

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Alisdair McKay

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

It is only right that it is clearly understood that hitting a child is the same as hitting an adult, yet I am especially keen that more importantly, the issue of the parental skill level is addressed, so that this issue is diminished as much as possible. Every one of us as parents can increase our abilities through parenting classes, if made universally available, and the relationship skills learnt would be equally applicable and beneficial throughout the rest of our relationships and interactions. It is the missing element in the baby box scheme which as I understand it, attend classes is Finnish future parents part of the bargain in getting the baby box, and to which I think the biggest part of that schemes effectiveness in bringing about societal change is attributable to.

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

No

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?

We would start to consider why such assault had become common place and consider what this reflects of our attitude as adults towards children is and that the deficiency and therefore the responsibility and ability to change this lies with us adults.

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, the fact that this is a question indicates that we have a deficiency of ability in the adult community which needs to be addressed.

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

Please explain the reasons for your response

Costs would reduce in the long term significantly as we are forced to relate to our children more appropriately. It will also impact on attainment levels as less alienated children will achieve better.

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

The increase in respect will impact across the board.

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

None needed

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:

Any disproportionate impact will be in a positive direction.

Page 15: General

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

I look forward to it being superseded for the reasons previously indicated.