



ISSN NO. 2320-5407

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57960

Title: Identifying Causes of and Solutions for Relatively Low Transition in Education from Upper Primary level to Secondary among girls from the SC communities in transitional areas of Lucknow, UP : A Qualitative Study.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			√	
Techn. Quality			√	
Clarity		√		
Significance		√		

Reviewer's ID: JPR- 325

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Overall Assessment

The manuscript addresses an important and relevant issue concerning the transition of Scheduled Caste (SC) girls from upper primary to secondary education in transitional areas of Lucknow. The topic has significant academic and policy relevance, and the collection of field-based data is a valuable aspect of the study. However, several methodological and analytical concerns need to be addressed before the manuscript can be considered for publication.

Major Concerns

1. Comparative Research Design

The study compares SC girls who did not transition to secondary school with non-SC girls who successfully transitioned. This comparison makes it difficult to isolate the specific factors affecting educational transition among SC girls. The authors should provide a stronger justification for this design and discuss its limitations more explicitly.

2. Need for a Stronger Theoretical Framework

The findings are presented largely in a descriptive manner. The manuscript would benefit from engagement with relevant theories of educational inequality, social exclusion, cultural capital, or educational transitions to strengthen the analytical depth of the study.

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3. Deeper Analysis of Social and Caste Dynamics

The paper treats the SC community as a relatively uniform category. Greater attention should be given to variations within SC groups, social networks, aspirations, and other social factors that may influence educational outcomes.

4. Measurement of Economic Status

The criteria used to classify households by economic status require further clarification and justification. Incorporating more widely accepted indicators of socioeconomic status would strengthen the reliability of the findings.

5. Methodological Clarification

The manuscript should provide a clearer justification for the sample size, sampling strategy, and the selection of study sites. The limitations regarding the scope and generalizability of the findings should also be discussed.

Additional Suggestions

- Correct missing or incomplete information in tables.
- Improve consistency in referencing and citation formatting.
- Reduce repetition across the findings and conclusion sections.
- Develop more context-specific policy recommendations linked directly to the study findings.
- Strengthen proofreading to address language and formatting issues.

Recommendation

The study addresses an important educational concern and has the potential to make a meaningful contribution. However, substantial revisions are needed to strengthen the methodological rigor, theoretical grounding, and analytical depth of the manuscript.