

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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Justin Ryan

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 am fully in favour. It seems long overdue. I do think we will need to reeducate parents in non violent ways to manage challenging behaviour. Without this then there will be much resistance to legal change. I also wonder how or why you will exclude assault by other children which is as important an issue to be addressed as 'corporal punishment'.

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

However along with the legislative programme we will need to reeducate parents in non violent ways to manage challenging behaviour.

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 main advantage would be to role model to children that physical violence is not necessary to resolve behavioural issues with others.

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?

Many parents, maybe even most, would totally struggle and resort to more intense forms of verbal abuse of children which could in many instances be equally or more psychologically damaging than physical assaults, deep ding on the nature and extent of each in individual cases.

I do think we will need to reeducate parents in non violent ways to manage challenging behaviour.

Page 11: Financial implications

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

Long term there could be savings from improved social behaviour from children and adults but only if parents are taught non violent means of managing behaviour.

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?

Unsure

Page 15: General

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

It really will be unenforceable unless parents are educated in child behaviour management techniques which are non violent.