Author’s response to reviews

Title: Relationship between single and multiple perpetrator rape perpetration in South Africa: A comparison of risk factors in a population-based sample

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Response to reviewer

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS

1. intensification v. accentuation: correction made

2. most than one set of odds ratios in Table 2: we are glad the reviewer has not familiarised herself with ordinal regression, as we are told, but we are unclear why, having done this, she would expect more than one set of odds ratios in table 2. We have included a sentence in the results as follows which we hope satisfies the second suggestion:

(note that there is only one set of odds ratios presented in this type of model as the odds ratios for these different positions are the same). (line 398)

3. revisions to the results to discuss changes in odds: we have done as suggested and the paragraph that these appear in now reads as follows:

The variables which were associated with ordered progression across these positions were having a mother who had completed high school (which increased the odds of ever perpetration rape (SPR or MPR) by more than 2.5 times), having been forced into sex by a man (which doubled the odds of having ever perpetrated rape), Machiavellian egocentricity scores (which increased the odds of ever perpetration of rape (SPR or MPR) by over 50%), perceiving their life circumstances to be less good than those of peers (which increased the odds of ever perpetration of rape (SPR or MPR) by over 50%), engagement in antisocial behaviour in the forms of sexual bullying at school (which increased the odds of ever perpetration of rape (SPR or MPR) more than 3 fold among those who had engaged in 3 or more types of bullying), theft (which increased the odds of ever perpetration rape (SPR or MPR) among those who had engaged in theft twice or more as opposed to never by 80%) and gang membership (which increased the odds of ever perpetration of rape (SPR or MPR) by about 75%), using drugs in the past year (which increased the odds of ever perpetration of rape (SPR or MPR) by over 50%), having had twenty or more lifetime partners (which increased the odds by
over 50%) and having been physically violent to a partner (which increased the odds by almost 90%). Examination of the proportional odds assumption test in the dataset with missing values imputed drew our attention to the fact that having been physically violent to a partner does not vary much between SPR and MPR categories, although the test for this is not significant in the main model (and thus the assumption is not violated).

MINOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS and DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS

DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS

All of these have been addressed as suggested.