Reviewer's report

Title: Substance Use and Related Problems Among U.S. Women Who Identify as Mostly Heterosexual

Version: 3 Date: 16 July 2015

Reviewer: Wendy BOstwick

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Minor essential revisions

1. I think this paper straddles the line between being an empirical presentation of findings, while then trying to offer a theoretical explanation for who the population of interest really "is". I find this somewhat confusing, especially given the title of the paper, and how the work is described in the abstract. Table 3 confuses things, and should likely be dropped.

2. The section on why mostly hetero women are most at risk should precede the section on "who" these women are. To this end, though, I don't think the discussion of "who" adds to the paper. I find it highly speculative within the context of what is presented as an empirical paper. Perhaps condense and put toward the end. If you plan to keep the section, please discuss the issues of outness, and internalized biphobia and/or homophobia, and how these may also play into "mostly heteroexual" as an identity label.

3. something the authors have not addressed is the validity of the main question here. That is, is a question that allows for the qualifications of "mostly", truly assessing sexual identity? Identity labels have inherent meaning, of course, but they are not ordinal, they are nominal. What would it mean to ask a racial identity question that allows participants to self-label as "mostly white" or a religious identity question that allowed "mostly Jewish"? Sexual orientation, sexual attraction and sexual behavior all allow for such a qualification. A true identity question cannot logically be measured in this way.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have previously published with two of the authors on this paper, and have an on-going professional relationship with the lead author.