Reviewer's report

**Title:** Morbid obesity in women on the rise: an observational, population-based study.

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 26 February 2013

**Reviewer:** Kathryn Backholer

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have adequately addressed most of the reviewers comments. However, the authors now state that the increase in morbid obesity was consistent across all ages and across SES strata - confirmed by a non-significant interaction term (SES*time period). However, given the small number of people that would have been morbidly obese and the further stratification by SES required for this interaction, it is very likely that there would have been insufficient power to conclusively test this. The authors should, at the very least, acknowledge these power limitations in the discussion.

**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.