**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** The effect of midwifery led counseling based on Gamble's approach on childbirth fear and self-efficacy in nulligravida women

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**Author’s response to reviews:**

Editor comments:
1. The title page and abstract in the first page are different from page 4-5. Please delete all previous files and upload new files.
   Thank you. We uploaded all files again.
2. Abstract: please explain the method of counseling that was “BELIEF”.
   Thank you. We did it.
3. I noticed that registration of the study in IRCT was retrospective. Please write this matter when you have mentioned the registration number and please explain why the registration was retrospective?
   Thank you for the note. However, the study was not retrospective. The date of registration was 19-12-2018, while we started the procedure in February of 2019.
4. In my previous comments, I requested authors to write the abbreviation name of journal and also, they should start the name of journal with capital letter, but this comment was not considered by authors.
   Our apology for this mistake. We wrote the abbreviation of the journals.
5. Please add the reasons for drop-out in the intervention and control groups separately in figure 1.
   We added these reasons in figure 1.
6. I could not see the title of table 1. Please add it.
   Thank you. We added the title.

Reviewer reports:
Reviewer 1: Some typos are still there. For example, information related to age is not available in Table 1 but the authors refer Table 1. They also missed the title of Table 1. Typos are also observed in the title of the manuscript, flowchart and Tables.
Thank you. We checked the whole paper to correct typos.

Reviewer 2:
1- Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format. Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.
Thank you. We added our comments in the box.

2- In background part, the researcher is needed to explain more about the data, especially in the line 29-39. For example" evidence demonstrated high prevalence of childbirth fear in Iranian too" It is not makes a sense if you did not show the data and regarding fear about the CS procedure. I think the researcher explain in detail about Mortazevi studies.
Thank you for the note. However, in the previous version of the revision, we reported the data of prevalence of childbirth fear and other related issues in details. For example, In the two first paragraphs of the background, we had reported this information.

“Increasing normal vaginal birth and decreasing caesarean section birth is one of important objects in every health care system as well as Iran (1). However, a recent meta-analysis study in Iran reported 48% of women choose caesarean section (2). Studies showed fear of giving birth is the most common reason for caesarean section among Iranian women (1, 2). Childbirth fear is even more sever in first time pregnant women. For example, Matinnia et al., (3) reported that 62.6% of first time pregnant women preferred caesarean section for giving birth and among them 48.2% experienced sever childbirth fear. These findings are in line with studies in other countries which indicated childbirth fear is an important factor for choosing caesarean section as method of giving birth (4-6).
It seems that childbirth fear has increased in recent years (7). Prevalence of childbirth fear is estimated 30% in Italian and Swedish women (8). Evidence demonstrated high prevalence of childbirth fear in Iranian women too. For example, Mortazavi et al. (9) found that 20% of Iranian women reported moderate fear and 6% sever fear of giving birth. Andaroon et al. (10) reported 50.90% of pregnant women experienced childbirth fear.”