

Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

I am content for this response to be attributed to me or my organisation

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Rosemary Hill

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Fully Supportive

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Please explain the reasons for your response

I can't think of a logical reason why i would not be fully supportive. The acceptance of 'smacking' as a form of discipline is a national disgrace. I know from my own experience as a parent and grand parent that children can be infuriating and that in the 'heat of the moment' it is so tempting to smack but we would not take a similar approach to an adult who was annoying us so why is it acceptable for children? I think it is important to give out a message that it is NOT acceptable. I know that when my own children were young i was frequently advised to 'improve my discipline' and the 'no smacking' culture of my family was viewed as bizarre and harmful.

Q2. Could the aims of the proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

A Bill in the Scottish Parliament gives out a clear message for cultural change and gives all those parents who feel instinctively and intellectually that 'smacking is wrong' the support they need to do the right thing and to counter the criticisms that they may experience currently.

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

The same advantages that pertain to not assaulting adults. It is their right not to be treated violently by those who should protect them and keep them safe from harm.

Q4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

None - except cultural resistance i suppose.

Page 11: Financial implications

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have?

Significant reduction in cost

Page 12: Equalities

Q6. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on the following protected groups (under the Equality Act 2010): race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity?

Positive

Q7. Could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on any of these protected groups be minimised or avoided?

No Response

Page 14: Sustainability of the proposal

Q8. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having a disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impact?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response:
non violent child care should be the norm.

Page 15: General

Q9. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

I do hope this Bill is successful.