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

Tystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg ar gyfer craffu Cyfnod 1 Bil Plant (Diddymu Amdiffyniad Cosb Resymol) (Cymru)  
Evidence submitted to the Children, Young People and Education Committee for Stage 1 scrutiny of the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill
CADRP-188  CADRP-188

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)

I believe parents should keep the right to discipline their children as they see fit without state legislation or interference. The right to physically discipline a child within a loving relationship and in a controlled and appropriate way is a beneficial option for the proper training of a child. I fear that legislating in this area will end up criminalising parents for seeking the best for their children.

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, I understand the law already protects children from abuse and excessive punishment. This needs to be enforced.

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)
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)

3 Unintended consequences

3.1 Do you think there are 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)

I fear that loving parents, seeking the best for their children through a controlled and appropriate application of discipline such as smacking will end up having their families destroyed and reputations tarnished by an over rigorous application of such a law as is proposed.

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)

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)