Reviewer’s report

Title: Personal values in adolescence and suicidality: A cross-sectional study based on a retrospective recall

Version: 0 Date: 01 May 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer’s report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

No - there are major issues

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are major issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

No - manuscript has some fundamental flaw(s)
PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: This is an interesting study founded upon a strong theory. The introduction was clear, and the analysis was appropriate. The topic of suicide, particularly among adolescent populations, is vital for public health. The primary criticism is the retrospective nature of the study. Participants, in middle adulthood, are asked to estimate their personal values as a 15-16 year old adolescent. The authors acknowledge this as a weakness. However, this is more than a weakness as it clouds the entire study. At a minimum, the study, from the introduction forward, should highlight that this is retrospective, and the impact on public health is limited.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The entire study should be re-written and framed as a retrospective study of adults' perceptions of adolescent values on adult suicide.

Note: This reviewer report can be downloaded - see attached pdf file.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?  
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?  
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?  
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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