






Exploring the Intersection of Faith and Mental Health in Religious Clients

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence “However, faith-sensitive care is often not the norm...” would benefit from statistical evidence or data. Can you provide prevalence rates or studies showing how often such care is implemented in secular health systems?

You write, “Gender, culture, and theological interpretation further shape the relationship between faith and mental health.” This complex claim deserves an example from each domain (gender, culture, theology) for clarity and grounding.

The demographic profile is thorough, but there's a missed opportunity to analyze intersections—e.g., how age, gender, or denomination may correlate with differing themes in the results. Consider adding interpretive insight.

The statement “Group prayer sessions and shared stories of struggle also helped normalize mental health experiences...” could be enriched by explaining how this normalization occurred. Did it reduce stigma? Increase disclosure?

The statement “Some participants saw professional mental health services as secular...” would benefit from a cross-reference to existing literature or a footnote explaining theological reasons for this secular-spiritual tension.

The authors cite Codjoe et al. and Jacobi et al. on stigma but don't engage critically. Could these models be too Western-centric to apply directly to the Greek Orthodox context?

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The rationale for focusing on Greece is valid, but could be strengthened. Consider explaining why Greece's Orthodox Christian context offers a particularly insightful case—perhaps by contrasting with other European or Mediterranean countries.

While Braun and Clarke's six-phase method is noted, the text lacks specific examples of coding categories or how inter-rater reliability was ensured. Please include a brief description of coding validation procedures.

The quote "It meant a lot when my therapist said it was okay to bring God into the conversation" is powerful. However, it could be more meaningful if linked to a theme like 'therapeutic alliance' or 'cultural congruence.'

The sentence "This aligns with previous findings..." should include a reflection on what distinguishes this study from prior ones (e.g., unique themes, Greek context, faith-tradition differences).

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.