

# Review of: "Hanging on a Rope: The Current Triangular to Pentagonal Kinship Transformation in Simalungunese"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Authors,

Thank you for your article. It may be helpful to know that I approached my review of your article from a critical intercultural communication lens. You provided an extensive explanation of kinship relationships transforming from triangular to pentagonal. The charts that you included were helpful in tracking the norms that you identified, and providing the words appropriate to the language in Simalungunese, was culturally responsive. The picture that you included was also helpful to assist the reader in visualizing the funerals that you were describing in the text of the article. The writing style in the article reads very scientific. Given that the article is about families, gender roles, funerals and lineage through marriage, a more narrative approach could have further bolstered how culturally situated these kinship lived experiences are. It may also assist readers in understanding cultural nuances and complexities in family dynamics that are not readily understood in a more Western context. The content you provided was very strong, I just invite you to consider a writing style that is more narrative and draws the reader into a lived experience with which they may not be familiar. Thank you.