

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

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 opposed

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

We would see the vast majority of loving parents, both Fathers and Mothers becoming potential criminals, whereas the vast majority of cases of child abuse would go undetected through a diverting of resources against lawful, loving and caring parents.

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

Absolutely not, as explained previously.

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?

Absolutely none.

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?

Children are not adults, family freedoms would be threatened, it is a complete and utterly false claim that a child smacked in love is an assault on a child.
Social workers would have their workloads greatly increased, when at present they are overloaded with the amount of work placed on them by misguided legislation.

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

Through more resources having to be made available as mentioned previously.

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?

Negative

Please explain the reasons for your response

As previously explained.

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

Not at all.

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:

The cost would be prohibitive and unsustainable.

Page 15: General

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

The public oppose strongly a ban on smacking, it is certainly not child abuse as much as many would like to think so.

The state once again should not be regulating parents as to how their children should be raised.

Children need to be lovingly disciplined, if not it has a knock on effect on the family and ultimately society.