**Reviewer 1:**

Thank you very much for these comments; they assist further clarification of the study.

Abstract: “They” has been changed to “the educators” and “needy” has been changed to “disadvantaged”.

In the subsection *Maternal Ambivalence*, I added Winnicott’s original definition of the “good enough mother” theory (1953).

**Reviewer 2:**

Thank you for your constructive feedback, it helped me refine my ideas more precisely.

To your suggestion in the Abstract, I removed the questions and instead detailed the issue, followed by the aim of the research (now written more concisely).

In response to your comment in the subsection *Professional Identity Among Teachers and Early Childhood Educators*, I shortened and refined the passage on the educators’ professional identity in attempt to emphasize the demands on kindergarten teachers in their roles as managers (of the kindergarten). Further, at the end of the subsection I explained how running a kindergarten may interfere with their roles as mothers.

To your suggestion, I moved the questions from the subsection *Intersections between Educators’ Private (Home) Sphere and Public (Outside the Home) Sphere with the Education System* to between the summary and the Materials and Methods.

Lastly, I added the statement on trustworthiness to the *Data Analysis* section.

**As requested, changes in the manuscript are highlighted in yellow.**