Reviewer's report

Title: Gender: Shaping Women's Personality, Lives and Health in Pakistan

Version: 3 Date: 6 January 2014

Reviewer: Maggi Banning

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Okay but the Sample selection was not a cross sectional sample that provided insights into the opinions and views of women from the educated classes. The sample is bias towards uneducated women with limited resources who depend on the male partners to make decisions for them. The sample of women was selected from women living in squatter camps. Surely women from educated classes and working classes women could have been included in the sample to give some element of balance.

I feel that the paper is flawed because of this reason. What contribution to knowledge can this paper offer based on interviews with a limited sample of the female community in Pakistan? I feel that the paper is limited in its transferability to all Pakistani women outside this region.

3. Are the data sound? To some extent
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? To some extent
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? To some extent
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 Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?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

I feel that the paper should be rejected.