Review of: ""A totally new situation that put us into uncharted waters": Preschool teachers negotiate their professional identity in respect to online learning during the Covid-19 lockdowns in Greece."

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After reviewing the article, I find it suitable for publication but there are issues to be addressed before it can be finally published. The authors touch on an important concept, teacher professional identity, and relate it to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is also a top issue globally. In the manuscript, one core claim is that the pandemic crisis greatly affected teachers' perceptions of their professional identity and this led to the construction of new professional identities. The key precipitating factor in the aftermath of the pandemic that was perceived as influencing professional identities was identified to be Online Learning which was "imposed" on teachers as a result of the health restrictions which hindered physical (face-to-face) learning. The qualitative methodology involving 18 preschool teachers (all women) was used. The authors implied that the lack of formal institutional policies to help teachers prompted them to construct new professional frameworks and advocates for administrative interventions that boost teacher sense of professional security. The issues that need to be addressed prior to publication are as follows;

1. Since the final participants of the study are all women (females), I recommend the authors qualify the "preschool teachers" in the title with "females."

2. The authors need to include the situation of preschooling prior to the pandemic. I did not find that to be sufficiently addressed in the study. What were the (online) activities pre-pandemic, during the pandemic, and post-pandemic? Were there any preschool(s) in Greek that engaged in online learning activities during the pandemic and what were the main online learning activities that ensued in the adoption of online learning?

3. What were the changes in teacher professional identity during varying stages of the pandemic? Since the study was conducted between 2020 and 2021, how did the preschool teachers' professional identity change during new waves or stages of the pandemic crisis?

4. I recommend that you bring a gender perspective to the research, such as a focused & brief review of academic mothers'/female teachers' professional identity. You might want to talk about how demographics affected teacher professional identity since it has been identified in past studies that age, gender, marital status, and academic qualifications can all influence the construction of professional identities even in adverse times such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. The author mentioned the concept of E-learning and Online Learning. In a section of the study, an attempt was made to differentiate the two but it is insufficient. The authors need to clarify if the terms are used interchangeably in the

study or not and establish the key differences between the two if any.

6. I identified some spelling errors, grammatical mistakes, and punctuation errors in the study. This need to be reviewed and corrected. "E learning" in the paper should be "E-learning" and the term should be adequately defined when it is first used.

7. Clearly mention the kind/type of qualitative methodology identified in the study.

8. There was no/less talk/information about instrumentation. How was the instrument used developed for the study?

9. What was the sampling technique used and the rationale for using it?

10. What is a "medium-sized town in Central Greece"?

11. I later realized that it seems the interview transcripts were in Greek initially because they needed to be translated into English. What was the language used during the interviews? Please, mention it in the study.

12. Under "Analyses," paragraph 4, what is the use of "Reliability and Validity" at the end of the paragraph?

13. How were codes generated and collapsed?

14. The use of "abstract" during the discussion/presentation of results stage is not necessary.

15. Before presenting the findings, clearly mention the number of themes and sub-themes formulated.

All the best!