Review of: "Identifying Psychological Distress Patterns during the COVID-19 Pandemic using an Intersectional Lens"

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Thank you for this timely and interesting analysis on factors influencing psychological distress during the COVID-19 pandemic. Intersectionality is in my opinion very important. The paper is well-written. The method is appropriate; ensemble learning increases the validity of the results. I have a few comments:

I think you could integrate a bit more in the introduction the arguments on how the paper differs from other papers on psychological distress during the pandemic, especially considering intersectionality. In addition, the introduction could be shortened at bit.

Please check the following sentence, it looks like the reference in the end is missing: "Instead of race, it is racism that shapes mental health (Williams, Lawrence, and Davis 2019) and both gender and race intersect to create intricate differences in experiences and health ()."

Some more descriptions or references how the participants were recruited would be good. Did you use any target quotas? Is some other analysis on the dataset already published?

Please consider using sex and gender consistently throughout the paper, also in the figures.

How was the sample size determined?

Did the same people fill in the questionnaire twice?

Could you have created a bias by omitting cases with missing values? How many were omitted? What was the pattern of missingness?