Author’s response to reviews

Title: Lights4Violence! A Quasi-Experimental Educational Intervention in six European countries to promote positive relationships among adolescents

Authors:
Carmen Vives-Cases (carmen.vives@ua.es)
MCarmen Davo-Blanes (mdavo@ua.es)
Rosario Ferrer-Cascales (rosario.ferrer@ua.es)
Belen Sanz-Barbero (bsanz@iscii.es)
Natalia Albaladejo-Blázquez (natalia.albaladejo@ua.es)
Miriam Sánchez-San Segundo (miriam.sanchez@ua.es)
Manuel Lillo (manuel.lillo@ua.es)
Nicola Bowes (nbowes@cardiffmet.ac.uk)
Sofia Neves (asneves@ismai.pt)
Veronica Mocanu (veronica.mocanu@umfiasi.ro)
Michaela Carausu (mihaelacarausu@yahoo.com)
Jaceb Pyzalski (pyzalski@poczta.onet.pl)
Joao Forjaz (jforjaz@isciii.es)
Iwona Chmura-Rutkowska (ichmurka@amu.edu.pl)
Cristina Vieira (Cristina.Vieira@uab.pt)
Consuelo Corradi (c.corradi@lumsa.it)

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Author’s response to reviews:

1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation. Before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records. These documents should be sent as email attachments to the following
email address, bmcpublichealth@biomedcentral.com. Please DO NOT upload these documents as additional files in the submission system. If your documents are not in English, please could you provide translated versions of the relevant parts. These should be endorsed and signed by a contactable person at the institution. Please also include the original documents. Can you please confirm in your cover letter that you have forwarded the requested documentation to bmcpublichealth@biomedcentral.com.

Ok. It is done.

2. Funding.- A study is considered to be externally funded if the authors have been awarded a grant for the study by a major funding body (e.g. governmental funding/award from a charitable foundation). If a study has not received external funding, then the study protocol will be sent for peer-review with a member of our Editorial Board. If a study has received funding/assistance from a commercial organization, this should be clearly stated in the ‘competing interests’ section of your manuscript, and the study protocol will be sent for peer-review by a member of our Editorial Board. Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body.

Yes, I confirm this and it is described on page 19 of the manuscript with the following funding statement: “This paper was funded by the European Union’s Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020), under grant agreement No. 776905”.

3. Study status.- The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An ‘ongoing’ study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study is currently at.

Yes, I confirm that our core intervention are still ongoing. In fact, the data will be collected until April 2019 and the analysis will performed until November 2019.

4. Related Articles.- Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you please provide a list of the related articles.

As we are still doing the core interventions involved in the project, we have not published project results yet.

5. The last section of the abstract should be Trial Registration: listing the trial registry and the unique identifying number, e.g. Trial registration: Current Controlled Trials ISRCTN73824458, as well as the date of registration. Please note that there should be no space between the letters and numbers of the trial registration number. If registration took place after the first participant was enrolled, please state also “Retrospectively registered” at the end of this section.
Our clinical trials number registration is NCT03411564 as it is described at the end of abstract section. The project was registered before the first participant was enrolled.

6. Please ensure that the names submitted within the Editorial Submission System are identical to those that appear on the ‘Title Page’ including middle and/or second names.

Thank you. It is done.

7. Please include emails of all authors on the ‘Title Page’. Corresponding author should still be indicated.

Ok. It is done.

8. Please include a ‘Declarations’ heading within your Manuscript. This should be placed after the ‘Abbreviations’ and before ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section.

Thank you. It is done.

9. Please provide a section in the Methods to justify the intended sample size. We would normally expect all study protocols to have a "Sample size calculation" section (or similar), and should include details on any relevant power calculations that were performed to arrive at the sample size mentioned in your manuscript.

This information has been included in the revised version of the paper (see page 6).

10. In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#standards+of+reporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to SPIRIT guidelines (http://www.spirit-statement.org/) for reporting study protocols. This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilized. Can you please include a completed SPIRIT checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript.

Ok. It is done.

11. As your study includes 6 different countries, we require Ethical Approval from each country. Please state in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section name of each of the Ethics Committee/International Review Board and the country where they are located. Please also note that we require to see Documentation of all these approvals before we can proceed with your Study Protocol.
This information has been added in the revised version of the paper (see page 18). We have also sent the required information to the editorial board.

12. As your study will include minors, in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants (16 or older) or their parents/guardians (younger than 16) and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

As it is described on page 16, the participation of the target groups required a signed informed consent document from the school directors, parents and students in all the cases (younger than 16 years, 16 or older).

13. On page 16, you mention ‘signed informed consent to publish’ for the use of video capsules. Please include a statement to reflect this in the ‘Consent for Publication’ section. Please see https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#ethics+and+consent for further details.

Ok. It is done.

14. Please include initials of all authors in the ‘Authors’ contributions’ section. It is not sufficient to state ‘All…’.

Ok. It is done.

15. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Ok. It is done.