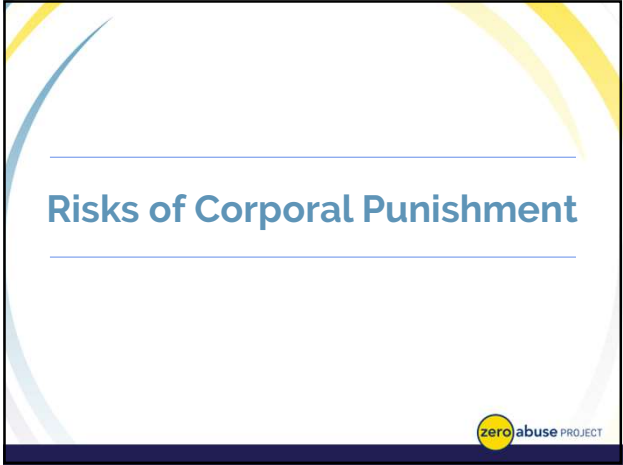




1



2




3

Corporal Punishment And Mental Health

"Recent studies have suggested that a host of potentially harmful behavioral and psychological consequences may result from so-called 'ordinary' physical punishment. These negative outcomes include alcohol abuse, depression, suicidal thoughts, behavioral problems, low achievement, and future economic insecurity."

Flynn, 1996




4

Corporal Punishment & Physical Health

Harsh physical discipline (pushing, grabbing, shoving, slapping, and hitting) even in the absence of more severe maltreatment (broken bones, sexual abuse, etc) is associated with higher risks of cardiovascular disease, arthritis, obesity, history of family dysfunction, and mental disorders

Affi, et al. 2013



5

The Least Effective Discipline

The Long-Term Effects of Spanking

A multiyear study shows spanking kids makes them more aggressive later on

By Alice Park | Monday, May 03, 2010

 Like

 Tweet

 30

 Share

 Read Later

Disciplining young children is what parents are supposed to do – most moms and dads have no trouble agreeing with that. But should the punishment include spanking?

As many parents can attest, few disciplinary measures stop a child from misbehaving as quickly as a swift smack or two on the bottom.

But in a new study published in *Pediatrics*, researchers at Tulane University provide the strongest evidence yet that children's short-



Peter Dinkley / Photographer's Choice / Getty Images



6

Gershoff (2016)

5-decade study reveals fallout from spanking kids



Spanking a child leads to bad behavior, not the better manners some parents may think a smack on the bottom will elicit, a new study suggests. Researchers from the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan analyzed 75 studies involving more than 150,000 children that spanned 50 years.

- 75 studies over 50 years
- More than 150,000 children
- Traditional "spanking" linked to elevated risks of defying parents, acting aggressively, cognitive difficulties, mental health problems



7

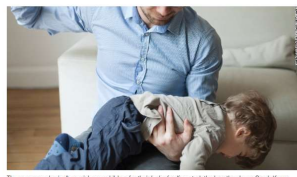
The Impact On Developing Brains



Spanking the gray matter out of our kids

By Sarah Koenig, Special to CNN

Updated 7:46 ET, Wed July 23, 2014



The more you physically punish your children for their lack of self-control, the less they have, Sarah Koenig

(<http://www.cnn.com/>)



8

Corporal Punishment & Physical Abuse

Corporal Punishment by Parents and Associated Child Behaviors and Experiences: A Meta-Analysis and Theoretical Review

Elizabeth Thompson, Jennifer L. Davis, and David P. Farrington

Abstract: The purpose of this meta-analysis was to synthesize the findings of research on the effects of corporal punishment on children's behavior and mental health. The meta-analysis included 75 studies, with a total sample size of 150,000 children. The results showed that corporal punishment is associated with increased aggression, conduct problems, and mental health problems. The meta-analysis also found that corporal punishment is associated with decreased academic achievement and social skills. The theoretical review discussed the mechanisms by which corporal punishment may lead to these outcomes, including the role of fear, shame, and modeling.

