Review of: "Mattering and Satisfaction With Life: Gender and Age Differences Among Kenyan Secondary School Students"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Reviewer's Comments

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to review the manuscript entitled "Mattering and Satisfaction With Life: Gender and Age Differences Among Kenyan Secondary School Students". The manuscript is well-written and requires revision to be suitable for publication.

I have the following comments:

1. In the abstract, what is M? It seems to be the mean of students' age. But in scientific work, information should be clear and never depend on guessing. Please make it clear: "The mean age of students was 17.4 years."

2. The used tools (The General Mattering Scale and Students' Life Satisfaction Scale): Were the tools standardized in Kenya before this study? A reference for this standardization should be added to the used tools.

3. Page 4: The Students' Life Satisfaction Scale: The score range should be between 7-42, as described by the authors. The mean of this scale is 3.4, as shown in Table 1. More clarification about the way of calculating the score is required, although the authors mentioned "The items were averaged into a global measure of satisfaction with life." More details should be added for clarification about the scale calculation.

4. Page 4: Data analysis and results. The authors did not mention what statistical package was used for data analysis and what the level of significance and confidence interval were. This information is very important to be added.

5. Page 6: All the p-values in the text of Table 2 are not matching with the table values. For example, the second line (r =.28, p <.05), although the table shows 0.28**, which corresponds to p<0.01. Moreover, there are many p-values in the text of the same Table 2 with p<0.001, although the table footnote illustrates that p<0.05 or p<0.01. How did the authors reach the p<0.001? Please revise the writing of the table and make it match with the table values and the table footnote.

6. Page 7: Table 3 shows asterisks without any footnote to explain the meaning of them. Also, in the same table, change B to β in Model 2 and double-check the text writing to match with the table contents.

7. Page 8: Table 3 needs to be revised with its text. There are values with 3 asterisks without any footnote to clarify their meaning. Also, double-check the values of the explanation of the significant change in satisfaction with school life according to the change in age and mattering.

8. In the discussion section, please clarify that the change in satisfaction with school life was mainly during early adolescence and not late adolescence, and explain why this change happened during this age group. For instance, this might be the age of puberty where several physiological and psychological changes happen, and correspondingly the scores of either mattering or satisfaction with school life also showed the change. More elaboration in the discussion section about this point is very important as this is the main finding of this study.

Thank you.