Author’s response to reviews

Title: Describing associations between child maltreatment frequency and the frequency and timing of subsequent delinquent or criminal behaviors across development: Variation by sex, sexual orientation, and race

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Editor Comments:

1. Ethics approval and consent to participate
Apologies that this was not included in our earlier revision requests.

We note that you have added this statement in the Declarations: ‘Ethics review of AddHealth as a whole has been conducted by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.’ Please clarify this sentence. Do you mean to say that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill reviewed the study and provided ethical approval, waived the need for ethical approval, or otherwise?

RESPONSE: we have now clarified that UNC reviews data collection procedures and that the Child Trends IRB reviewed these analyses only and deemed them exempt.

2. Figure legends
We note that you have included figure key information, such as, ‘Solid blue line. Predicted violent offense frequency for males.’ Please note that this is information that forms part of the figure key and must be incorporated into the figure instead. Figure legends, such as Figure 1a Differences in predicted violent offense frequency by sex’ may remain in a separate list.

RESPONSE: we have added these into the documents with the figures and removed them from the legend. The previous instructions we received about the legend implied we needed to explain the line colors in that locale.

3. Please also ensure that all tables are labelled, with the table title placed directly at the top of the table. Please do the same for all Supplementary tables.

RESPONSE: All of the table titles are now included in the attached files.
4. Please ensure that all supplementary tables are cited separately in the main body of text.

RESPONSE: Table S.3 is now also mentioned in the text.

5. Please note that all multi-panel figures, i.e. figures that have to be labelled using additional letters such as 1a and 1b, should be included on the same page. If multi-panel figures cannot fit onto the same page, they must be labelled as separate figures. For example, Figures 1a and 1b must become Figures 1 and 2.

RESPONSE: we've combined figures 1a and 1b as well as 3a and 3b into their own files respectively. These are now called Figures 1 and 3 and are labeled with a and b below the figures.