



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_12672
Title of the Manuscript:	The male:female ratio at birth is depressed by Maltese parliamentary elections and increased by other non-electoral events.
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Since the data are from a time-series the results from each month are correlated with the previous month. Therefore it would be more appropriate to analyse the data using a time-series technique rather than with the Chi-square trend test.	We had a long discussion at the outset and my statistics advisors told me to just use chi and chi for trend as simple, incontrovertible and easily understandable by far more readers than time series analysis. All my work to date has been accepted for publication (>10 papers) in this way. So for the sake of consistency, I would rather not change the type of analysis, if at all possible. The results are robust enough. I have revisited this issue and rediscussed with our statistician and he is happy for the statistical test to remain unchanged.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	• Verify the horizontal line in the overall graph for figure 1 as it appears as if most of the dots are above the line. • In the title of tables 1 and 2, remove the text in parenthesis. • In table 1, add the text in parenthesis from the title to the X axis title of the final graph. • In table 2, move the text in parenthesis to the X axis title.	• Line verified and this text added as a footnote to the graph: "Horizontal line in last graph represents 0.518, the mean M/F for this dataset." • Text in brackets removed. • Text moved as requested. • Text moved as requested.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	It would be interesting to see a graph of the difference in M/F ratios between political and parliamentary events at -13 months to + 13 months.	The graph was done and is attached as a separate file – it does not look relevant and was not included in the new draft.