- Meta-analysis of 50 years of research on mild corporal punishment
- "The largest effect size was for physical abuse; the more children are spanked, the greater the risk that they will be physically abused by their parents."




9

The Best That Can Be Said About CP

- "At its worst corporal punishment may have negative effects on children and at its best has no effects, positive or negative."
- Think of CP as a "risk factor"

Gershoff, 2002



10

American Academy of Pediatrics (2018)

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

The American Academy Of Pediatrics
On Spanking Children: Don't Do It, Ever.

November 11, 2018 · 7:45 AM ET
Heard on Weekend Edition Sunday

CAMERON JENKINS    





11

American Psychological Association (2019)



USATODAY.COM

Another top group calls for spanking ban, says it harms kids' mental health



12

CP Is Still Widely Practiced

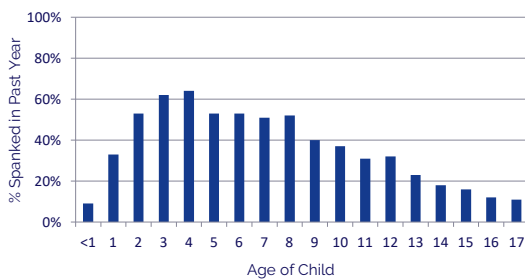
- Approximately **2/3rds** of parents report hitting children below the age of two
- **85%** of children physically punished prior to high school
- **51%** of all children have been hit with instruments

Gershoff, 2008



13

Spanking by age as a risk factor

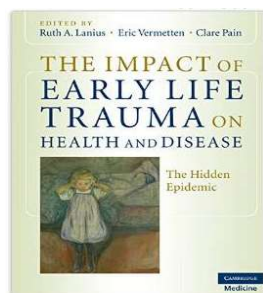


Finkelhor et al., (2019) "Corporal Punishment: Current Rates from a National Survey." *J of Child and Family Studies*, doi.org/10.1017/210826-019-01426-4



14

Still More Research

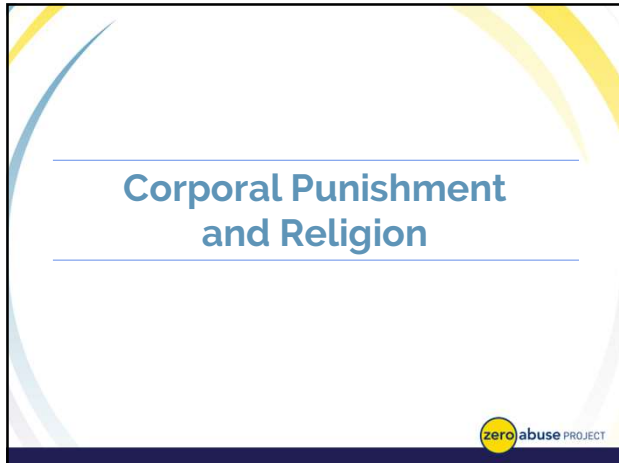


Adverse Childhood Experience research found that 28% of 17,000 adults were beaten to the point of receiving injury.

