Body Image and Social Media: A Qualitative Investigation of the Influence of Instagram on Young Women's Self-Perception and Body Satisfaction

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction could benefit from a clearer articulation of the specific aspects of Instagram that the study will focus on. Suggest specifying whether the study will explore both the positive and negative influences or if it leans more heavily on one aspect. This would help in setting a precise expectation for the reader.

The section on participant selection mentions purposive sampling but lacks details on the criteria used for selection beyond age and regular usage of Instagram. It would enhance the methodological rigor to specify any additional demographic or psychographic criteria used to select participants.

In the analysis section, while thematic analysis is appropriately used, there is a need for a deeper engagement with how specific themes were derived from the data. Adding examples of how participant quotes directly influenced the emergence of each theme would strengthen the reader's understanding of the analysis process.

While the limitations are noted, there is a lack of discussion on how these limitations could affect the study's conclusions. Expanding on this, particularly the potential biases introduced by the self-reported nature of the data, would provide a more critical and balanced discussion.

The paper would benefit from a more detailed comparison with existing literature, particularly how this study's findings align with or differ from previous research. This could be integrated into the discussion section to highlight the unique contributions of this study.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The use of social comparison theory is well noted, but the paper could strengthen its theoretical grounding by integrating additional theories related to media influence or self-perception. This would provide a more comprehensive theoretical base for the study.

To enhance the understanding of the context, provide a more detailed description of the participants' backgrounds, such as their socio-economic status, educational background, or psychological well-being, as these factors could influence their experiences with Instagram.

The manuscript mentions achieving theoretical saturation but does not describe the process of determining saturation. A brief description of how and why saturation was declared would add to the credibility of the research methodology.

Expand on the ethical considerations by discussing any ethical dilemmas encountered during the study and how they were resolved, especially in dealing with a sensitive topic like body image.

Mention whether inter-coder reliability was assessed during thematic analysis. This is important for validating the consistency of the theme identification process across different analysts.

The discussion on regulatory measures is good, but could be expanded to suggest specific policy changes or initiatives that social media platforms could adopt, based on the study's findings.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

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