

Review of: "Square peg in a round hole: Migration and romantic relationship troubles in the UK Zimbabwean diaspora"

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Square peg in a round hole: Migration and romantic relationship troubles in the UK Zimbabwean diaspora

The research paper tries to capture the nexus between migration and relationships, which is a matter not very well explored. I commend the authors for examining such under studied yet very relevant issue. This will add to the knowledge and limited literature on the issue. The research approach used is appropriate to investigate such issues. That being said I have the following suggestions for improvement.

1. Quotes/extracts inserted below each major themes seem a little disconnected with the paper. I suggest to use in-text quotes within the result and discussion to give life to the paper. I also suggest to focus on very relevant ones (some of them are repetitive).
2. In the conclusion section, the authors claim that they can "deduce that immigration into the UK has a negative association with the marital relationships of migrant couples" This is a very bold claim particularly for a qualitative study which is based on very small no of data. In order to make such claim I believe a large number of data and also triangulating it with related finding is important. I suggest to rephrase this sentence, to conclude based on the level of data used. The authors can at least mention for based on their study finding, they observed negative association but they cannot generalize to the whole zimabawian or other migrants to the UK. I am sure there are other qualitative studies which can prove otherwise.
3. In the implication section it was mentioned that the study "highlights that language has a powerful effect of destabilizing relationships, continuously constructing and reconstructing cultural ideologies that transcend geography and time and creating destructive patterns of behavior and ways of living amongst the romantic relationships of the Zimbabwean UK Diaspora" However, it is not clear how language has such destabilizing effect. The authors and the extracted quotes show the impact of cultural role division on a relationship but it was not indicated how language plays this role. Perhaps it is a good idea if authors clarify what they mean by language.