

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

I feel that having physical punishment within reason is required to teach children how to behave respectfully and also to protect them from harm by learning from both negative and positive reinforcement.

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 don't think there should be a blanket ban on physical punishment as how are children to learn if there are no consequences to their actions

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?

Possible reduction in child abuse. However I think if someone was going to harm and abuse a child a Scottish bill is not going to prevent it.

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?

Undisciplined, disrespectful generation feeling entitled to anything.  
Unable to teach children that actions have consequences and unable to teach children with negative and positive reinforcement.

## 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**

There will be more investigations required for minimal force used in discipline as children will be making more accusations and there will be a lot of wasted time and 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?

Negative

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

Unable to bring children up in accordance to religious beliefs

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

Allowing reasonable physical punishment to protect and teach children

## 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?

*No Response*