Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Sex knowledge, attitudes, and high-risk sexual behaviors among unmarried youth in Hong Kong

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 17 March 2013

**Reviewer:** qiaoqin ma

**Reviewer’s report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. in the “result” of abstract section, “Logistic regressions indicated that age, parents’ marital status, study status, and liberal attitudes towards sex were positively associated with premarital sex or high-risk sex behaviors, and gender, education and immigration status was negatively associated with premarital sex or high-risk sex behaviors”, some words should be more clearer, for example, age, is it younger or older”, likely, parents’ marital status, study status, gender, education, etc.

2. In the “participant and procedure” of method section, some household may have over one young people, the author may need to describe how many household have one young people, and how many have over one, and the total number of the participants contacted and completed the survey?

3. The author used the 2 methods to collect information in this survey, face to face, or self-administered, the characteristics of the 2 groups may be different, it might be better to explain why some participants adopt face-to-face, and the other not, and compare the difference of them.

4. In the ‘Measure’ of method section, the author should describe of the 12 questions for knowledge in detail, the readers don’t know the exact questions in the current text.

5. In the first paragraph of discussion section, “Half of the sexually active youth who did not use contraceptive methods indicated that sexual intercourse happened unexpectedly, so they had never thought of contraception issues”, this statement may not be correctly enough, we can not exclude the possibility that some participants did not use contraception deliberately. As well, “The fact that one quarter of our unmarried youth used the rhythm method and were not afraid of pregnancy also demonstrated that contraception should be appropriately addressed ……”, I think that these youth who used rhythm as contraception, they should be afraid of pregnancy.

6. In the second paragraph, the author compare the result with other findings, then concluded that despite the long history of Western influence, Hong Kong youth still maintain some conservative attitudes toward sex. However, through these comparisons, we can not get such impression that their sexual attitude is
conservative to some extent. As well, why reference 26 is introduced in this paragraph, it seems that it is inappropriate to be put here because it describes the number of sexual partner in USA.

7. In the fourth paragraph of the discussion, “immigrant youth were less likely to engage in premarital sex, but more likely to have casual relationships and have multiple sex partners …….” the discussion for this result is very weak, and unrelated to some extent. Is it possible that immigrant youth have different sexual attitude toward premarital sex, and multiple sexual partnerships? They may be conservative for premarital sex, and liberal for casual sex?

Further, “Second, family life satisfaction showed no association with any high-risk sex behaviors. It may be that only one global measurement item fails to capture the full dimensionality of family life, so multiple items could be used in future studies.” this discussion does not sound strong, the author may add the contra results from other research.

8. Table 3, the number of youth (denominators) for different variables should be added in the reference at the lowest part of the table and relevant part of the text.

**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.