Reviewer’s report

Title: Sex Partnerships, Health, and Social Risks of Young Men Leaving Jail: Analyzing Data from a Randomized Controlled Trial

Version: 1 Date: 8 June 2010

Reviewer: Christopher K Fairley

Reviewer’s report:

It is a well written and clearly described study but it is just so long and has so much detail, that I found myself lost in the huge amount of text and material. It is an editors decision about what to do about this, but I wonder whether all these words and all this data are needed to make the case that is eloquently made in the first paragraph of the discussion…..that long term romantic relations are a good thing… Whether this is something that you can intervene in- and encourage relationships- with beneficial effects or not is another issue.

Minor comments
Some statistical data and numbers would be useful in the abstract.

The introduction is enormous. Generally one page is sufficient to make an argument for the merit of the work. If were editor I would ask it to be reduced to one page.

The results are also long and rather tedious. If the data is in the table, I’d suggest it is not repeated in the text- unless something additional is added.

The tables have a lot of detailed data in them also- again it is an editors decision, but my view is there are too many.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.