

Review of: "An Analysis of the Attitude Toward Women's Affairs Policymaking with Emphasis on "Family Management and Lifestyle" Book of Twelfth Grade Girls"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors examined Iranian people, who are underrepresented in the literature. The results are interesting. However, I have raised some major and minor comments, as follows:

Introduction

Major Comments:

1. **Clarity and Focus:** The introduction lacks clear delineation of the research problem and objectives. It begins with a general discussion on educational policy and textbooks but does not explicitly state the specific focus of the study until much later. Clarifying the primary research question and objectives early on would enhance the coherence of the introduction.
2. **Literature Review Integration:** While the introduction touches upon various sociological and educational theories regarding gender identity and educational policy, there seems to be a need for more thorough integration of relevant literature to provide a stronger theoretical framework for the study. This would help situate the research within the existing discourse and highlight its contribution to the field.
3. **Methodological Transparency:** Although the methodology is briefly mentioned towards the end of the introduction, there is a lack of detail regarding the specific methods employed for content analysis and how upstream documents were utilized. Providing more clarity on the methodology would enhance the rigor and reproducibility of the study.

Minor Comments:

1. **Citation Formatting:** The citation style appears inconsistent, with some citations following APA style (e.g., Papanikos) while others are in plain text (e.g., Imada). Standardizing the citation format would improve the overall professionalism of the manuscript.
2. **Definition Clarification:** The terms "cultural policies" and "upstream documents" are mentioned without clear definitions or explanations of their significance to the study. Providing definitions or contextual explanations for these terms would aid readers in understanding their relevance to the research context.

Background & Theoretical Foundations

Major Comments:

1. **Lack of Synthesis:** While the passage provides a comprehensive overview of various studies analyzing gender representation in textbooks across different countries, it lacks synthesis and integration of these findings to build a coherent narrative. The information is presented as a series of summaries of different studies without clear connections between them. Strengthening the synthesis of these studies would enhance the reader's understanding of the broader patterns and implications of gender representation in educational materials.
2. **Methodological Transparency:** The passage discusses the theoretical framework for analyzing policymaker attitudes and their impact on educational content, but it lacks clarity on the specific methodology employed in the research. Providing more detail on how the content analysis of the "Family Management and Lifestyle" textbook was conducted would improve transparency and enable readers to better evaluate the validity and reliability of the study's findings.

Methodology:

Major Comments:

1. **Lack of Methodology Clarity:** It's unclear how the qualitative content analysis was conducted. The process should be elaborated on, including how themes were identified, how coding was performed, and what criteria were used for analysis. Providing a detailed methodology section would enhance the study's transparency and reproducibility.
2. **Interpretation Bias:** The analysis appears to be influenced by a particular ideological perspective, which may bias the interpretation of the data. To ensure objectivity and rigor, it's essential to acknowledge any potential biases and strive for a balanced interpretation of the findings.
3. **Lack of Contextualization:** The analysis would benefit from contextualizing the findings within existing literature or theoretical frameworks. By situating the study within relevant scholarly discourse, readers can better understand its contribution to the field and the broader implications of the findings.
4. **Limited Generalizability:** The study's findings seem to be based on a specific text or set of texts, which may limit the generalizability of the conclusions. It's important to discuss the scope and limitations of the study, including any constraints related to the sample size or representativeness of the texts analyzed.

Minor Comments:

1. **Citation Formatting:** Ensure consistent and accurate citation formatting throughout the text to adhere to academic standards. Pay attention to details such as punctuation, capitalization, and italicization for titles, authors, and publication dates.
2. **Clarification of Terminology:** Some terms and concepts used in the analysis may require clarification for readers who are not familiar with the subject matter. Providing definitions or explanations for specialized terminology can enhance the accessibility of the text.
3. **Integration of Supporting Evidence:** While the analysis provides detailed descriptions of themes and sub-components, integrating direct quotes or examples from the text being analyzed can strengthen the arguments and provide concrete evidence to support the interpretations.

4. **Addressing Counterarguments:** To strengthen the validity of the analysis, consider acknowledging and addressing potential counterarguments or alternative interpretations of the data. This demonstrates critical thinking and intellectual rigor in evaluating the findings.

Conclusion:

1. Major comments:

Clarity and Focus: The conclusion presents a comprehensive overview of the research findings, but it could benefit from greater clarity and focus. Some sentences are lengthy and complex, making it challenging for readers to grasp the main points easily. Consider breaking down complex ideas into simpler, more digestible segments to enhance clarity and ensure that each point receives adequate emphasis.

2. **Need for Specific Recommendations:** While the conclusion discusses the negative consequences of policymakers' attitudes and calls for a reevaluation of dominant discourses, it lacks specific recommendations for addressing the identified issues. Providing concrete suggestions for policymakers, educators, and curriculum developers on how to revise textbooks and policies to better reflect contemporary gender roles and identities would enhance the practical utility of the research findings.
3. **Integration of Alternative Perspectives:** The conclusion primarily focuses on critiquing the traditional discourse about women and its impact on gender identity education. However, it could benefit from integrating alternative perspectives or acknowledging potential counterarguments to provide a more balanced analysis. Including diverse viewpoints would enrich the discussion and demonstrate a nuanced understanding of the complexities surrounding gender identity education in the context of cultural norms and societal expectations.