

Strategies of Boundary Setting in Women Healing from Familial Emotional Abuse




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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The claim “Women, in particular, are disproportionately vulnerable to emotional abuse within family systems...” would be strengthened by referencing specific prevalence statistics or cross-cultural comparative studies to enhance empirical grounding.

The sentence “This study, therefore, seeks to explore the nuanced strategies...” could be enhanced by articulating the specific research gap this study addresses, especially in relation to existing qualitative research on boundary setting.

The authors state that “initial codes were generated line-by-line,” but there is no mention of intercoder reliability or how coding consistency was ensured across the dataset.

In the quote “I told them to call before they came over...” the theme of spatial boundary-setting could be more analytically discussed in relation to power dynamics or autonomy theory.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement “Healing from familial emotional abuse... becomes both a psychological necessity and a political act...” is compelling but underdeveloped. Please elaborate on the "political" dimension of boundary-setting with reference to feminist theory or trauma studies.

The sentence “These mediated environments have thus become instrumental in helping women construct alternative narratives...” would benefit from more precise examples of the types of digital tools used (e.g., support forums, Instagram recovery accounts) to clarify scope.

The narrative “I used to ask my mother what to do about everything...” would be enriched by connecting this strategy to models of individuation or identity development in adulthood.

The phrase “I started writing down my decisions and the outcomes...” could be analytically linked to therapeutic techniques like cognitive restructuring or narrative therapy to contextualize within psychological theory.

The sentence “I still talk to them sometimes, but it’s on my terms now...” could benefit from additional analysis—what psychological risks or benefits emerged from low-contact vs. no-contact approaches?

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.