Reviewer’s report

Title: Determinants of adolescent pregnancy in sub Saharan Africa. A systematic review.

Version: 0 Date: 14 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Abebaw Gelagay

Reviewer’s report:

The research topic: Determinants of adolescent pregnancy in sub Saharan Africa: a systematic review.

Authors Name: Ibrahim Yakubu, Waliu Jawula Salisu

General comments:

- It requires Language edition including use of punctuation, for example, look the first paragraph of the background.

- Few words require spacing.

Specific Comments:

* Background section, second sentence: acknowledge the source of information

* Page 4, last paragraph, "Adolescent's develop psychological..." apostrophe is not needed.

* Page 5, first paragraph:

- first sentence: Make the factors (culture, gender) specific. This is because, let alone in sub-Saharan countries, there is diversity of culture in a country.

- the second sentence: what do you mean by "sex education"? Is it to mean sexuality education?; what "poor reproductive health services" refers? Is it to say poor services provision (supply side factor) or poor services uptake (demand side factor)?

* What is the relevance of the first paragraph of page 5? Either you didn't note here all the factors that you mentioned in your result section or you didn't remove this paragraph.

* Page 5, second paragraph: "However, given the resource........to reach goal", which goal? Goal of motivating adolescent girls continue school enrollment or goal of reducing adolescent pregnancy? This is because the 'however' section is expected to link with the above sentence. Please clearly state the knowledge gap ('however section of the background) that you intended to address/show in this review/assessment.
* Page 5, last paragraph, the second sentence (Studies that intended..... were also included.): This inclusion criteria is most important than the above sentence that it is good to start the paragraph with this sentence. Additionally, since you didn't use punctuation, this sentence is not clear for readers.

* Page 6, paragraph 2:

- In the second sentence, you noted that a total of 229 original articles considering the research topic and the study area were identified but in the next sentence you have mentioned that 205 were removed considering aforementioned criterias for the second time. So, this create a confusion. So, You need to rewrite it clearly. Specifically mention: how many articles deal about adolescent pregnancy, how many of them did assess factors? How many were excluded by year of publication, and how many were removed by study area and methodological related reasons?

- The third sentence is not clear for readers that it needs rewriting.

- Additionally, It is not recommended to start a sentence with number.

* Page 6, paragraph 3, "Outcome variables measured

- The main outcome variables ...... and knowledge about contraceptives."

- The topic is not in line with the topic. i.e The topic says 'outcome variable' but the paragraph states about determinants or factors or independent variables.

* Page 6, last paragraph, What research gaps did you identify?

* Page 7, first paragraph: Researches should find out why............" Is it a recommendation? If yes, note in the recommendation section.

* Page 7, weakness of the study section:

- How the topic being studied by diverse disciplines make you miss articles? Please make it clear!

- Mention how the last two sentences can affect your study?

* Page 7, result section, second paragraph: The sentence which says " Characteristics of participants..... and related factors" should be divided in to two sentences. One should talk about the characteristics of participants, and the other should talk about the key informants. Additionally, you didn't describe the characteristics of participants.

* Page 7, the first paragraph of the heading "Sociocultural, environmental and Economic factors":

- Some of the factors are vague that you have to operational definitions so that reader can easily understand it. For example, sexual advances, family dysfunction, inadequate sex education, inappropriate form of recreation etc.

- Some of the factors cannot be categorized in any of these themes. For example, "unwillingness to confront unfaithful partners", "positive attitude towards early sexual relationship", "early sexual debut" are individual characteristics, but not a sociocultural or environmental or economic factors.

- Page 8, in the same paragraph: What do you mean by sex education? Is it to mean sexuality education? What was the measurement to say inadequate?

* Page 8, individual factors: "Alcohol and substance abuse...." how they defined? Is it an abuse or use?

* Page 8, 'Health service related factors', the last sentence: Did you review how the authors assessed these two variables. i.e What data collection method/s did they used?

* Page 8, discussion section, second paragraph, the last sentence is a recommendation. Take it to recommendation section.

* Page 10, second paragraph, "These finding are consistent ....."What " These" refers"?"?

* Page 10, second paragraph, What is its difference with the result? In the discussion section, you need to add your explanation or argument.

* Page 10. acknowledgement section: Why you forget to acknowledge the data source for your study?

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