

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

It would be entirely unjustified to use physical threats or harm as a way to educate, punish or warn an adult and this should be no different for 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?

It would teach them from an early age about ways to express opinions, warn, teach and communicate with others without the need for resorting to something physical.

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?

Some parents may struggle to deal with bad behaviour in children without punishment of a physical nature but this is indicative of lack of skills as a parent and not enough knowledge of alternatives to physical punishment. This, however, is not a reason not to ban physical punishment but an acknowledgement that parenting skills dont come naturally to many.

Page 11: Financial implications

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

Broadly cost-neutral

Please explain the reasons for your response

I would imagine parenting classes would help a vast number of parents to deal with their children in other ways, but this help should be standard anyway

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?

Slightly positive

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?

Please explain the reasons for your response

It would certainly alleviate some physical assaults on those who's status doesn't align with parental beliefs or wants, especially when the parent feels justified in physical force to change attitudes or beliefs or status of the child.

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

Unsure

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:

I believe that any added cost to deliver and sustain such measurements would be justified given the long term consequences of allowing parents to continue to use physical punishment on children and the affects on that child's development.

Page 15: General

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

No Response