

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 would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

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've seen firsthand the damage physical assault of children can do to a family. This violence is committed ostensibly to aid the child's development, but in actuality causes immense harm. In addition to the proposed changes to the law, efforts should be made to educate parents (particularly from older generations) on the dangers of physically assaulting children.

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

Unsure

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?

Avoidance of emotional harm and damage to a child's outcomes related to physical assault. Improved relationships and stability within families. Setting a precedent for the prohibition and rejection of physical violence in parent-child relations may help reduce acceptance and prevalence of parent to parent physical violence (domestic abuse).

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?

There are none worth considering.

Page 11: Financial implications

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

Unsure

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

This change should have a positive impact on all families, which includes members of the protected groups above. Setting a precedent for the rejection and prohibition of violence in parent-child relations may

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?

help reduce acceptance of other forms of violence (which the groups above may be more vulnerable to e.g. Domestic abuse, hate crime)

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

Not applicable - there will be no negative impact

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:

This is altering an existing law to give children rights that the rest of us already have. It should not have a large financial or negative social impact.

Page 15: General

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

No