Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the Arab World: A systematic review

Version: 0 Date: 26 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Hussain Khuwaja

Reviewer's report:

While this study is an interesting topic to write a systematic review and I am impressed with the extensive methods detailed in the manuscript, I have few recommendations for the authors to comply before it could be considered for publication.

1. Background: Please cite/provide reference to what is meant by "Arab League"? which countries by WHO's regions fall in this league? Few basic characteristics like majority religion and customs they share besides language.

2. Methods: Can you illustrate in a table how did you select/drop any article on the basis of quality? What indicators you have used and what scores did the selected articles achieve?

3. Discussion: The violence among pregnant women may be due to selection bias in the studies. What are authors' views about it?

4. Ethics: Although systematic reviews don't require ethics committee approvals. I hope all data-sets used in this study were permitted to be used and wherever necessary, permissions have been sought.

General comment: Like all studies conducted on IPV, we know that it is an important global health issue. What is new that you want to inform to authors? Can you explicitly mention something unique you have extracted from this extensive exercise? It is assumed that all Arab countries are predominantly Muslim countries. Did you search whether the individual studies or surveys investigate about the perception that "there is a role of religion in legitimizing violence". I think such an angle added to this study could make it unique.

Best wishes!

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.

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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