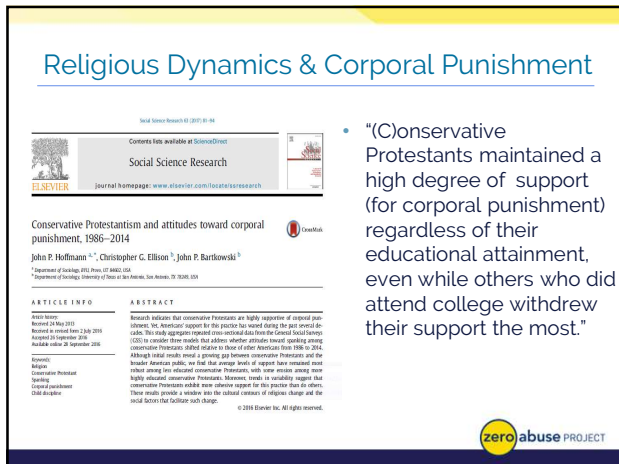
Felitti & Anda, 2012



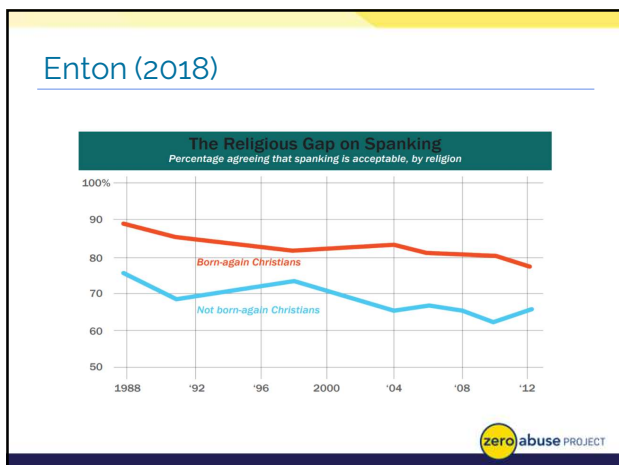
15



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17



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Corporal Punishment & Race

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Pew (2015)

PARENTING IN AMERICA

Use of spanking differs across racial and education groups

Use of spanking differs across racial and education groups

% saying they use spanking as a form of discipline with any of their children...

■ Often/Sometimes ■ Rarely ■ Never

All parents	17	28	53
White	14	25	55
Black	32	32	31
Hispanic	19	22	58
Post grad	1	25	64
College degree	15	29	53
Some college	18	31	48
High school or less	22	25	52


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Race and Corporal Punishment

Spare the Kids

WHY WHUPPING CHILDREN WON'T SAVE BLACK AMERICA



Stacey Patton

author of The Mean Girl's Story

• "Another way black parents try to protect and love their children is by physically punishing them. Whether we call it whupping, beating, spanking or 'loving' discipline, for many, not to hit is considered neglectful and irresponsible black parenting."

– Patton (p. 3)

21

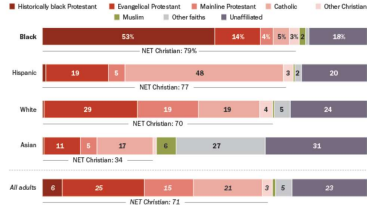
These materials created by Zero Abuse Project are intended for private use only and should not be distributed to the public.

7

Race, Religion & Corporal Punishment

Black Americans are more likely to be Christian than Americans overall

% of adults who are ...



Note: "Other Christian" includes Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Orthodox Christians, and other Christians. "Other faiths" includes Buddhism, Hinduism, Jain, other faiths and other world religions. Don't know/refused responses not shown.
Source: Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.
"America's Changing Religious Landscape"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



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Potential for Disproportional Impact

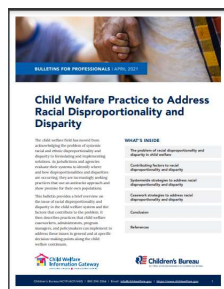
- "Family practices that might be seen as abusive or neglectful by mainstream standards may have a cultural component that would define them differently by a caseworker of a different background."
- "Commonly encountered cases involve different cultural views of corporal punishment and parents' rights to discipline their children as they see fit. In cases in which children are being harmed, the role of agencies is to honor the intentions while educating the parents about the laws and reasons behind the laws and helping them identify other approaches."

