Reviewer's report

Title: Divorce, divorce rates, and professional care seeking for mental health problems in Europe: a cross-sectional population based study

Version: 3 Date: 7 July 2009

Reviewer: Terrance J Wade

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions
None

Minor Revisions
None

Major Compulsory Revisions

In reference to Andersen’s model, they still indicate in the last section of the introduction that “we try to uncover the predisposing, enabling, and need factors that explain this possible difference in amount of use”. But in their response to the reviews, they indicate that they are not testing Andersen’s model but using it as a heuristic. This is fine but they do not uncover “THE” …factors, but “SOME” factors since by their own admission, they cannot account for all of those identified previously by Andersen (i.e., income). I realize this is semantic but a very important semantic.

Second, they still are missing some literature on marital status and mental health, and transitions into and out of married (important cross-sectional and longitudinal papers) both using British data, US data, and Canadian data. Moreover, they are missing articles on the relationship between mental health and service use among single mothers – previous work that has found exactly what they found – that mental health problems do not explain away all differences in service use among separated/divorced.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests