Author’s response to reviews

Title: Villains or victims? An ethnography of Afghan maternity staff and the challenge of high quality respectful care

Authors:
Rachel Arnold (rarnold@bournemouth.ac.uk)
Edwin van Teijlingen (evteijlingen@bournemouth.ac.uk)
Kath Ryan (k.m.ryan@reading.ac.uk)
Immy Holloway (iholloway@bournemouth.ac.uk)

Version: 2 Date: 17 Jul 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Reply to revision points BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth “Villains or Victims”?

Dear Dr Janelle Core,

Thank you for your feedback on our revised manuscript “Villains or victims? An ethnography of Afghan maternity staff and the challenge of high quality respectful care”. We are pleased that it is potentially acceptable for publication.

We have addressed each of the points raised as follows:

2. & 2. We have added more detail regarding the ethics committee, that verbal consent was formally approved by the ethics committee, and that verbal consent was recorded on the consent form by the translator.

(Page 28) The text now reads:

“Formal ethical approval for this study was obtained from the Afghan Ministry of Public Health Institutional Review Board (No: 112868 & 984111) and duly registered with Bournemouth University Research and Enterprise Committee. Permission was also obtained from the Kabul hospital director. Information sheets were displayed in public areas of the hospital prior to study
commencement. Study objectives were explained to each interview participant and they were assured that personal details and identifiers would be removed from the data to protect their anonymity. Ongoing informed consent was obtained from each participant. Written consent was obtained from most participants and where verbal consent was given this was recorded on the consent form by the translator. The consent procedures including taking verbal consent were documented in the study protocol that went through ethical review.

3. We have noted that Edwin van Teijlingen is an associate editor in the competing interests section.

(Page 29) The text now reads:

Edwin van Teijlingen is an associate editor of this journal. The other authors declare that they have no competing interests.

4. I have changed my email address in the submission system so it should now be the same as on the title page.

5. We have given the manuscript a final proof-read and removed all highlighting and comments.

We think that we have fully addressed your points but please do not hesitate to contact us if further amendments or clarification is required.

Yours sincerely

The authors