Author's response to reviews

Title: Controlling behavior, power relations within intimate relationships and intimate partner physical and sexual violence against women.

Authors:

Diddy Antai (theangelstrust.nigeria@gmail.com)

Version: 4 Date: 8 June 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to reviewer

Title: Controlling behavior, power relations within intimate relationships and intimate partner physical and sexual violence against women.

Version: 3 Date: 16 May 2011

Reviewer: Farah Ahmad

Reviewer's report:
Manuscript title: Controlling behavior, power relations within intimate relationships and intimate partner physical and sexual violence against women. The authors have addressed the comments provided for the last version.

The only comment I have for the current version is for the Results on page 8. The authors give comparative results for several variables but don’t explicitly state “compared to xxx”. For example, the sentence “More women in monogamous relationships (n = 2056; 71%) reported being subjected to physical violence (p<0.023), and 290 (44%) reported experiencing sexual violence (p< 0.000).” It is not clear more than whom? This could be rephrased such as: “Compared to polygamous women, more women in monogamous relationships...”.

Author response
Corrected as reviewer requested.

The other minor essential revision is on editing for language. For example, on page 5 in para 2, the Conflict Tactic Scale appears two times in same sentence. On page 9, line 12 the "05% CI" should be changed to "95% CI".

Author response
Corrected as reviewer requested.

Associate Editor's Comment:
There is a typo in the abstract (...was collected FROM 19 216 eligible with the DHS domestic violence module). The document should be read carefully to fix typos.
The last sentence of the intro should be incorporated into the preceding paragraph and should read, "I hypothesized that woman who reported less power within their relationship would most likely be victims of controlling behavior and be at a increased risk of physical and sexual IPV."

There needs to be some copy editing, not for language issues, but more for typos.

Author response
Done as associate editor requested.