

Review of: "Exploring the Role of Social, Economic, and Cultural Factors in Community Development: A Social Work Perspective in T/A Chimwala, Mangochi"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Introduction: I feel that the introduction is missing some paragraphs explaining how social, economic and cultural factors can shape communities' development, with some practical examples of specific factors and why they are important to consider in social work. Would also help the reader to understand what is already known in the field, and from there, the authors could draw hypotheses about which factors they think would be important in the studied community based on what is known in the context of Chimwala and elsewhere.

Methods: I think the methods are too much summarized and general, and important information is missing, e.g., number of people included in the study; how people were selected, sampling methods, etc. The statement: "The sampling strategy combines both probability and non-probability methods to ensure a comprehensive and accurate representation of the community" is very general - which probability and non-probability methods were employed? Which type of questions were made? How many questionnaires and interviews were made? Which types of analyses were made?

Results & Conclusion: The results are merely descriptive, and no statistical analysis was employed, so the authors need to be very careful with the assumptions that they are making. The authors did not test the influence or relationship between variables, so statements as "The socioeconomic factors affecting community development" or "this study shed light on the dynamics that shape community advancement" should not be made. Instead, this is a preliminary study based on people's perceptions, and the results shed light on possible factors that could be relevant to consider in community development, but these relationships should be tested and further studied.