

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.

Review: Exploring the Role of Social, Economic, and Cultural Factors in Community Development: A Social Work Perspective in T/A Chimwala, Mangochi, by Christina Mercy Zaipa & Daniel Devoted Matemba.

The article explores how intangible social, economic, and cultural factors affect concrete physical community development in Malawi. This timely article captures the social, economic and environmental pillars of Sustainability. However, some observations were made as follows:-

1.Title: Avoid uncommon abbreviations in article title (better captured as Chimwala Traditional Authority).

2. Abstract: There is no clear Statement of the Problem that warrants the exploration. Does the significance of findings apply to "Social Workers" only? Government, community, researchers and developers may also be interested in the empirical Results.

3. Methodology: Reporting probability and non-probability Sampling is quite general... is it purposive, clustering, snow-balling, etc.? The article mentions interviews and survey, but no details of the number of interview participants and survey respondents. Which comes first, exploratory or explanatory study? Survey instruments are paper-based, online, structured, unstructured questions, etc? Interviews are face-to-face, telephone, or other media? When was it conducted?

4. Results: What is the theoretical base for the variables used? Factors are gotten from interviews, literature review, or previous similar studies? It is better to present the results based on social, economic and cultural factors, before synthesising them.

5. Conclusion: The study is about understanding community development dynamism only? How can this "understanding" translate to concrete physical development in Chimwala, Malawi?

Generally, the article is engaging, within a novel context (60% grade). However, it needs refinement of some methodological technicalities.