Reviewer’s report

Title: Parents' and teachers' views on sexual health education and screening for sexually transmitted infections among in-school adolescent girls in Kenya: A qualitative study

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Reviewer: Jill Gay

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Define which sexually transmitted infections. With adolescents dying of HIV faster than any other age group, are you talking about HIV testing and counseling in schools? This would be worthwhile. If so, then why only girls? What is the legal framework for adolescents in Kenya? Can adolescents access HIV testing or contraception without parental permission? These are critical issues you should address in the article. How will this work relate to the work of PEPFAR/DREAMS? What is the current content of the Kenyan life skills education? When I looked at the content a few years ago, it was atrocious, but when I spoke to Nduku Kilonzo, Director of NACC at IAC in Durban in July 2016, she was working on changes - has anything happened? What was presented to PTAs about the study? What did parents understand about the questions you asked them (p. 9, lines 6-15)? It is well known that adolescent sexual activity is not condoned - what can you tell us and Kenya that will move our field forward? Look at the work of Lucie Cluver, who has worked with adolescents in South Africa to design services. Did you correct the inaccurate knowledge of parents? (example: Schistosomiasis is an STI; you can acquire syphilis through latrines, p. 13, lines 28-58). What services would you propose be added for which STIs? We know that syndromic management is not very effective, particularly for girls. Which tests for which STIs? Leaving HIV out of this article is criminal, when so many adolescents, particularly in Kenya, are dying of HIV.

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