

Dear Editor,

We appreciate the comments from the reviewers and the editor. Below we listed their comments (bolded) and provided our responses to each comment one by one. All changes are highlighted in yellow in the manuscript.

Reviewers' Comments to Author:

1. This manuscript presents a detailed investigation into the relationship between economic well-being and self-esteem across different racial and ethnic groups in adulthood. The study utilizes data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 and employs ordinary linear regression and logistic regression analyses. The research questions focus on racial/ethnic disparities in economic well-being, the influence of economic well-being on self-esteem, and whether these associations differ across race/ethnicity. The manuscript makes a contribution to the understanding of the interplay between economic well-being, race/ethnicity, and self-esteem in adulthood. The manuscript does an excellent job of exploring multiple dimensions of economic well-being, including employment, poverty, fringe benefits, and job satisfaction. This multifaceted approach provides a richer understanding of the subject. The study offers new insights into the relationship between economic well-being and self-esteem, particularly in how this relationship is moderated by race and ethnicity. This adds valuable knowledge to the field.

Response: N/A

2. The study relies on linear regression models, which may not fully capture the complexity of the relationships between economic well-being and self-esteem. Consideration of more advanced statistical techniques could provide deeper insights. While the study uses longitudinal data, the analysis seems cross-sectional in nature. A more explicit focus on the changes over time could enhance the understanding of the dynamics involved.

Response: We've agreed with reviewer's comment. Given that this study was conducted based on a cross-sectional approach, it is limited to capture the complexity of the relationship between economic well-being and self-esteem. We've described it as a limitation on page. 16 and a reason that we rely on linear regression models.

3. The study could benefit from a deeper exploration of how other demographic factors (like age, gender, and urban/rural residence) interact with race/ethnicity and economic well-being in influencing self-esteem.

Response: We've agreed that a new interaction effect would be beneficial to deeply understand the relationship between economic well-being and self-esteem. Even though the main focus of this study identified racial and ethnic disparities in the association between economic well-being and self-esteem, we suggest that future studies show a benefit from a

deeper exploration of how other factors interact with economic well-being and self-esteem. We mentioned it on page.16.

4. The manuscript would benefit from a more detailed comparison with other studies, particularly those that might have conflicting findings, to contextualize its contributions within the broader research landscape.

Response: Thank you for the feedback. We described previous studies on the literature review section, but it was a little bit difficult to directly compare findings in the current study with previous findings because we included a new factor such as fringe benefits and job satisfaction, which have not been studied in the relationship between economic well-being and self-esteem. However, as the reviewer pointed out, we tried to show previous findings in literature review as much as possible.

We would like to thank reviewers and the editor for their insightful feedback. We also appreciate the effort of the editor who facilitated the review process. We believe the revised version is much stronger.