

Review of: "Exploring the Role of Social, Economic, and Cultural Factors in Community Development: A Social Work Perspective in T/A Chimwala, Mangochi"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The topic addressed by the manuscript is current. Globalization processes, migratory phenomena and international conflicts are causing profound transformations in modern communities which show growing difficulties in coexistence in terms of local commitment and sense of belonging.

However, the manuscript presents important limitations, both in the theoretical introduction section and in the methodological section, which makes the work unsuitable for publication.

Introduction

The literature review is not extensive and neglects numerous works already published on the topic

Over the last twenty years, a growing international literature has documented a stable association between feelings of belonging, integration and influence on the one hand and conditions of well-being and community development on the other.

Furthermore:

- The strengths-based perspective is not theoretically anchored and is not clearly described.
- The three objectives of the study could be more differentiated. In particular, the difference between objectives 2 and 3 was unclear.
- The novelty of the study is little or not highlighted at all
- The authors should justify the choice of T/A Chimwala.

Method

The research design is mentioned but not described.

The sampling strategy is not indicated (random sampling, targeted sampling, snowball sampling...?)

The size of the sample, the age groups involved and the recruitment methods are not indicated.

What tools were used? The information provided (questionnaires and interviews) is too general. What kind of questionnaires? Purpose built? With what methods and criteria were the questions formulated? How many questionnaires and interviews were distributed? By whom and in what contexts? What response rate did they get?

How were ethical issues addressed?

Discussion

The comments on the data are rather repetitive and presented in a non-schematic way.

Conclusions

The specific contribution of the data collection carried out by the authors was little highlighted. The conclusions are more summary than speculative.

The operational implications of the study are not indicated

What operational indications does the study provide? What do strategies that exploit strengths consist of?