

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No. IJAR-53645

Date: 01/09/2025

Title: School-Based Violence: Secondary School Students' Perspectives in Sierra Leone

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 Name: Dr **Anam Zehra**

Date: 02/09/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This manuscript addresses the critical issue of **school-based violence in Sierra Leone**, with an emphasis on both individual and school-related factors. The study employs a **descriptive quantitative design** using structured questionnaires and presents findings with adequate statistical reliability. The topic is highly relevant for educational policy, public health, and youth development. While the paper provides strong empirical insights and aligns with global debates on school violence, some areas need refinement, particularly in theoretical integration, contextual depth, and clarity of presentation.

Recommendation: Accept after minor revision

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths

- Relevance & Significance:** The issue of school violence is a pressing concern in Sierra Leone and globally, making the study highly impactful.
- Theoretical Framework:** The discussion of **innate drive theories and environmental theories** provides a solid foundation for understanding violent behavior.
- Empirical Contribution:** Use of **quantitative data with a Cronbach Alpha of 0.72** indicates good reliability and strengthens the credibility of findings.
- Policy Value:** Recommendations involving **teacher training, parental involvement, and stakeholder collaboration** are practical and contextually grounded.
- Clarity of Research Problem:** The study clearly identifies gaps in Sierra Leone's literature on school violence, establishing its originality.

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Weaknesses

1. **Theoretical Integration:** While theories are presented, they could be better woven into the interpretation of empirical findings.
2. **Literature Review:** The review is broad but could be expanded with more **African regional studies** for stronger contextual grounding.
3. **Depth of Analysis:** Findings are descriptive; adding **inferential statistics** or deeper interpretation would enrich the results.
4. **Language & Style:** Some sections require **editing for grammar, conciseness, and coherence**.
5. **Referencing:** Although adequate, the referencing style needs **uniformity** (APA consistency).