

Review comment -1

This article reinforces existing knowledge about associations between SES and health outcomes such as obesity. Study focuses on high-risk populations in a major urban area of the US (Chicago) which may be generalizable to other urban population groups in large cities in the US.

Include type of study design in article title.

Introduction includes detailed information related to theoretical framework, intersectionality, obesity and low SES. These sections could be more concise. Some information from Data set and hardship index could be included in Methods. Methods sections should clearly state the type of study. The number of Chicago communities is provided. What is the actual population size? This would be helpful to decipher the percentages provided in tables. Results and Discussion sections were appropriate.

References are proper and sufficient. There are a few older references which may be updated with more recent studies. But, overall looks good.

Introduction includes detailed information related to theoretical framework, intersectionality, obesity and low SES. These should be made more concise to highlight pertinence to research in journal without providing the reader with a full overview of the topics that aren't necessary.

Some information from Data set and hardship index could be included in Methods. Methods sections should clearly state the type of study. The number of Chicago communities is provided. What is the actual population size? This would be helpful to decipher the percentages provided in tables.

Author does not address presence of confounding bias and how other variables may have contributed to the observed correlations.

“With evidence to suggest physical inactivity explains the relationship between hardship and obesity”: this statement seems to over-state the findings given that the author's earlier statements regarding limitations of the study and type of study. Physical inactivity is certainly associated but one of many variables in a multi-factorial cause of obesity.

Discussion and conclusion sections could be more concise.