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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.
Allicia Boylan

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 do not think that anyone has a right to hit a child or should have reason to. Adults are protected from this sort of assault so why should a vulnerable child not be protected from this?

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
If it is not passed as a bill then it will not be taken seriously.

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?

I think that it will allow children to live without a needless fewr that they might be hit for some arbitrary reason by someone whom they love and trust. I also think it might lessen the chance of borderline abuse - where an adult might stray too far or cross a line which isn't clearly defined.

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?

I think that we all make mistakes. It would be very unfortunate if an otherwise loving, nurturing and eganged parent 'slipped up once, realised their mistake, yet faced criminal charges and the stigma that came with these. I also wonder if it might be difficult to investigate in single event cases and cause unnecessary paper and procedural work for the authorities.

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 increase 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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

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?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response:
I think that any parliamentary bill carries significant cost to deliver.

Page 15: General

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

No Response