Reviewer's report

Title: The relationship between a less gender-stereotypical parenthood and alcohol-related care and death: a registry study of Swedish mothers and fathers

Version: 2 Date: 16 June 2008

Reviewer: Sandra Kuntsche

Reviewer's report:

The aim of the current paper is the impact of less gender-stereotypical parenthood on alcohol-related harm and death. The paper gained a lot in its revised version. The aims, methods and results are described clearly and discussed accordingly. In the following some suggestions for further improvement will be given:

Major revisions

1. The final sample size should be stated more clearly in the method section. The authors give report different sample sizes (page 8 population n=49’120 for men and N=43’450 for women; page 12 for all models n=25’150). It would improve the readability of the tables to state that the descriptive analysis is based on the whole sample (despite the fact that proportions for the main confounders are given as well) whereas in the regression models only those with values on all confounders were considered.

2. Page 15: the description of the female results in table two is wrong. The reference group to those working 20-34 hours are those not working or working less than 20 hours and not those working full-time (see also method section page).

3. The authors state themselves that the comprehensiveness of the regression analyses (page 13) is limited. Given the fact that those with missing values were more likely to suffer alcohol related harm (pages 8 / 13) the authors should discuss this in the discussion section.

Minor revisions

1. Page 3 1st paragraph: Give examples for high-mortality developing, low-mortality developing and low-mortality developed countries

2. Page 3 2nd paragraph: the first two sentences are not very clear and should be reformulated

3. Page 3 2nd paragraph: “the present global picture is that many women have entered the public sphere”: this might be the case for a majority of developed countries, but I am not sure that this is a general “global” development - this should be rephrased.

4. Page 10: the authors provide three reasons for choosing different years/periods for male (1978/79)and female (1980) exposure. They should try to
make the second reason a little clearer for reader’s less familiar with the Swedish system in 1980.

5. Page 16: the authors should state that some of the results are only presented in text and not as a separate table

6. Page 21: if I am not mistaken are some results only presented in the discussion section (comparison alcohol related death vs. care). This is puzzling for the reader and should be improved.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.