference are related to the very past time. recommend to use mostly the last three years.

PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED FILE FOR OTHER COMMENTS.

 **Maghsoud Nabilpour:** Reviewer | **Revision (0)**

2 Dec 2022

Abstract:

The names of the questionnaires used and their year should be written.
Reorganize the keywords based on mesh standard.

Introduction:

In the first paragraph, the first and second lines do not match the reference provided. It is also suggested to replace the reference in English with the reference in French.

The sentence "However, this earlier puberty is associated with a higher risk of psychological problems, cancers of the breasts and the reproductive system" needs a reference.

In the third paragraph, you say that "A survey of recent work carried out shows that many studies on the relationship between pubertal maturation, sexuality, and school performance have been undertaken in the Maghreb and in the West and South of Africa." However, you do not provide any references

methodology

The main question in this section is why you used 12, 13, and 14-year-old teenagers. Do boys at this age understand the concept of sexual relations? Please explain the reason for using these ages in the methodology.

Study Design and Sample

First, explain the sample size criterion, then refer to reference 6.

Assessment of sexuality in prime adolescence

The questionnaire used should be explained in more detail. This includes the name of the creator of the questionnaire, the year of production, validity, reliability, etc.

Data analysis

The sentence "The results were significant at the 5% level" should be corrected. You must write "at the 5% percentile level."

Results

The sentence "The girls were mostly old in the three age groups while the boys were only for age 15" should be rewritten. The reader cannot have a correct understanding of this

sentence.

The sentence "Furthermore, there were more girls in 7th and 9th grades compared to boys students, while boys were in the 8th grade (table 1b)" cannot be a part of your results.

 **Morteza Taheri:** Associate Editor | **Revision (0)**

4 Dec 2022

Dear Authors

please kindly do the necessary revisions based on the respected reviewers and provide POINT-by-POINT responses by different colors.

 **Morteza Taheri:** EIC | **Revision (0)**

4 Dec 2022

Derar Authors,

Your manuscript is accepted with minor revisions. Please refer to the attached files for more details.

Regards

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer 1:

Dear Authors

refer to the attached file. the points and revisions are presented by comments and also track changes. however, some major points needed to be revised are as follows:

1- what do you mean by Ngamaba TSALAKOUA of Brazzaville in the title? name of city?

Answer 1:

Ngamaba Tsalakoua was a former chief of the Mfilou village. with the development and extension of the capital Brazzaville, Mfilou became the 7th district of Brazzaville. Thereafter and in memory of this village chief, the college was named Ngamaba Tsalakoua. It is the biggest middle school of general education in this 7th District of Brazzaville. Brazzaville is the Capital of the Republic of Congo.

2- please kindly provide more quality figures for your paper. decimals must be shown by point (.) not comma (,).

Answer 2:

Hope that I have provided

3- all your used reference are related to the very past time. recommend to use mostly the last three years.

Answer 3:

For a total of 20 references, 12 (60 %) are relating to the last three years.

Reviewer 2:

Abstract:

Write the names of the questionnaires used and their year.

Answer 1: I have used, not in abstract but in the methodology

Refine keywords with mesh

Answer 2: I have refined

Introduction:

In the first paragraph of the first and second lines: the reference provided does not match the sentence. It is also suggested to replace the reference in English with the reference in French.

Answer 3: I have replaced.

In the second paragraph, this sentence needs a reference.

Answer 4: I have added.

"However, this earlier puberty is associated with a higher risk of psychological problems, cancers of the breasts and the reproductive system"

Answer 5: I have added.

In the third paragraph, you said A survey of recent work carried out shows that many studies on the relationship between pubertal maturation, sexuality, and school performance have been undertaken in the Maghreb and in the West and South of Africa. But you didn't provide any references.

Answer 6: I have added.

Methodology:

The main question in this section is, why did you use 12, 13, and 14-year-old teenagers? Do boys at this age understand the concept of sexual relations? Please explain the reason for using these ages in the methodology.

Answer 7: Study procedure

All participants were informed about the purpose of the study. Consent was obtained from each participant. To assess the practical aspects of the questionnaire (vocabulary, clarity of instructions and wording errors), we carried out a pilot test on 10 middle school students aged 12 to 15 years. This pilot test encouraged them to respond freely to the items. We found that 12-year-old participants lacked the appropriate vocabulary. Thus, some items were adapted for better understanding and thereafter a final version was distributed for data collection.

Please kindly note that article should have 3500 words in maxi. I have now 3682 words.

Study Design and Sample:

Explain the sample size criterion first, then refer to reference 6.

Answer 8: Hope that I have done.

Assessment of sexuality in prime adolescence:

The questionnaire used should be explained in more detail. (The name of the creator of the questionnaire, year of production, validity, reliability, etc.)

Answer 9: Hope that I have provided.

Data analysis:

This sentence should be corrected. The results were significant at the 5% level. You must write at the 5% percentile level

Answer 10: I have changed.

Results:

Rewrite this sentence. The reader cannot have a correct understanding of the sentence "The girls were mostly old in the three age groups while the boys were only for age 15". This sentence cannot be a part of your results, but your choice was like this Furthermore, there were more girls in 7th and 9th grades compared to boys students, while boys were in the 8th grade (table 1b).

Answer 11: I have rewritten

Authors are advised to improve the grammar points of the manuscript

Answer 12: Hope that I have improved

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers, Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

 **Maghsoud Nabilpour:** Reviewer | Revision (1)

10 Dec 2022

Dear Authors,

I am writing to you today to thank you for making the necessary corrections to your manuscript. I have reviewed the revised manuscript, and I am pleased to see that you have addressed the concerns of the reviewers.

However, I have one remaining concern. In the section on methodology, you state that you chose to use participants who were 12, 13, and 14 years old. However, you do not explain your reasons for choosing these specific ages. I would like you to provide a more detailed explanation of your rationale for this decision. Additionally, I have noticed that reference 1 does not match the referenced sentence. I would appreciate it if you could address these two concerns in your next revision. Once you have made these changes, I will be happy to recommend your manuscript for publication.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

 **REFEREE:** Reviewer | Revision (1)

12 Dec 2022

Dear Associate Editor,

I am writing to you today to announce that all of the requested comments have been responded to and revised. Therefore, the manuscript is now accepted.

 **Morteza Taheri:** Associate Editor | Revision (1)


12 Dec 2022

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

The reviewers have provided some helpful comments, which the authors have addressed in their revised manuscript. The revised manuscript has been improved in several areas, including the clarity of the writing, the strength of the arguments, and the support for the conclusions.

I believe that the revised manuscript is now a significant contribution to the field.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

 **Morteza Taheri:** EIC | Revision (1)

12 Dec 2022

Dear Authors

please kindly consider text check (editing and punctuation issues) in proofreading the work before publishing.

Regards

EIC