

Review of: "Sociodemographic Factors and Parental Verbal Abuse in Indonesia"

Gabrijela Ratkajec Gašević¹

¹ University of Zagreb

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors should strive to improve many parts of the paper. I will try to enumerate and clarify in which parts.

Title:

I suggest to add "Experiences with verbal violence"

Summary:

I suggest improvements in summary, specifically at the beginning of summary. Sum up the findings and better clarify the research gap.

Introduction:

In the introduction, you point out some of the consequences for children of experiencing verbal abuse, especially those that children may have in adulthood. I recommend researching, writing, and analyzing experience of verbal abuse through long-term and short-term consequences.

In the introduction, you largely describe the consequences of such parental treatment for children, and you also mention the types of verbal abuse. Of the characteristics of parents that contribute to such behavior, you highlight only the transgenerational transmission of violence (i.e., the parenting practices of one's parents) and sociodemographic factors. Since this is a very well researched topic, it would be important to summarize the findings on what else contributes to the occurrence of violence. The area of parenting skills, knowledge of appropriate discipline procedures needs to be mentioned as part of the description of this topic.

Method:

I would like to know more about the instrument that was developed to assess the experience of verbal abuse. You could also summarize the socio-demographic data collected.

Results:

Sociodemographic: it is necessary to inform the audience about the basic characteristics of the sample - age, gender. You do not mention ethnicity and use this information later in the analysis.

In The Relationship Between Sociodemographic Factors and Verbal Abuse section, I recommend to forcefully shape the sentences. Many sentences begin with a number (calculation, result, number of participants); these are not enumerations. The text is difficult to follow. In logistic regression, it is necessary to explain the analysis procedure in detail. What is a criterion variable.

Generally you say that the questionnaire on the experience of verbal violence contained 38 variables, and in the analysis

this is either not stated or you only use the variable whether violence was experienced or not. It would be interesting to provide readers with more detail about the types of verbal violence experienced.

Regarding experience, it did not take into account when, in what period of time, the participants experienced verbal violence from their parents, how long this exposure lasted, how old they were then and how old they are now. It seems to me that the research participants talked about their experiences retrospectively, wondering how credible the information presented is and how generally it reflects the overall impression of their parents' parenting practices while growing up. Such an experience should certainly not be ignored, but it is important to place the responses in a temporal context - for what stage of life/growing up did the participants respond, how long ago was the last experience of verbal abuse, how old are the participants now. This information certainly shapes the findings obtained, may diminish their validity, and should be placed within the limitations of the research.

Discussion:

Through the discussion section you claim to examine the relationship between sociodemographic factors and verbal violence. However, the results shed light on the relationship between parental sociodemographic variables and experiences of verbal violence in childhood (I assume).

You claim that low level of education will trigger feelings of inferiority in parents. I think it is too harsh to draw that conclusion based on a small sample and without clear explanation of methodological framework or results of the analysis. Since you claim that other factors trigger verbal abuse by parents, such as behavioral or personality problems of parents, economic problems of the family, or a history of being a victim, it is necessary to classify your results into other risk factors that contribute to this complex phenomenon.

In the discussion section, there are some sentences that are grammatically inappropriate - they are at the beginning of each section, they look like a section announcement. I suggest to link them with the text below.

I recommend strengthening the conclusion and recommendations. It is necessary to show the limitations of this study.