[Cassandra-5631](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://issues.apache.org/jira/browse/CASSANDRA-5631&sa=D&source=editors&ust=1751363464002968&usg=AOvVaw2ihUbgYkiQbOPPeW-sthjC)

NPE when creating column family shortly after multinode startup

**(1)  Log information**

When testing a 2-node cluster and creating a column family *right after* the nodes startup, using the Astyanax client. Sometimes column family creation fails and see NPEs on the cassandra server:

2013-06-12 14:55:31,773 ERROR CassandraDaemon [MigrationStage:1] - Exception in thread Thread[MigrationStage:1,5,main]

java.lang.NullPointerException

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefsTable.addColumnFamily(DefsTable.java:510)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefsTable.mergeColumnFamilies(DefsTable.java:444)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefsTable.mergeSchema(DefsTable.java:354)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefinitionsUpdateVerbHandler$1.runMayThrow(DefinitionsUpdateVerbHandler.java:55)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.utils.WrappedRunnable.run(WrappedRunnable.java:28)

                      at java.util.concurrent.Executors$RunnableAdapter.call(Executors.java:471)

                      at java.util.concurrent.FutureTask$Sync.innerRun(FutureTask.java:334)

                      at java.util.concurrent.FutureTask.run(FutureTask.java:166)

                      at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor.runWorker(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:1145)

                      at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor$Worker.run(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:615)

                      at java.lang.Thread.run(Thread.java:722)

2013-06-12 14:55:31,880 ERROR CassandraDaemon [MigrationStage:1] - Exception in thread Thread[MigrationStage:1,5,main]

java.lang.NullPointerException

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefsTable.mergeColumnFamilies(DefsTable.java:475)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefsTable.mergeSchema(DefsTable.java:354)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.db.DefinitionsUpdateVerbHandler$1.runMayThrow(DefinitionsUpdateVerbHandler.java:55)

                      at org.apache.cassandra.utils.WrappedRunnable.run(WrappedRunnable.java:28)

                      at java.util.concurrent.Executors$RunnableAdapter.call(Executors.java:471)

                      at java.util.concurrent.FutureTask$Sync.innerRun(FutureTask.java:334)

                      at java.util.concurrent.FutureTask.run(FutureTask.java:166)

                      at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor.runWorker(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:1145)

                      at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor$Worker.run(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:615)

                      at java.lang.Thread.run(Thread.java:722)