Author’s response to reviews

Title: Does exposure to interparental violence increase women's risk of intimate partner violence? Evidence from Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey

Authors:

Lukman Solanke (modebolasolanke@gmail.com)

Version: 2 Date: 14 Oct 2017

Author’s response to reviews:

The Editor,

BMC International Health and Human Rights,

Response to Reviewers Comments

Introduction

Thank you for the privilege. My responses to specific comments are outline below:

Editor Comments

1. You should have your manuscript reviewed by someone who is fluent in English

Response

Manuscript reviewed for further grammatical and spelling errors. Changes effect in abstract result section (L69), p12 (L328) and p13 (L351).

2. Please provide a ‘Declarations’ section heading following your List of Abbreviations

Response

Declarations heading provided
Reviewer Comments

1. I would suggest that authors use the abbreviation “EIPV” to reflect “exposure to interparental violence” and use “IPV” to reflect the outcome variable, intimate partner violence (rather than using the term “partner violence”). EIPV and IPV are very widely used terms in this literature, so this will be clearer to readers.

Response

The abbreviations ‘EIPV’ and ‘IPV’ are now used in the text. Where the IPV was not used, ‘partner violence’ was corrected to ‘intimate partner violence’. These are shown in the Abstract and other pages of the text.

2. Relatedly, perhaps the authors should use the term “psychological” violence, rather than “emotional violence” because the former is more commonly used (or even, verbal violence)? Or if not, justify why it is called “emotional”-the problems with introducing new terminology are that it’s harder for readers to make comparisons across differently-labeled but overlapping constructs.

Response

The text did not include a justification for the use of ‘emotional’ rather than ‘psychological’ violence because the terminology ‘emotional violence’ is not a new one. The DHS national reports have always used emotional violence. This could be verified from:

a. Kishor, S., & Johnson, K. (2004). Profiling Domestic Violence – A Multi-Country Study. Calverton, Maryland: ORC Macro, i.e. Table 2.5, p16, Table 2.6, p17

b. National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) [Rwanda], Ministry of Health (MOH) [Rwanda], and ICF International. 2015. Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey 2014-15. Rockville, Maryland, USA: NISR, MOH, and ICF International, i.e. Table 17.9.1, p282
The use of emotional violence in the study will thus enhance comparability of the findings with findings in similar studies based on the DHS data. However, I do believe that the terms could be used interchangeably. The WHO used both terms in one of its publication. In the publication the term ‘emotional (psychological) violence’ was used. This could be verified from:


3. The links between EIPV and IPV are well documented and explained. Can the authors also add a few sentences to the discussion about how women with these two experiences (EIPV and IPV) may be at risk for poorer adjustment or adaptation within the cultural context (i.e., what are the implications for their and their own children’s development, and for the intergenerational transmission of violence across subsequent generations)?

Response

Implications addressed. Page 15, Lines 415-424

Thank you.

Dr. Bola Lukman Solanke