Reviewer's report

Title: HIV/AIDS in Trinidad: A Dilemma for Religious Groups

Version: 1 Date: 10 May 2005

Reviewer: Ekere Essien

Reviewer's report:

Review Comments

Date: May 10, 2005

Reviewer: Ekere James Essien

Title: HIV/AIDS in Trinidad: The Dilemma for Religious Groups

This paper addresses a very important and interesting topic. The role that religious organizations can play in minimizing the incidence of HIV transmission (particularly in resource poor settings) is increasingly being recognized by the scientific community. Here are a few suggestions to help strengthen the paper:

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS:

1. The date(s) that the study was conducted should be included in the abstract.
2. The role that faith-based organizations can play in HIV prevention as well as barriers that have limited their participation should be clearly articulated in the background section. This information is available in the literature. In addition, the specific aim(s) of the present study needs to be properly delineated in the background section.
3. The methodology section needs to be further developed and should include information on the demographic characteristics of the study sample, selection of the study participants, and the development and validation of the personal interview guide questions.
4. Did an Institutional Review Board review the study protocol?
5. Additional information needs to be included in the manuscript on who conducted the personal interviews (e.g., level of education, previous experience in conducting personal interviews, etc.), where the interviews were conducted, and if the interviewer used open ended or closed interview format.
6. The manuscript will also be strengthened by the addition of information pertaining to how the data were collected, transcribed, and analyzed.
7. The readers will be better able to appreciate the contexts of the information provided in this paper if a copy of the guide questions is included in the manuscript.

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS:
None

DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS:
None
General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.