

Review of: "Assessment, Benefits and factors that affect Guidance, Counselling Services in Secondary Schools in Owo Local Government, Ondo State."

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

First, I must commend the efforts put forth by the authors. It is clear this research endeavor was intended to exemplify the need for improved quality counselling services for students in secondary schools in Owo, locally, and statewide for Ondo. I hope the authors will continue their efforts on the benefits of counseling services to justifying greater supports from government entities.

Overall, this study was convoluted and I think just focusing on factors that affect counseling services in general would suffice the overall purpose. I think future revisions should include consistencies with abbreviations, citations, and punctuation. Lastly, this manuscript needs condensing and editing to make it more readable and understandable for the intended audience.

Background of the Study

Figure 1 takes up too much space, the description of services could just be listed. I think this section should be condensed to the specific context of guidance and counseling services in Nigeria. Discussing studies about school counsellor to student ratios seems irrelevant.

Broad Objective

This is confusing, it seems like this could have been included in the introduction. Also, I don't understand the purpose of a research objective in relation to the hypotheses.

Research Hypothesis

I find it interesting that the null hypotheses are written. The way it is written, it seems as if the researchers are outwardly wanting to show that there are not benefits to counselling services. Also, I'm not sure what the relevance is regarding gender of students if the intent is to study the benefits of counselling services in general.

The remaining section, assessment, benefits, factors, etc. are not necessary. If anything these should have been included in the background of the study.

Theoretical Framework

The image included is not from Bronfenbrenner's (1979) original development of a socio-ecological model.

Bronfenbrenner (1979) never discussed a Chronosystem, as it is pictured in the manuscript, as part of the model. I would encourage the authors to revisit the original work.

Sample size determination

I understood the formula, but not sure about the justification for the numbers.

Reliability of the instrument

It might be best to conceptualize this study as survey research, rather than including a discussion of reliability of the instrument when there is no clear understanding of constructs and proper factor analysis. Also, if one of the items ask whether the school has a guidance counsellor, wouldn't that negate the need for students to respond to any other items?

For the results, I think it would be prudent to include the effect size estimate. Yes, there appears to be statistical significance, but including the effect size will make the most difference in terms of generalizing results.

Implication to Nursing

I'm not sure why this is included since the focus of this study is on school counsellors.

I think a Limitations section should be included to acknowledge that a non-standardized instrument was used and that the data stemmed solely from self-report.

I think a clearer connection between the results and recommendations need to be made.