Response to Reviewer 2 Decision (03-01-2024)

REVIEWER 2	RESPONSE
Abstract Line 22- remove the “s” on conclusions. Line 25- key words: change comprehensive sex education to sex education.	Abstract The authors are grateful for the reviewer's comments. In response to the reviewer's requests: Line 22, the “s” on conclusions has been removed. Line 25- Key words: “comprehensive sex education” has been changed to “sex education”.
1. Introduction Line 67- Change this sentence “. One's sex life is shaped by the values imposed by society [21]” to “The values impose by society shape the sex life of an individual [21].” .	1. Introduction Following the reviewer's recommendations, this sentence has been modified in the Introduction: Line 67: “One's sex life is shaped by the values imposed by society [21]” to “The values imposed by society shape the sex life of an individual [21].”

2. Materials and Methods 2.2. Participants and Context Line 92-93: Change this sentence- “Convenience sampling was carried out so that there would be an equal number of students of both sexes.” To “We used convenience sampling to have equal number of students of both sexes.” Line 93-95 to read as “The inclusion criteria were 15—16 years of age, in the 4th year of compulsory secondary education (ESO) and willing to participate in the study.” Line 95-96: Exclusion criteria were declining to participate and no consent from students ’legal guardians.” Line 98 to 101: Move Table 1 to the first section of Results. Add: All FGs and interviews were audio-recorded.	2.2. Participants and Context. Following the reviewer's recommendations, these sentences have been changed in the Participants and context section: - Line 92-93: The sentence: “Convenience sampling was carried out so that there would be an equal number of students of both sexes” has been changed to “We used convenience sampling to have an equal number of students of both sexes.” - Line 93-95. Following the instructions of the reviewer, the sentence has been changed: the inclusion criteria were 15-16 years of age, in the 4th year of compulsory secondary education (ESO) and willing to participate in the study.” - Line 95-96: This sentence has been changed to: Exclusion criteria were declining to participate and no consent from students’ legal guardians.” The authors are grateful for the indication to move table 1 to the Results section. However, we believe that keeping this table in the Participants section may help the reader to visualise the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants in this section. We have added a new sentence in the Results section about the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants. We have added the reviewer’s recommended sentence to the Data collection section: “All FGs and interviews were audio-recorded”.

2.3. Data Collection Line 103-104- to read as “The data collection took place in a classroom in the secondary school. Line 109- 112: Change to “Prior to data collection, students received an informed consent form from their legal guardians because the authorization was mandatory for underage participants.” Line 112: Change to “We stopped data collection when we reached data saturation.” 2.4 Data Analysis Then Start the section with“ ’We transcribed all the audio-recorded FGs and interviews verbatim and used Atlas-ti software for data analysis.” Line 124: The use of triangulation if not correctly used here and nor required here because the authors used only two sets of data FGs and interviews. Therefore, I suggest delete lines 124 to 126. Also remove “Lastly.”	2.3. Data Collection. Following the reviewer's recommendations, this sentence has been changed in the Data Collection section: - Line 103-104- changed to this sentence: “The data collection took place in a classroom in the secondary school. - Line 109- 112: changed to this sentence: “Prior to data collection, students received an informed consent form from their legal guardians because the authorization was mandatory for underage participants.” - Line 112: Changed to this sentence: “ We stopped data collection when we reached data saturation.” 2.4 Data Analysis We have started this section with the sentence recommended by the reviewer: “We transcribed all the audio-recorded FGs and interviews verbatim and used Atlas-ti software for data analysis.” We have deleted the sentence “In terms of the data analysis process, the interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed verbatim and analysed using Atlas-ti software.”. Lines 124 to 126 have been modified. The use of triangulation has been removed by modifying the wording of the data analysis. “Lastly” has been removed from this section.

3. Results 3.1. Background Characteristics of Participants- Start with Table 1 and provide a brief written description of the table. 3.2. Themes, Sub-Themes and Units of meaning- Table 3 Move lines 138-140 after the table 3. 3.3. Sex education: A Challenge for Secondary Schools Lines 143-146: to read as= “We explored adolescent experiences of sex education with the question on “What do you think comprehensive sex education should be about? What topics should it cover?” Students ’opinions about sex education received in school and their immediate environment would highlight the strengths and weaknesses in the present sex education in schools. The participants expressed their concerns, difficulties, and perceived differences in their experiences of sex education.”	3. Results 3.1. In response to the reviewer's request, we have added a sentence with the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants at the beginning of the Results section. We believe that it may be easier for the reader to visualize if table 1 is left in the Participants section. The numbering of this section has been changed in response to the reviewer's requests. 3.2. In response to the reviewer’s request, lines 138-140 have been moved to after Table 3. 3.3. In response to the reviewer’s request, the introduction of this theme has been edited to include the sentences recommended by the reviewer (lines 138-140).

3.1.1 to be 3.3.1 Students' Views on the Lack of Sex Education Lines 162-163: to read as- “The lack of a more inclusive and comprehensive sex education left students with unanswered questions and fears.” 3.1.2 to read as 3.3.2. Main Problems and Difficulties in Secondary Schools 3.1.3 to become 3.3.3. Gender-Related Needs Lines 248: Start as- “On the contrary, teenage boys greatest concern was related to … 3.2. to be 3.4. Student Expectations of Sex Education Line 261 3.2. to be 3.4.1 *Comprehensive Sex Education* 3.2.2 to become 3.4.2 *Uncensored Sex Education* 3.2.3 to become 3.4.3 Joint Approach to Education: Family and School	3.1.1. is now 3.3.1. Students’ Views on the Lack of Sex Education In response to the reviewer’s request the sentence has been edited as per the reviewer’s request (line 162-163). 3.1.2. is now 3.3.2. Main Problems and Difficulties in Secondary Schools 3.1.2. is now 3.3.3. Gender-Related Needs. The sentence has been edited as per the reviwer’s request (line 248). 3.2 is now 3.4. Student Expectations of Sex Education *3*.2. is now 3.4.1 *Comprehensive Sex Education* 3.2.2 is now 3.4.2 *Uncensored Sex Education* 3.2.3 is now 3.4.3 Joint Approach to Education: Family and School
4. **Discussion** Line 338: remove the word “has” from “The framework developed by Beltran [11] has allowed us to …. Line 356: The study’s participants—” delete “study’s.” Generally, have a space between the quotes/excerpts.	4. Discussion. The word “has” has been removed from the sentence indicated by the reviewer (line 338). The word “study’s” has been removed from the sentence indicated by the reviewer (line 356). At the reviewer's request, a space has been left between the quotations and extracts.