Review of: "School instability in South Africa: a Systematic Review of Reflections and Experiences for a way forward"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

i) The article can be enhanced by language editing. Several errors were noted related to tenses, plurals and missing words **eg On numerous occasions, it has been observed that learners have said substances within the confines of the educational institution (Nzama & Ajani, 2021).** This sentence like many others need to be reworked. Language editing will identify and eliminate these errors.

ii) Statistics need to be supported with references eg the article states that 'fights reduced **he matric pass rate at a school in KZN from 90 % to 40 % in less than 15 years.** Are they any studies that have established a link between this drop in the pass rate and school violence?

iii) The research methodology needs to be clearly explained. In the abstract the article states**"The present study investigates diverse factors contributing to educational instability in KwaZulu-Natal, drawing upon data derived from published literature and the authors' firsthand involvement as education administrators."** While in the Recommendation section the article states **"Drawing upon a range of scholarly sources, personal experiences of authors, and recommendations provided by teachers in select KwaZulu-Natal schools."** These two statements are inconsistent and therefore need to be reworked. Additionally, throughout the article only findings from literature review are presented and hence the authors should consider removing personal experiences and views of teachers. What was the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the literature used in this study?

iv) The discussion of Ubuntu could have been supported by literature.

v) The link between the violence in schools and the wider South African society could have been magnified by providing statistics of crimes especially violent crimes. There is scholarship that argues that schools mirror the society and this extents to societal malaise such as violence.

Overall, the article examines an interesting phenomenon that is affecting the education landscape in South Africa.