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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tystiolaeth i’r Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg ar gyfer craffu Cyfnod 1 Bil Plant (Diddymu Amdiffyniad Cosb Resymol) (Cymru)</th>
<th>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</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CADRP-450</td>
<td>CADRP-450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

— Yes

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)

Children deserve the minimum of protection from assault that adults receive. There is no justification for assaulting a child; this bill would send out a strong message that Wales is committed to protecting children from abuse. It would also be consistent with UN principles, which recognise that children have human rights and that permitting certain adults to assault them is not compatible with those rights.

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)

Yes - absolutely. The law needs to be clear that children have rights and that assaults upon them will be punishable as they are for adults.

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)
It is important that the bill is publicised so that people understand the standards that are expected of them in terms of not assaulting their children.

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)

Yes

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)

No

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

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)

It is shocking that adults are still permitted - indeed, encouraged in some sections of society - to assault their children as though this was some kind of normal behaviour. It is sad that this bill is needed, but it clearly is. It is also essential that it is enforced clearly and consistently.