Review of: "The Centrality of Sexual Abstinence in the Buddha’s Teachings"

Sumati Y

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

It is praiseworthy that the author has tried to deliver into Buddhism. However, the article, if it aims to be considered a Research article, lacks a systematic exposition of the concept of abstinence. It sounds more like a translation with a couple of author’s sentences tailing the quoted text. Further, it cannot claim to encompass what Buddhism in totality opines on abstinence, as other reviewers have noticed.

Moreover, and importantly I don’t agree with his comprehension of sexual desire as unnatural in Buddhism. His translation of the original text itself brings it out as an evolutionary trait that gets expressed in certain ways. Secondly, I find the author’s reference to menstrual pain, pregnancy discomfort and the process of painful birthing as ridiculous and parochial (offensively, no reference to masculine pain). I am afraid the author has to try doing genuine research instead of presenting the meaning of convenience.