

Reviewer comment-1

In general, this may not be a well-written manuscript for publication.

The logic from the literature review to the findings and discussions is inconsistent. On one hand, while the author discussed the benefits of physical health and mental satisfaction of the participants from the community gardens, there is no discussion of these two dimensions in the findings. On the other hand, the main focus of the finding is on racial/diversity and inclusion, but only two simple sentences touch upon this issue in the literature review. A general suggestion on the re-organization of the literature review part, particularly focusing more on the previous discussion on the racial aspect of community gardens.

Some specific comments for the literature review part. The literature review is too brief; it only reported the pros and cons of the community garden to the participants, without providing the reasons for those phenomena. This would lead to the question: what is the uniqueness of setting up a community garden in the community, particularly if those pros and cons seem to be achieved by other means? Also, it would be better if the literature review could focus on those relevant to the findings, which shows how your research helps supplement the current discussion.

Some specific comments for the result. I think it would be better to focus on the findings on the dynamics of community building with the tension of racial diversity and inclusion. Since the research methodologically excluded those institutional-based community gardens, it seemed to overgeneralize the findings about “no one model” and having “multiple visions” in the community gardens in the Deep South. Also, it is questioned whether the models in the Deep South are different from or incomparable to other areas. If not, how can this research add to the existing discussion on community garden research?