

Review of: "Socio-cultural factors influencing women empowerment: A cross-sectional study among an ex-criminal tribe in West Bengal, India"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Lodha tribe is mentioned as an ex-criminal tribe in the paper which seems that the tribe members indulged in criminal activities. Whether mentioning them as ex-criminal strengthen the stigma faced by them?

Whether alternative terms such as "perceived criminal tribe" or "so-called criminal tribe" may be used instead of "ex-criminal tribe"?

It is evident from the introduction section that the tag of "ex-criminal" still haunts members of the Lodha tribe, hence is it possible that the tag is removed?

In the methodology section, is it possible to explain in a few words (i) Multi-stage sampling and (ii) how one block was randomly selected and which random method was used?

In table number 2, the sample size such as (n=42) is mentioned with the (%) sign adjacent which may cause confusion. The (%) may be explained at the end of the table as Note: Percentage of women in the bracket.

The paper in the context of tribal women's empowerment is extremely valuable and important for policymakers. Authors must be congratulated for their efforts.