Reviewer’s report

Title: Circumstances Leading to Intimate Partner Violence Against Women Married as Children: A Qualitative Study in Urban Slums of Lahore, Pakistan

Version: 3  Date: 3 June 2015

Reviewer: Alexia Sabbe

Reviewer’s report:

The incorporated changes and editing have enhanced the quality of the manuscript. The authors adequately responded to and addressed many of the original remarks.

There are still a few comments that need clarification:

Major compulsory revision:

1. In the original manuscript (version 1), the authors stated the following in the ‘methods’ section:

   “Twenty participants were approached by the researchers, of which 19 agreed to participate.”

Now the authors report: “The NGO representatives identified 23 women for in-depth interviews, nevertheless, we achieved saturation point at 19th interview and stopped further interviews at that stage.”

While the first statement is not necessarily incompatible with the second, it does raise questions. Why did the 20th participant decide not to participate? Were participants 21 to 23 requested to participate?

Minor compulsory revisions:

2. In the revised manuscript, the authors provide more background and information about the choice of research setting and participants’ recruitment. The manuscript would gain clarity if more information could be provided about
the geographic representation of participants. What is the number of participants from Nishtar Town, and from Daata Gunj Buksh Town?

3. The paper is still in need of some editing for English language, syntax, grammar and spelling.
(for example: lines 38-43; line 63; lines 229-230; line 275; lines 297-300,…)

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.