Author's response to reviews

Title: Intimate partner violence and mental health in Bolivia

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This third round of reviews does not contain any concrete suggestions that pertain to the content or merits of the paper. Rather the feedback focuses on matters of format and presentation. The reviewer gave the following specific comments:

- The reviewer commented that the methods section should be after the measures section and does not need to be repeated in the results section.

Reply: This is a new comment that was not mentioned in the previous two rounds of review. In response, we have move the methods section after the measures section.

- The reviewer commented that several sentences need revising for inappropriate or confusing wording (but did not specify which sentences she found inappropriate or confusing), and also that some language corrections were needed.

Reply: We reviewed the paper and did indeed identify a number of language errors. We have corrected those. We also rephrased some sentences to make them clearer.

- The reviewer commented that the results section was still too lengthy, and that there is no need to report every single item in the tables and no need to comment on those that are nonsignificant.

Reply: The reviewer appears to suggest that non-significant findings are unimportant. We respectfully disagree with that point of view. Nevertheless, we have made further cuts in the description of the results.

- The reviewer commented that the revised discussion section contained a few new references to other studies but remained fairly superficial.

Reply: We understand the reviewer's desire to see how our findings fit with those of other studies. However, given the absence of literature on the relationship between IPV and mental health in Bolivia (or even in Latin America), the existing body of literature deals with societies and cultures that are not comparable. This
limits the extent to which we can make valid comparisons with other studies. We certainly do not feel comfortable making extensive comparisons with studies conducted largely in developed countries.

We have expanded the discussion a bit further and added some additional references, but have refrained from making further comparisons that we feel are not appropriate.