Reviewer's report

Title: Risk Factors of Induced Abortion among Preparatory School Female Students, Guraghe Zone, Southern Region, Ethiopia: Cross-Sectional Study

Version: 2 Date: 10 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS: To view the full report from the academic peer reviewer, please see the attached file.

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM REPORT: Over all the study can be classified as average. There is nothing that can be classed as outstandingly well done. The discussion can be more oriented towards what actions can be taken to mitigate the risks of abortion based on the study findings.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
The sampling design described is systematic sampling. If the list was made by institution the procedure used may have resulted in the selection of a number of individuals proportional to the number in that unit.

As the authors acknowledge, a qualitative component would have enriched the study especially using a methodology such as "developing a story line" described by WHO as a method of eliciting sensitive information.

The study sought very sensitive information collected in the school setting. Under methodology it is good to state the steps taken to ensure the confidentiality of data from school authorities as well as other students because this would influence the answers given by individuals.

In the study findings a "magnitude" of the problem is presented. It is not clear what it means. It has to be presented as a prevalence or incidence, give a time period and be clear as to whether it is the number of episodes of abortion or the number of persons having abortions.

It is very important to provide confidence limits to the estimates. This is doubly so since the estimated prevalence of abortion in the population studied is less than the figure used in the calculation of sample size.

The classification used for consumption of alcohol has to be made clear. Define what is means by "often drink alcohol" and "sometimes consume".

As a description of this population it may be interesting to present briefly how prevalent alcohol consumption is and how sexually active this population is, the later if information is available.
Parent residence being rural, being a rural resident, not having sexual health education, and being an alcohol consumer were found to be risk factors for abortion. It is very likely that some of these factors have interaction effects and it would be good to examine these in the regression analysis.

The discussion could address issues such as special mentoring within the school system for children living away from parental supervision, and reproductive health information/education at entry into preparatory school if this is deficient in the pre-preparatory classes/institutions.

The authors assume that the readers know the Gurage zone and the Adwa high school. If the article is for consumption outside the country it may be good to give a brief description in the background.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
Major language corrections are needed.
It would be good if interactions can be tested in the logistic regression model.
As presented earlier, the discussion could include possible areas for action.

Pg 2, Lines 9-10 'increasing from time to time.' Is it increasing over time?
"Line 19: 'in the zone' Is this the educational zone? Where is the zone?
Line 23: 'Descriptive statistics, binary screening….' Do the authors mean binary analysis?
Line 29: 'magnitude of induced abortion' Not clear what the authors mean by 'magnitude.' Is it prevalence? Lifetime? Is it better to say 'lifetime prevalence, ever had an abortion/over the past year?'
Line 42: 'alcohol were 3.3 time' How common is alcohol use?
Page 3 line 24: 'unwanted' The term unwanted stigmatizes the child of such a pregnancy and it is better to use the term unplanned.
Lines 26-27: The authors should add the percentage within parenthesis.
Line 47: Access to service Do the authors mean reproductive health service?
Page 6, Line 44: 'among female youngsters was 55….
Page 7, Lines 11-17, 'the demand for induced abortion.' The sentence is awkward and needs to be rewritten for clarity.
Line 26: It is not clear what the authors mean by 'living relationship.'
Lines 28-29 It is not clear what the authors mean by 'agreement on abortion.'
Line 46: Please clarify what you mean by 'often consume' and sometimes consume' alcohol?
Page 8, Lines 5-7: It may be good to break this into two sentences or reword it.
Line 7: 'Guraghe zone facilities' Do the authors mean health facilities? Please clarify.
Line: 19: How does Adwa high school compare with the present sample?
Lines 27-30: It is not clear what this sentence means. It might be better to break it into two sentences.
Page 10, first paragraph: An examination of interaction effects in the logistics model would be interesting.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No

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.

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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