Reviewer’s report

Title: Secularity, abortion, assisted dying and the future of conscientious objection: Modelling the relationship between attitudes

Version: 0 Date: 29 May 2019

Reviewer: James Anderson

Reviewer's report:

This is a well conducted study on an important and topical issue.

I have made minor editorial comments on grammatical issues.

My only substantive concern relates to the imputed relationship between attitude towards abortion and attitudes toward assisted dying and conscientious objection. In places the authors suggest that the former determines the latter, suggesting a causal relationship. This interpretation is supported by the suggest that attitude towards abortion is a 'driver' of attitudes toward assisted dying and conscientious objection. I don't think the present study permits valid conclusions about causal relationships of this sort, so I think more care should be taken to clarify the exact nature of the relationship in question.

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.

Unable to assess

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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