— Children's Bureau (2021)



23

Children's Bureau Reviews (2016 & 2021)



24

Terminology (Children's Bureau 2021)

- **Disproportionality:** the overrepresentation or underrepresentation of a racial or ethnic group compared with its percentage in the total population.
- **Disparity:** the unequal outcomes of one racial or ethnic group compared with outcomes for another racial or ethnic group.
- **Racism:** the systemic discrimination directed against minority or marginalized groups.
- **Antiracism:** the active process of identifying and challenging racism by changing attitudes, policies and practices, organizational structures, and systems, with the goal of redistributing power in an equitable way.
- **Cultural humility:** The ability to maintain openness to learning about other cultures
- **Cultural responsiveness:** The ability to adapt one's behavior to cultural needs of others



25

MDT Investigation / CAC Referrals

- African American families are overrepresented in reports of suspected maltreatment and are subjected to CPS investigations at higher rates than other families
- African American children and American Native or Alaska Native children are at greater risk than other children of being confirmed for maltreatment and placed in out-of-home care
- African American children spend more time in foster care and are less likely to reunify with their families and are more likely to be removed from their homes, along with American Indian or Alaska Native children

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Disproportionality & Disparity in Reports & Investigations

- African-American families are overrepresented in reports of suspected maltreatment and received CPS investigations at higher rates than other families
- African-American and American Indian or Alaska Native children are more likely than other children of being confirmed for maltreatment and placed out of the home, and to have cases result in TPR.
- Asian children are underrepresented in child welfare and, to a lesser extent, so are White and Hispanic children.

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Disproportionality & Disparity in Foster Care

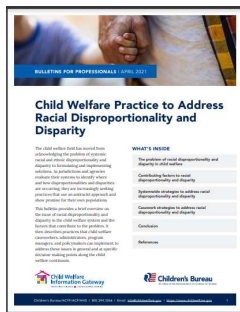
- American Indian and Alaska Native children are 1% of the population but 2% of foster care population
- African American children are 14% of the population but 23% of foster care population.
- White children are 50% of population but 44% of foster care population.
- Hispanic children historically underrepresented but were overrepresented in 20 states in 2018 (most recent data).

Children's Bureau (2021)



28

What Causes Disproportionality & Disparity



- Disproportionate & disparate need
- Racial bias & discrimination
- Child welfare system factors
- Geographic context
- Policy & legislation
- Structural racism



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Disproportionate & disparate need

- "Children and families of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds may have a disproportionate need for child welfare due to a range of factors that put them at greater risk for being reported for child maltreatment—most notable poverty."
- African-American and American Indian or Alaska Native children are three times more likely than White children to live in poverty.
- Research "has firmly established an association" between "environmental poverty and increased rates of substantiated child maltreatment."



30

Poverty and Racial Disproportionality

Research Article

Research to Consider While Effectively Re-Designing Child Welfare Services

Richard P. Barth¹, Jill Duerr Bernick², Antonio R. Garcia³, Brett Drake⁴, Melissa Johnson-Ross⁵, John R. Cyranoski⁶, and Johanna K. P. Green⁷

Abstract
An intense appetite for reforming and transforming child welfare services in the United States is yielding many new initiatives. Vulnerable children and families who become involved with child welfare clearly deserve higher quality and more effective services. New policies, programs, and practices should be built on sound evidence. Before basing on re-understanding about what the current data show may already harm families. This review highlights 10 commonly held misconceptions which we assert are inconsistent with the best available contemporary evidence. Implications for better alignment of evidence and reform are discussed.

Keywords
child welfare reform, misconceptions, social work research, research-supported reform

- "Once poverty is controlled, several studies show that Black children are similar, or perhaps slightly lower risk of being reported than white children."
- "Data suggest that efforts to address the notable racial disparity of Black children referred to [CPS] should focus on the socio-economic antecedents that place Black children at unequal risk of poverty..."



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Surveillance bias

- Poverty among diverse racial & ethnic backgrounds may "amplify their exposure to social service systems...which may further increase their visibility to mandated reporters."
- Current research finds "surveillance bias" to be minimal or non-existent.
- However, other consequences for families living in poverty that are subject to increased surveillance (e.g., greater CPS presence, fosters distrust and apprehension).

