Reviewer’s report

Title: Self-Reported Psychopathy in the Middle East: A Cross-National Comparison across Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United States

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Reviewer: Michele Vecchio

Reviewer's report:

Review for BMC psychology

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Manuscript Title: "Self-Reported Psychopathy in the Middle East: A Cross-National Comparison across Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United States".

Comments to the Author:

The main goal of the present paper was to investigate the cross-cultural comparability of self-reported psychopathy in the United States (N=786), Egypt (N=296), and Saudi Arabia (N=341). Overall, the paper is well written and has several strengths, including the use of data from non-Western countries, which are often neglected in the literature. However, there are some issues I have to raise. I hope the authors can benefit from the following comments.

Given the aim of the study, it is necessary to report and discuss: 1) the factor structure of the scale in each sample; 2) a multi-group analysis which investigate the feasibility of several levels of measurement invariance. This information is essential to evaluate the cross-cultural generalizability of examined constructs. I think this can be done with data at hand. Therefore, I suggest to present in more details the analyses reported in the limitation section (which should appear as study results).

Maybe I missed something, but I am not sure why FFM personality correlates of Psychopathy wer not reported for the Saudi Arabian sample.

The hypotheses (p. 7) are poorly developed. Moreover, they refer to the correlations between FFM and PPI-R, without any discussion about how these are expected to vary (or not) across cultures.

About the extremely low reliability coefficient of the openness scale in the Egyptian sample: Authors might refer to earlier studies which have noticed that openness has not been consistently replicated in non-Western counties (e.g., Cheung et al., 2001; Schmitt et al, 2007).

The moderating role of gender has been examined without any rationale or hypothesis about expected results, which are presented in an exploratory way.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Acceptable

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