Gmail Bob Uttl <uttlbob@gmail.com>

Decision on your manuscript

Frontiers in Psychology - Peer Review <psychology.editorial.office@frontiersin.org> Mon, Feb 12, 2024 at 9:16 AM
To: "uttlbob@gmail.com" <uttlbob@gmail.com>
Cc: "axcleer@ulb.ac.be" <axcleer@ulb.ac.be>, "psychology@frontiersin.org" <psychology@frontiersin.org>, "sjaswal@cus.ac.in" <sjaswal@cus.ac.in>, "e.davelaar@bbk.ac.uk" <e.davelaar@bbk.ac.uk>

Dear Dr. Uttl,

Thank you for your email. This has been escalated to my attention as Head of the Research Integrity department at Frontiers.

Following your manuscript being accepted by the Handling Editor, Snehlata Jaswal, the abstract was flagged to our attention due to several posts being made online on the social media platform X. As is our policy, these concerns were raised to the chief editor of the section for assessment. The decision to reject the manuscript was made following our policies which are available online, here, which state that *"Handling editors and reviewers can recommend rejection at any time; editors make acceptance decisions; and chief editors make acceptance and rejection decisions. Frontiers' in-house research integrity team performs pre- and post-review quality screens and can reject articles that do not meet acceptance criteria"*. As our policies also mention, a submission can be rejected at any stage before official publication, even post-acceptance, if any of our rejection criteria are met.

As you pointed out in your email, the peer review process was completed as the handling editor had provisionally accepted your manuscript. However, I would like to reiterate that your manuscript has been rejected based on concerns expressed by the chief editor, who, following discussion with the handling editor, assessed the article and indicated that it cannot proceed to final publication in its current form. Some of the concerns raised were also in line with the concerns already raised by two of the reviewers of the manuscript. Additionally, he stated that should the concerns he raised be addressed, the manuscript could be resubmitted.

Regarding the email you have responded to below, and your concerns about the rejection decision being "*The manuscript could not be sufficiently revised by the authors to address the concerns raised by the reviewers or editor during the review process"*; please note that this is an automatically generated email sent from the review forum. Due to technical limitations, there are a limited set of standard "reasons" to reject a manuscript. However, the rejection statement includes all the additional details and the feedback given from the chief editor. The History tab in the review forum also contains all the information and timeline as it happened. Again, due to technical limitations, when an article is moved back into review, the review process is reactivated by default. This does not mean that the manuscript would not be recognized as having undergone peer review, and should you decide to resubmit the manuscript, the full review history would be available to the handling editor.

I would like to assure you that the chief editor has looked at the email sent responding to the concerns raised, however their concerns remain. Should these be addressed, both the handling editor and the chief editor agreed that the manuscript could be reconsidered for publication. If a revised manuscript is sent with the edits requested, the manuscript will be reinstated and assessed by them both.

I regret any disappointment or frustration caused by this decision and would like to thank you for your understanding.

Best regards,

Elena Vicario, PhD
Head of Research Integrity

frontiers

---------- Original Message ----------
From: Bob Uttl [uttlbob@gmail.com]
Sent: 09.02.2024 21:26

To: psychology.editorial.office@frontiersin.org
Cc: kamila.markram@frontiersin.org; psychology@frontiersin.org; sjaswal@cus.ac.in; frederick.fenter@frontiersin.org; henry.markram@frontiersin.org; gibsonlacey99@gmail.com; support@frontiersin.org; stewart.longman@albertahealthservices.ca; axcleer@ulb.ac.be; mirjam.eckert@frontiersin.org; toriaviolo@gmail.com; production.office@frontiersin.org; pgraf@psych.ubc.ca
Subject: Re: Decision on your manuscript

Dear “Frontiers in Psychology” (or whoever wrote the email):

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

ref:!00D580JetR.!5008e0LW7y2:ref