Reviewer's report

Title: Parent-reported measures of child health and wellbeing in same-sex parent families: a cross-sectional survey

Version: 1 Date: 12 May 2014

Reviewer: Marie Leiner

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Mayor Compulsory Revisions

This study is of high importance and needed. However, there are methodological problems that need to be solved and it should not be published until they are corrected.

The study needs to clarify the following items.

Information about the validity of the questionnaire

The authors need to clarify this part "Survey preparation comprised a scoping review of the literature,[1] consultations with same-sex attracted parents and adult children with same-sex attracted parents, and development of a survey instrument that demonstrated overall coherence with embedded, established, psychometrically validated and reliable measures of child health.

This is not a correct way to demonstrate the reliability and validity of the questionnaire. If they used it in another study they need to comprise information in this paper to provide the reader the validity of the questionnaire. It is not the obligation of the reader to go and read their other article.

The test scores found in the study indicate non normal data that needs to be normalized using the usual conversions. Data transformations are commonly used tools that can serve many functions in quantitative analysis of data. The use of three data transformations most commonly discussed in statistics texts (square root, log, and inverse) for improving the normality of variables need to be attempted to apply parametric test. As a consequence, I cannot discuss the results because all the analysis needs to be redone or use non parametric data.

e.g. Total difficulties mean 8.78 (4.24) 8.14 (6.15)

Any results and possible conclusions in this study are not valid until this conversions are done.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interest in relation with the paper