Reviewer's report

**Title**: Reasons for non-participation in a parental program concerning underage drinking: a mixed-method study

**Version**: 1  **Date**: 7 July 2009

**Reviewer**: Sven Bremberg

**Reviewer's report:**

The paper addresses a question of practical importance - participation in education programmes, in this case a parenting programme. It is scientifically sound. Yet, the paper would gain in readability if it is shorted with focus on the main findings.

1) The Health Belief Model (HBM) is adequately used. References are mainly given to it's use in parenting programmes. Yet, references to a wider range of educational programmes would be helpful since a common finding is the lacking predictive power of this model.

2) There are some unclear points.
- Page 2, para 1. It is stated that a "quasi-experimental" method was used. In the methods part I did not find out the design of the experimental part.
- Page 9, para 3, line 3, There seem to be more participants (7613) than eligible parents (895)
- Page 9, para 3, it is stated that "In total, 718 parents had answered one or several of the questionnaires.", Yet the inclusion criterium was at least two questionnaires answered.

**Level of interest**: An article of limited interest

**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