Author's response to reviews

Title: Sexual Violence against Female Sex Workers in The Gambia: A cross-sectional examination of the associations between victimization and reproductive, sexual and mental health

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Version: 5  Date: 19 February 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to Reviewers: Version 4
February 19, 2015

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Referee 1: Elizabeth Comrie-Thomson

* Major Compulsory Revisions - None

* Minor Essential Revisions:

1) There is a minor inconsistency in the description of how condom availability was measured. Lower condom availability is defined as "no access" or "difficult access" or "somewhat difficult access" (Study Measures, para. 2) but is elsewhere described as "no", 'very difficult' or 'somewhat difficult' access to condoms' (Results, para. 3 & Table 2). I suggest that the authors may want to use either 'difficult' or 'very difficult' access consistently.

**Thank you for bringing this to our attention. After confirming with the wording in the questionnaire (which asks about “difficult access” and not “very difficult access” all discrepancies have been resolved including in Results para. 3, Table 2, and the Abstract.

* Discretionary Revisions:

1) A close proof reading is likely to pick up some minor errors. For example, I assume that 'signally the potential need...' should read 'signalling the potential need...' (Study Measures, para. 2). Also, sometimes 'The Gambia' is capitalised and at other times 'the Gambia' is used.

**Thank you for catching these necessary corrections and prompting an additional close read. In addition to a few other small edits throughout the document, “The Gambia” is now capitalized at all times and “signally” now reads “signaling” in Study Measures, para. 2.

2) Median number of children, and presumably also median age in years, do not need to be reported with a decimal place (Table 1).

**Thank you for this suggestion. Due to the fact that some of the medians that are reported in Table 1 (such as the median age of those exposed to forced sex at 30.5) have decimal points, we find that it is appropriate to keep the number of decimal places consistent throughout the table, even when reporting the medians that are integers (such as the age of total sample at 30.0).