
Subject: SQLite and foreign keys

Posted by [wimpie](#) on Thu, 17 Oct 2013 00:28:35 GMT

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Hello,

I am using SQLite, with a Schema with a few tables with references and I noticed I could delete rows in one table which were used in another.

After some digging I noticed in Sqlite3Schema.h the REFERENCES*** macro's are not defined.

First I wondered why, but after reading Sqlite doc's I think it's because it doesn't allow adding constraints to an existing table. Am I right?

But, it does allow it when creating the column, so I changed this in Sqlite3Schema.h:

```
#define REFERENCES(x)      INLINE_ATTRIBUTE("references " #x)
```

And as far as I can see, this works. I think it can also work with CASCADE ("references " #x " on delete cascade") but I did not test that.

But it seems not to be the perfect solution because I can't reference TABLE.COLUMN; Sqlite gives error on the ".". it needs TABLE(COLUMN) to work.

This can be put in the schema also like

```
TABLE (TEST)
  INT (ID) PRIMARY_KEY
  INT (KEY1) REFERENCES(SIMPLE_TEST1(ID))
END_TABLE
```

but I guess this is not portable with other SQL engines?

Can someone please comment on this?
