

# Review of: "The Correlation between Poverty and Crime in Pakistan"

Elvis Bisong Tambe<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Linnaeus University

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

I read the manuscript on the correlation between poverty and crime in Pakistan with great interest. I appreciate the authors for tackling such an important issue. However, I cannot recommend the paper for publication as it has several issues that need to be addressed before it can be published. Below, I outline some shortcomings of the article and suggest areas for the authors to focus on for improvement, which I will discuss in more detail below:

First, the paper does not contribute any new scholarly knowledge on the link between poverty and crime in Pakistan. The authors refer to previous studies on the topic, but it is unclear what their specific contribution is. It would be helpful for the authors to clearly outline their contribution and specify their research focus instead of simply stating that they are looking at the link between poverty and crime.

Second, the entire paper is descriptive and lacks a solid foundation for its conclusions and policy suggestions. There is no theoretical discussion on how poverty is connected to crime, and no appropriate hypothesis is presented. To improve the article, I suggest that the authors treat it as a review article that summarizes existing research on the link between poverty and crime.

Third, there are several sections that need to be included in the paper to improve its quality. A proper theoretical and literature review on the link between poverty and crime is necessary. The authors should also justify why they are focusing solely on poverty and crime rather than considering corruption as well. Additionally, an appropriate methodology is needed to establish the link between poverty and crime. The authors could either rely on existing surveys or gather their own data that focuses on key variables such as poverty and crime. Alternatively, they could use a qualitative research design by conducting in-depth interviews with ordinary citizens or experts. Along this line, they need to properly conceptualise the definition of crime – how do they measure crime, and which type of crime they are referring to.

Fourth, the recommendations made in the paper lack credibility without an appropriate research design that supports confident conclusions. As mentioned earlier, the authors could improve the article by focusing on a review of existing research on poverty and crime in Pakistan.

