Reviewer’s report

Title: CONTEXTUAL DETERMINANTS OF CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE AND POLICY IN EUROPE

Version: 1 Date: 07 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Krista Banasiak

Reviewer's report:
The contextual environment in which health policy is created is clearly important and I'm glad to see this work being done. To make this paper stronger, I suggest the following changes:

Background - take more time to set up the project. A short literature review would help, as would taking more time to describe EU Horizon 2020 and MOCHA. This would help readers be more prepared and able to digest the information that follows.

Methods - could be tightened up. Try to find a flow in this section where you speak of the methods, data collection, the analysis, etc. Right now, it is a bit jumbled. Also - remove the bullet points and insert the essential information into the reformatted paragraphs.
- Use of the term "mixed methods" is reserved for studies using both quantitative and qualitative analysis (or surveys and interviews). Analysis with 2 or more different techniques does not qualify as mixed-method.
- Some clarification is needed (eg. specification the object and area of public concern, identification of the level of discussion - these are unclear to me).

Results - This section is very detailed, which qualitative research is great for! One issue here is that the examples are so specific (and varied). I worry this section is trying to do too much. By including 30 countries, it is difficult to describe case-by-case examples of their experiences while relating those experiences to the broader themes. Where possible, try to merge themes and examples.

Discussion - think of your paper like a story. Especially for qualitative work, this approach helps. What is the conclusion to your story? Describe for us the "arc" of this research and why it is important. This section needs to make clear the contribution to the field. Do include your recommendations as those are important.

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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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