Reviewer’s report

Title: Reliability of the Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, and Uganda

Version: 2 Date: 19 September 2011

Reviewer: Carol Bova

Reviewer’s report:

The authors did a nice job responding to the comments from the previous review. This paper is now focused only on the reliability of the 28-item adapted MC-SDS.

Major Compulsory Revisions - NONE

Minor Essential Revisions - There are some minor grammatical and typographical errors that need to be corrected (e.g., p 11 - countries is mis-spelled; p 11 delete the words "is then" in the sentence: This resulted in the individual's propensity..."; p 12 delete Crown-Marlow Scale and replace with MC-SDS)

Please indicate that the version of the MC-SDS tested in this study was a 28-item version (this should be in the text and as a footnote for Table 3 so the Table can be interpreted on its own (a footnote would suffice).

P. 12 - one statement indicates that the adapted tool is "effective at documenting SD as self reports" - I am not sure what this sentence means. It might be more accurate to talk about the reliability of the scale administered as in interview format (self-report was not tested in this study). Please re-phrase this statement.

Discretionary Revisions

Figure 1 can be deleted from the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests