Understanding the Process and Nature of Grief and Loss in the Family Members of COVID-19 Victims: Developing and Elaborating the Model for Psychological Adjustment with Grief from a Mixed Methods Approach

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1.   Round 1

1.1.   Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence "These include the closure of schools, universities, and industries..." lacks citation for the statements about the consequences of COVID-19. Adding specific references will strengthen this claim.

The description of the intervention model is vague. Provide more details on the specific techniques and exercises used in the sessions.

Ensure that the open codes listed in Table 1 are clearly defined and explained within the text. Some codes like "Belief in the futility of material life" may require additional context.

The statement "the eta squared value suggests that 96.2% of the variance in grief scores was due to the intervention" should be interpreted with caution. Discuss potential limitations of this result.

The sentence "Survivors may experience varying degrees of emotions regarding the deceased person's loss" is quite broad. Include specific findings from your study to illustrate these varying degrees.

Expand on the statement "Bad deaths associated with pain, discomfort, and isolation are more traumatic for survivors" with additional references or data from your study.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Clarify the term "unnatural grief" in the context of the sentence "Additional issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic include home quarantine, disruption of daily activities, obsessive cleanliness, unnatural grief for deceased loved ones..."

The phrase "the sample size for the qualitative phase was determined based on data saturation and adequacy" needs further explanation on how data saturation was achieved.

The interview questions listed seem leading and could introduce bias. Consider rephrasing to ensure they are open-ended and neutral.

The role of government and community support in the grief process is mentioned briefly. Elaborate on how these supports can be enhanced based on your findings.

Discuss the practical implications of your findings for mental health professionals in more detail. How can they apply the model developed in this study?

The conclusion currently restates the findings without adding new insight. Consider discussing future research directions and potential applications of your model.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.
Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.