

# Review of: "Psycho-Social Factors as Elixir to the School Adjustment of High Ability Secondary School Students in Oyo State, Nigeria"

Emmanuel Eze<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Author,

Thank you for allowing me to review your manuscript titled "Psycho-Social Factors as Elixir to the School Adjustment of High Ability Secondary School Students in Oyo State, Nigeria." I commend your efforts in conducting this research and presenting your findings. However, I have several suggestions for improvement:

## Title:

I have some issues with the current title of the paper "Psycho-Social Factors as Elixir to the School Adjustment of High Ability Secondary School Students in Oyo State, Nigeria". While "elixir" metaphorically suggests a solution or remedy, it might not be the most appropriate term here. Secondly, revising the title to convey the focus or key findings of the research in simpler terms will be more accessible.

## Abstract:

While the abstract effectively outlines the study's objectives, methodology, and findings, it could be strengthened by including a brief context and significance of the research topic at the beginning, followed by a specific implication of the study's findings at the end.

## Introduction:

The introduction lacks a clear delineation of the research gap and fails to explicitly state the novel or significant aspects of the study within the existing literature. The author states that "the concern of this current study is on how the school adjustment of H.A.S.S.S could be addressed through psycho-social factors." It is unclear how their study is different from the briefly mentioned studies. Moreover, it lacks a theoretical framework justifying the selection of the listed psycho-social factors.

This section also contains unsupported sweeping statements that require proper citation. For instance, the statement, "School is the first contact between the child and the world outside the home," lacks nuance and may not universally hold true. In my opinion, children have various experiences and interactions (e.g., with relatives, in other public/religious places, social gatherings, etc.) outside the home environment before they start attending school.

I suggest a little restructuring of the introduction into two sections namely introduction and conceptual/theoretical

framework. In the first part, the author should focus on contextualising their study and highlighting its significance by drawing from the gaps unfilled by previous studies. Specifically, the author should properly integrate findings from previous studies to show gaps, and how their study addresses these gaps. The second part should clarify the key concepts (i.e., psychosocial factors) being investigated and why they are included in the study. The inter-relationships among these factors should be presented.

### **Minor comments**

Stick to one abbreviation of H.A.S.S.S or HASSS for consistency.

Consider integrating recent literature (up to 10 years) and ensuring consistency in abbreviations.

### **Methods:**

The chosen research design lacks proper justification, and critical details such as the population size and the specific tests administered to subjects are missing. Ethical considerations, particularly regarding the age range of subjects and the nature of tests used, need to be addressed, especially concerning ethical clearance and parental consent.

Specifically, the age range of the subjects of this study and the nature of tests (IQ tests) warrant ethical clearance and parental consent since the school leaving age in Nigeria is 16 years. It is unclear how the author fulfilled this requirement in preparing, conducting and reporting their research.

More information regarding the instruments used, including any adjustments made, or whether they were adopted in their original form, is necessary for clarity.

### **Results:**

The study lacks an exploration of the interrelationships among the tested variables, which were expected to be depicted using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC). The basis for ranking variables in Table 2 requires clarification, and a stepwise regression analysis could better identify the most significant predictors of school adjustment.

### **Discussion:**

The discussion section should more critically present the 'so what' in interpreting the study's results, linking them to existing literature and emphasizing their significance in the context of the study's topic and participants.

### **Conclusion:**

The conclusion should succinctly reiterate key findings, integrate recommendations, address the study's limitations, and propose suggestions for future research endeavors.

Overall, restructuring and strengthening key sections, including providing proper citations and more detailed information, will greatly enhance the manuscript's clarity and impact.