

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

• Violence breeds violence. • Physical punishment is doled out through loss of temper and ignorance. • Teaching children the language of violence just perpetuates the behaviour throughout their lives. • Children are vulnerable and innocent and should not be subjected to physical punishment.

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

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

I have no idea about policy, law or Bills. Wouldn't have the faintest clue what is the best and most effectual way of protecting children.

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 serve to act as a more effective deterrent, if more immediate comebacks were apparent to the perpetrator.

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?

Just the difficulty of policing it. Also, I worry about how children who report their abuse will be protected in the long term. Will they be too frightened of their abuser to make the reports?

Page 11: Financial implications

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

Some increase in cost

Please explain the reasons for your response

Surely every policy/Bill costs money? Applying the policy and policing it will cost money.

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

Not sure I understand the question. I assumed you mean that children in the protected groups might be more likely to face assault/abuse, in which case this Bill can only have a positive impact. Buy I'm not sure where pregnancy/maternity come in. This question needs to be phrased more clearly.

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

See previous reply. I can't answer this question without fully understanding it.

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:

The benefits far outweigh any "costs" that are incurred.

Page 15: General

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

No.