

Reviewer-2

I have thoroughly enjoyed reviewing this manuscript. It is very important work and very timely. I have a few comments that I think are important to address to strengthen the manuscript a bit more.

- Page 3, paragraph 1, line 7: This part of the sentence is hard to follow. Consider rephrasing. Something like “ and creates disadvantages that they may experience throughout their lifetime”
- Page 3, paragraph 2: Religious officials are commonly referred to as formal help-seeking services within the help-seeking literature.

Here are a few examples: Ansara & Hindin, 2010, Nnawulezi & Murphy, 2017

- Page 4, paragraph 1, line 2-3: Consider rewriting this sentence to make it flow better with the rest of the paragraph. It reads a bit clunky at the moment.
- When writing help-seeking, sometimes there is a hyphen between the words, and sometimes there isn't. Either one is correct but choose one and be consistent throughout the manuscript.
- Page 5, paragraph 2, last sentence: Could you add a sentence or two that expands on this? Why might women of Color have lower expectations of the legal system?
- Page 7, paragraph 2, line 6-8: Rewrite to something like “However, previous findings are inconsistent, and the studies had limitations in their methodology; they either relied on small samples, did not examine various types of IPV, or only focused on women.”
- Page 10 demographic characteristics: Can you explain why you included being transgender in two different variables? Rather than having one for gender and one for sexual orientation?
- Page 13, paragraph 1, line 5: The inclusion of police and religious officials does not really fit here since they are formal help-seeking institutions.
- Page 14, paragraph 1, line 8-13: This paragraph is a little long. Creating a section within the discussion for implications may be a good idea.
- Page 15, paragraph 1, line 2: Check APA 7 standards for citations with three or more authors.
- Page 16, paragraph 1: Consider creating a heading for the limitations section.