

## Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Asian Research Journal of Arts &amp; Social Sciences</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_ARJASS_85104
Title of the Manuscript:	Reported profiles of women who have sex with women in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

### General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<https://www.journalarjass.com/index.php/ARJASS/editorial-policy> )

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### PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments	<b>-Introductory section needs more evidence (references)</b> <b>-Considering the short introduction, a state of the art literature review placing the topic into context is important.</b>	Thank you for the feedback.  I have done further literature review on the topic and have added more text and evidence to the introduction as suggested by the reviewer. This is highlighted.
<b>Minor</b> REVISION comments	<b>Methodology section</b> -Justify the use of the snowball technique and its importance to the current study (can reference previous research using this technique) -Justify the reason for the inclusion of community leaders (were they seen as key informant? If yes, what role or experience did they add to the study?. Also justify the use of the purposive sampling and its relevance (can reference previous research using this technique) -What was the reason for the set criteria; age 18, and residence in.....? (give reasons for this). -Recording of participants, did you seek their consent? If yes, indicate this in the part that say "FGDs, KIIs, IDI and life stories were audio-recorded (.....)" -Indicate the total number of participants included in the study. E.g., WSW (n = ?), community leaders (n = ?), FGD (n = ?), KIIs (n = ?), IDIs (n = ?), and justify how this sample is sufficient. (Since this is purely qualitative study and involves interviews, small sample size is acceptable, but justify this). (E.g., the study was interested in in depth and rich experiences of the participants.....) -Detail clearly how the study ensure anonymity and the non-disclosure of personal traits of the participants.  <b>Results section</b> Age I suggest you put it in this form.... A total of 17 WSW participated in the study. Of these, majority (9) were between the ages of 20-29 years, followed by (6) between the ages of 30-30 years, while lowest (2) between 40-50 years.	<b>Methodology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- I have justified the use of snowball technique as follows; Snowball sampling technique was suitable for our study because WSW are hard to find as they operate very privately within closed circles, hence we relied on their peers to connect us to more participants. Snowball sampling technique is commonly used to recruit participants in research studies among key populations [20–22].</li><li>- I have justified inclusion of community leaders as follows; Community leaders were recruited through purposive sampling within communities from which our study WSW were recruited. Purposive sampling was appropriate for recruiting community leaders who provided in-depth and detailed information about the WSW. Community leaders were included in the study as key informants because of their position as representatives of the communities from which our WSW participants were recruited from, and they were socially connected hence knew what went on within their communities and provided useful insight for this study.</li><li>- I have justified the inclusion criteria as follows: Inclusion criteria for the WSW included: age 18 years and above, this is because of the sensitive nature of the topic and that homosexuality is criminalized in Tanzania, therefore adult WSW had decision-making capacity to provide voluntary informed consent for participation in the study; residence in Dar-es-Salaam for six months or more because Dar es Salaam is the biggest commercial city in Tanzania whose residents have wide social connections, hence a higher chance of having an easier access to WSW than anywhere else in Tanzania.</li><li>- Yes consent to record was given by participants. This is indicated in the text as follows; with participants' consent, FGDs, KIIs, IDIs and life stories were audio-recorded, and research assistants took field notes as well.</li><li>- I have included the following details about participants: The study was interested in in-depth and rich experiences of the participants therefore we included 17 WSW and 3 community leaders, one from each district. We conducted 1 FGD with 6 WSW; 3 KIIs with the community leaders; and 11 IDIs with WSW.</li><li>- Details on non-disclosure are provided as follows; The following measures were taken to protect the identity of study participants- first, due to sensitive nature of the study, participants agreed to provide</li></ul>

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		<p>informed verbal consent not written; second, during data collection no personal identifying information was recorded; and third, the data was kept safe and confidential- data was stored in password protected computers with access only by study researchers.</p> <p><b>Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Thank you for the suggestion, I have included it as follows; a total of 17 WSW participated in the study. Of these, majority (9) were between the ages of 20-29 years, followed by (6) between the ages of 30-30 years, while lowest (2) between 40-50 years</li></ul>
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>		

PART 2:

	<p><b>Reviewer’s comment</b></p>	<p><b>Author’s comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i></p>
<p><b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b></p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	