

## Review of: "Exploring the Relationship Between Gender and Sustainable Development Competencies in Higher Education Institutions: Insights from a Zimbabwean University"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article covers an important topic relevant to contributing to the sustainable development goal: gender inequality and contains a thorough review of the literature on this topic situated in the academic world. It is well-written but still, it leaves me with a number of questions.

- In the introduction 'development of sustainable development competencies' is mentioned, but which competencies are
  meant, why these and how do these competencies relate to the academic competencies which are also mentioned? I
  think this is an important point to clarify in-depth.
- . In the introduction, it does not become clear what this research adds to what is already known
- The intersectionality theory is mentioned and applied to gender inequality, but it remains unclear how this theory has been applied to this research
- The university seems rather small with only 43 academics. Which studies are provided by this university and how many students? If this is a technical university it may be of influence on the gender of the academic staff.
- In the introduction I miss a reader's guide. I do not understand the rationale behind the different sections in the introduction.
- The methodology section states which methods are used but not why these are used. A mixed methods approach but how do the interviews and questionnaires enhance each other?
  - How are the interviews conducted ((semi-)structured)? What are the topics covered in interviews and questionaires? How are the resulting data analysed? To what extent were the interview results of the deans influenced by each other? The interview of the female dean was not anonymous within the organisation

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