

# Consultation on the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill

Tystiolaeth i'r <b>Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg</b> ar gyfer craffu Cyfnod 1 <b>Bil Plant (Diddymu Amddiffyniad Cosb Resymol)</b> (Cymru)	Evidence submitted to the <b>Children, Young People and Education Committee</b> for Stage 1 scrutiny of the <b>Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill</b>
CADRP-512	CADRP-512

## About you

Individual

### 1 The Bill's general principles

#### 1.1 Do you support the principles of the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill?

— No

#### 1.2 Please outline your reasons for your answer to question 1.1

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

This Bill is yet more state interference in family life.

#### 1.3 Do you think there is a need for legislation to deliver what this Bill is trying to achieve?

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

No, most parents do a great job loving and disciplining their children in a manner that they deem fitting and suitable to the age of the child, this may include a smack if necessary. This bill stands to undermine these good people. The children of Wales are already protected by law against abuse both physical and emotional. Sadly some children will continue to be at risk but banning smacking will do nothing to protect them but it will undermine good parenting practice.

### 2 The Bill's implementation

#### 2.1 Do you have any comments about any potential barriers to implementing the Bill? If no, go to question 3.1

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

Have you considered who will be your 'smacking' reporters?

Does this mean yet more work loaded on teachers?

How many more social workers will you need?

## **2.2 Do you think the Bill takes account of these potential barriers?**

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

No, the bill doesn't think through the implications of state interference in family life.

## **3 Unintended consequences**

### **3.1 Do you think there are there any unintended consequences arising from the Bill? If no, go to question 4.1**

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

There are some serious unintended consequences.

For example if a child reports a smack, is the teacher/ adult compelled by law to act on this information?

Will the parents concerned be immediately investigated?

Will the children be removed from the family?

Will that parent be prosecuted?

Will that parent lose their job if they to work with children?

Will the parent have a criminal record?

## **4 Financial implications**

### **4.1 Do you have any comments on the financial implications of the Bill (as set out in Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum)? If no, go to question 5.1**

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

No comments as there will obviously be financial implications for police and social services.

## **5 Other considerations**

### **5.1 Do you have any other points you wish to raise about this Bill?**

*(we would be grateful if you could keep your answer to around 1000 words)*

My personal concern is that A.M's promised that they would listen to the people but they seem determined to push this through. Is that democracy?