Reviewer’s report

Title: Youth paying for sex: what are the associated factors? Findings from a cross-sectional study in Cambodia

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Reviewer: Donald Morisky

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Critique: Youth paying for sex: what are the associated factors? Findings from a 1 cross-sectional study in Cambodia

What is meant by the word "compromising" in your sentence "Most recent Central Intelligence 65 Agency estimates show Cambodia has the estimated youngest population in Southeast Asia with 66 19.1% of the population compromising young people between 15 and 24 years of age [5].

This study is well-conceptualized and addresses an important behavior, namely, high-risk males paying for sex. The background of the study provides sufficient justification for research directed towards this high-risk population.

What was the background of your interviewers and did they have previous experience in interviewing this study sample?

What was your inclusion criteria for participation in this study?

Did you employ a power analysis to assess the resultant number of study participants required to detect small differences in your study hypotheses?

How many individuals were interviewed in order to reach your number of 405 participants? How many of these individuals were invited to enroll into your study but refused? I note that you address this in line 339 but it is not clear with regard to the issue of sample selection bias.

How did you measure consistent condom use? Did you use a scale in which you have several items that all are highly related in measuring this very difficult construct? Did you use a measure that can rule out any potential social-desirability bias? This is a major issue when sensitive questions are asked and participants often try to please the interviewer with the response they think they should give.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?  
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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