

Peer Review

Review of: "Social Class, Gender and Psychological Distress in Mumbai: Risk and Protective Factors"

Tafhimur Rahman¹

1. University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, United States

Thank you for the opportunity to review this thoughtful study of mental health in Mumbai. I suggest three focused improvements:

1. The difference in questionnaire administration between groups (Hindi interviews for LSES vs. English self-administration for MSES) should be briefly addressed in the limitations section, as this could affect response patterns. Perhaps note if any validation studies support the comparability of these methods.
2. Two measurement scales showed low reliability (PES at .44 and PSS at .56), which is below typical acceptability thresholds. Consider either using alternative validated scales or explaining why these measures were retained despite low reliability.
3. The large education gap between groups (27% illiterate LSES vs. 94% college graduates MSES) could be explored more explicitly as a factor in mental health outcomes, rather than just as a demographic difference.

The study makes a valuable contribution by examining mental health across socioeconomic groups in Mumbai, and these refinements would further strengthen its impact.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.