Author's response to reviews

Title: Young adolescents’ independent mobility, related factors and association with transport to school. A cross-sectional study.

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for giving us this last chance to make corrections. We have made a number of changes, which are outlined in the letter below.

Yours sincerely,
Klara Johansson
Marie Hasselberg
Lucie Laflamme

**Major revisions**

*Author list: the list of authors in the manuscript should be written exactly as they are in the submission system, both in style and order.*

**Authors:** we have now adjusted this.

*Additional files: please ensure that Additional file 1 has a title and a description.*

**Authors:** We have adjusted this in the manuscript, in the following way:

Additional file 1
Title: English translation of survey questionnaire: Adolescents’ encounter with traffic
Description: An English translation of the questionnaire (in Swedish) which was used in the survey “Adolescents’ encounter with traffic”, among 7th grade students in a sample of schools in Stockholm County, 2005/06.

*Tables: please cite both tables in numerical order in the text. Table 2 has only been cited as placement text, which will not appear in the final draft.*

**Authors:** Table 2 is now cited in text on page 13

**Minor revisions**

*Line numbers: please remove.*

**Authors:** Done.

*Abstract: remove keywords.*

**Authors:** Done.

*Track changes: please remove.*

**Authors:** Done.

*Tables: the table title should appear above the table and should be only one sentence long. Please place any other text as a legend (or key), which should appear below the table.*

**Authors:** We have now adjusted this.

*Tables: please remove the visible vertical lines from your tables.*
**Authors:** We have now adjusted this.

**Tables:** please note that we are unable to correctly display merged cells where the merged cell crosses rows: please re-layout your table without these merged elements.

**Authors:** We have now adjusted this for Table 1. We hope that the table will be displayed correctly, though it is difficult for us to know since it depends on final formatting for the journal. Each variable in column 1 overlaps several categories (column 2 and following columns), and we have thus divided the variable descriptions in column 1 over several rows, making a line break were it looks good in the current version of the table. However, in final formatting, the width of columns might be smaller or larger, resulting in unnecessary line breaks, making the text in the first column of Table 1 look “cut off” and strange. We are uncertain on how to address this. Another issue is Figure 1, which is formatted as a table, and which has some merged cells. We have re-formatted the figure, avoiding merged cells that cross rows (though there are some which cross columns) and hope this is not a problem.

**Figures:** Please ensure all mention of figures is consistent (it should be Figure of Fig but not a mixture of both).

**Authors:** We have now adjusted this.

**Typography:** Please take this opportunity to check your manuscript for any typographical errors and to make any final corrections or revisions. This is the final proofing stage for your manuscript, and you will not be able to make any changes after acceptance.

**Authors:** We have checked the manuscript and made the following changes:

Please note that we have taken the liberty to exclude two variables from the results presented: “walking in traffic last Saturday” and “bicycling in traffic last Saturday” from the analysis. Those two variables are not much the focus of this article, they are not highlighted in the results section, and they are not taken up in the discussion part either.

Other changes:
- Page 4, last line: added a comma
- Page 14: changed “Even” to “Also”
- Conclusions: added the words “different levels of” to the following sentence: In both the two clusters where fears occur, the coping strategies typically used indicate different levels of impeded independent mobility.
- Page 15, replaced classes with clusters.

**Table 1:**
- The column titles “Class 1” etc was replaces with “Cluster 1” etc in order to be consistent with the rest of the paper, also in the legend.
- *Parents not from Sweden* was changed to *Parent(s) born outside Sweden*
- Some numbers which had been rounded down should have been rounded up, this was corrected.
At the bottom of table, added the following to the legend: “Note: numbers are rounded and may add up to more than 100%.”

In footnote a) changed parentheses to singular (parenthesis).

Table 2:

To double-check, we re-calculated the proportions and confidence intervals in STATA. This resulted in a number of minor corrections in the table. These corrections are small (fractions of percentages) and do not change the results and conclusions.

As mentioned above, we excluded the variables “walking in traffic last Saturday” and “bicycling in traffic last Saturday” from this table.

The column titles “Class 1” etc was replaces with “Cluster 1” etc in order to be consistent with the rest of the paper.