Reviewer's report

Title: "I'm the Momma": Using Photo-elicitation to Understand Matrilineal Influence on Family Food Choice

Version: 2 Date: 13 April 2010

Reviewer: Angela Odoms-Young

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

On page 8-9, please provide a brief description of the investigators that conducted the interviews (was the interviewer the first author?).

On page 9 the authors indicate that they “completed a 1-page paper survey prior to the in-depth interview.” Please briefly describe the questions asked on the survey.

The interviews lasted from 25 to 70 mins. This is a wide range. Please list the average length of the interviews.

Constant comparative analysis is the analysis method used within grounded theory. If authors used all aspects of grounded theory they should just list grounded theory (delete constant comparative analysis). (Two web-based sources that may be helpful include http://www.qualres.org/HomeCons-3824.html and http://www.nova.edu/ssss/QR/QR4-1/dye.html)

In addition, parts of the description such as “Other memos included lists of the most characteristic quotations from each participant intended to reveal a participant’s essence.” What is a participants’ “essence”? This could be removed. However, if included please explain.

Authors indicate that “preliminary findings were shared with the project team for discussion and validation”. I would recommend that authors remove the word “validation”. This concept is not commonly used in qualitative research and it implies that other researchers can validate the authors interpretation of participants perceptions and experiences. This is more commonly referred to a peer debriefing (http://www.qualres.org/HomePeer-3693.html).

In Table 2, I would recommend that you include a definition of each of the themes and some representative quotes. Although the general attitudes toward “mom” are presented, this table would provide a good opportunity to clarify these attitudes relate to food choice.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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 interest.