

Spiritual Wellbeing as a Mediator between Stress and Hope in Adolescents: Evidence from a Structural Equation Model


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Here you describe spiritual wellbeing. It would strengthen the argument to include a brief critical note about the controversies in operationalizing spirituality (e.g., distinguishing religious vs. secular existential meaning).

The paragraph focuses heavily on adults with chronic illnesses. Please provide a stronger justification for why adolescent populations may differ developmentally and require specific investigation.

This section is compelling but risks overgeneralization. Please critically address potential cultural variations (e.g., differences in conceptualizing spirituality in Kenya vs. Poland or Taiwan).

This is a strong section, but you may also discuss potential mechanisms (e.g., meaning-making, community integration, coping flexibility) more explicitly to strengthen theoretical contribution.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

While statistical results are included, effect sizes (e.g., β values) should be reported alongside correlation coefficients in the abstract for more scientific rigor.

The introduction is strong but overly general in its opening. Consider linking the opening more directly to the study's central constructs (stress, hope, spirituality) rather than beginning with a broad description of adolescence.

The rationale for selecting Kenya is not fully developed. Please include cultural or educational statistics to support the significance of studying Kenyan adolescents specifically.

The correlation table is appropriate, but effect sizes should be contextualized in the text (e.g., "moderate negative association") rather than only numerically reported.

This opening restates results without deeper theoretical interpretation. Please provide a stronger link between the findings and developmental theories of adolescence.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.