Reviewer's report

**Title:** Parental control and monitoring of young people’s sexual behaviour in rural North-Western Tanzania: Implications for sexual and reproductive health interventions

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 19 September 2010

**Reviewer:** Apolinaras Zaborskis

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer's Report on the article
Parental control and monitoring of young people’s sexual behaviour in rural North-Western Tanzania: Implications for sexual and reproductive health interventions
Joyce Wamoyi, Angela Fenwick, Mark Urassa, Basia Zaba, William Stones

In the paper authors examine parental control and monitoring on young people’s sexual decision making in a selected rural population. The research goal is twofold actual: there is a dearth of such information for African populations and, in general, the scientific literature on how parental control and monitoring affect young people’s sexual behaviour is scarce.

The question posed by the authors is well defined. The study employed an ethnographic research design; the methods are appropriate and well described. The presented study results sound scientifically as well as ethnographically because authors describe in details an ordinary family life of people living in rural area of Tanzania. Of course, the manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition. The discussion and conclusions are quite well balanced and adequately supported by the data. The writing is acceptable.

Comments:

- **Major Compulsory Revisions:**

1. Comment for discussion and conclusions presents a detailed overview of presented results (it might be shortened avoiding duplications). Therefore, as the study was realized in very limited country level, it is desiderated to get some comparisons of authors’ data with data originated in other cultures (e.g. European, American) and to know authors’ opinion on generalization of findings

2. Some discussion on study limitations should be given (for example, how much results might be generalized for the all country/region, are there any methodical limitations that needed for quantitative research design, etc.).

- **Minor Essential Revisions:**

1. The acronyms (eg. WHO, SSA, etc.) must be introduced immediately after the
first use of full their wording in the text.
2. Syntax correction is needed in Discussion, 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence.

- Discretionary Revisions:

1. As the study was carried out using a specific research design this must be mentioned in the title (e.g. “Parental control and monitoring of young people’s sexual behaviour and implications for sexual and reproductive health interventions: an ethnographic study in rural North-Western Tanzania”.

Prof. Apolinaras Zaborskis

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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