**REVIEWER – 1**

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|  | **Reviewer comment** | **Author response** |
| 1 | The paper addresses a very real, relevant and topical issue in the Indian context that has ethical undertones in its receiving sanction and propagation. | Thank you. |
| 2 | I don't think it will influence policy but it provides a counter and a warning to this narrative | I agree. |
| 3 | The angle with which the obsession with fairness has been looked at is original by introducing the 'scientific' aspects to justify its promotion. The focus on the 'womb' and its cleansing is also good. | Thank you. |
| 4 | Important omissions: An argument that has been left out is whether by just giving the woman more attention during her pregnancy, better nutrition, more rest and other supplements (psychological, emotional and so on) could result in 'healthier' babies. This would be a public health scenario. | I could not completely understand what has been said here; I have tried my best to incorporate the changes. However, I might have missed out on exactly addressing this comment since I could not understand it. |
| 5 | The brain washing and the instilling of fascist ideologies is what is dangerous by using the above and hence needs to be taken head on with a stronger counter argument supported by evidence from other literature. Also, the potential danger as new genetic advancements take place to manipulate genes to address 'flaws' should be stronger. | Have tried to rework substantial parts to render the arguments clearer and stronger. |
| 6 | References for the historical concepts of the Aryan race's perceived supremacy would be useful, if a reader would like to understand this further. Similarly, some religious textual references or of commentaries on what is prescribed as 'the ideal child', and  'the purity of the garba' would be useful | Have added references for the Aryan Invasion theory. |
| 7 | It would be good to accept this article for publishing in IJME as it makes very interesting reading. It would help to have the piece tightened and shortened and come as a commentary | Have tried to tighten the language |
| 8 | There are grammatical errors, mainly to do with sentence construction, tense, prepositions and the like. | Have worked on those to the best of my abilities |

**REVIEWER – 2**

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|  | **Reviewer comment** | **Author response** |
| 1 | The paper addresses an important issue (and to my biased mind, an exceedingly important issue) of a social problem that can, in part, be addressed by the medical community. | Thank you |
| 2 | However, I feel the paper requires much editing and tightening before it can be accepted.  A considerable number of statements are far too long and need to be shortened to make the whole piece readable. | Have deleted most of the sentences that were convoluted or have rewritten them. |