Reviewer's report

Title: Religion and HIV in Tanzania: Influence of Religious Beliefs on HIV Stigma, Disclosure, and Treatment Attitudes

Version: 1 Date: 1 October 2008

Reviewer: Lisa Norman

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Review of paper “Religion and HIV in Tanzania: Influence of Religious Beliefs on HIV Stigma, Disclosure, and Treatment Attitudes by Lisa R. Norman, Ponce School of Medicine

This was a well written paper. Just some minor edits that need to be addressed. Starting with the results, you cannot start a sentence with a number (e.g., 53.2%). Too many sentences start with a number, which I suggest rewriting the sentences so that this isn’t the case. However, if the authors intend to begin the sentences with a number, they must write it out (e.g., fifty-three point two percent), which is a bit awkward. That is why I suggest rewriting the sentences to convey the same information.

No 95% confidence intervals are presented for the odds ratios. They need to be included in the results section as well.

The authors do not discuss any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished.

When assessing the work, please consider the following points, which I did.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Yes
3. Are the data sound? Yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for report and data deposition? Yes/ but see comments above.
5. Are the discussion and conclusion well balances and adequately supported by the data? Yes
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? No
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? Yes

Major compulsory revisions