

Review of: "Analysis of Gender Representations in Recommended Biology Textbooks Used by Senior School Students in Nasarawa State, Nigeria"

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The article addresses a very relevant topic and seeks to identify gender representations in biology books used by senior school students in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. The results showed that there is no gender balance in all the selected textbooks considered, concluding that all the selected Biology textbooks contained gender representations in words, colours, pictures, and diagrams that were imbalanced in representations.

The manuscript is well-written; however, I would like to highlight some points that can be improved.

In the introduction, there is no need to write the objectives, and also the research questions. They are repetitive, and the authors could choose one or the other. I would also remove Table 1 and put the information in the text. Tables are important sources of information, but, in my view, they are best applied when presenting results of the work in question.

About the methodology, the authors mentioned that they used Fleiss kappa statistics to determine the reliability of the instrument. How was this method employed?

The results showed that the gender-neutral characters were the most frequent in terms of gender representation of words, pictures, and diagrams, while the masculine characters were more frequent than feminine characters in terms of words or texts in all the selected Biology textbooks. This result needs to be explored further in the discussion, as neutral gender representations would generally be less expected than masculine and feminine gender representations. It would be expected that male representations would be more frequent, which was not the case.

Furthermore, I suggest that examples of sentences, figures, diagrams, and drawings be placed in the results.

The final conclusion presents a recommendation for the authors to revisit their textbooks and amend the gender inequality representation in the Biology textbooks to avoid the promotion of gender bias among the upcoming generations. But if the gender-neutral words, diagrams, and pictures are more frequent, why should they change?