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Racial Bias & Discrimination

- "With disparities occurring at every major decision-making point along the child welfare continuum, implicit racial bias (i.e., unconscious attitudes and beliefs) and explicit racial bias...may impact families of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds during reporting, investigation, substantiation, and out-of-home-placement."



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Research on Racial Bias

- Drug-positive newborns from African-American mothers are more likely than White mothers to be reported to CPS.
- Children from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds were almost twice as likely to be reported for abusive head trauma.
- Two studies from Texas found that African American families tended to be assessed at lower risk "but were more likely than White families to have substantiated cases, have their children removed, or be provided family-based safety services."
- However, "an analysis of national-level child welfare data found that racial bias was not a large-scale driver of disproportionality at the referral phase..."

Children's Bureau (2016 & 2021)



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Child Welfare System Factors

- "Characteristics of the child welfare system may affect the services and outcomes for children of different races and ethnicities."
- A 2016 analysis of child welfare agencies in two California counties found the "agencies did not have enough bilingual workers to meet the language needs of the populations they served, and the surrounding community lacked proactive, preventive, and accessible services."

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Geographic Context

- "While racial disproportionality exists nationwide, the populations impacted, and the magnitude and types of disparity are unique to geographic location."
- "One study found that African-American, Hispanic, and White children living in diverse neighborhoods are more likely to be reported to CPS than children of their same race or ethnicity living in homogenous neighborhoods."

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Policy and Legislation

- The Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) requires states to file for TPR if child has been in foster care for 15 of 22 months.
- This "may disproportionately affect families of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who struggle to reunify due to a lack of resources, unavailable or inaccessible services, and barriers to kinship care placements."
- AFSA may be particularly impactful of families with a parental incarceration—a circumstance that disproportionately impacts African-American families.

Children's Bureau (2021)

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Addressing Corporal Punishment While Reducing Disproportionality and Disparity

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1. MDTs Must Be Culturally Humble

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NCA National Standards of Accreditation, 2023

Standard 02

Diversity, Equity, and Access

The Children's Advocacy Center provides culturally responsive services for all CAC clients throughout the duration of the case.



Essential Component E

The CAC values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and requires CAC staff to participate in DEI training a minimum of eight hours every two years.

Essential Component F

The CAC values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and annually provides MDT members access to DEI training and information. The CAC documents training opportunities (whether provided directly or through access to other organizations) and MDT participation.

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Diverse & Culturally Competent Workforce


- 58% of child welfare workers are White, 24% are African American, 15% are Hispanic, and 4% of another race or ethnicity
 - Dolan, et al (2011)
- "Although it is neither possible nor necessarily desirable to match all caseworkers and clients by race or ethnicity, child welfare staff who share or understand the culture or language of a particular family may have a better comprehension of the family's background and needs."

Children's Bureau (2021)

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The Impact of a Diverse Workforce



Thurgood Marshall's experiences as a trial attorney of the disproportionate impact of the death penalty were anecdotes he shared with other justices on the Supreme Court and, for a time, this influenced the court's restrictions on the death penalty.

– Williams (1998)

Credit: Wikimedia Commons

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2. Grow our knowledge of religious frameworks supporting corporal punishment—and work sensitively and compassionately with holding these worldviews.



43

Cultural Competence Guidelines


William Mitchell Law Review

Volume 40 | Issue 3Article 3

2014

From Sticks to Flowers: Guidelines for Child Protection Professionals Working with Parents Using Scripture to Justify Corporal Punishment


Victor L. Vieth



44

One Set of Guidelines (Vieth 2014)

- Be aware of our religious biases
- Establish guidelines for cases that need no services, that warrant CPS involvement, and those warranting prosecution
- Emphasize parent's strengths
- Emphasize effective discipline
- Refrain from pastoral work
- Acknowledge benefits of religion
- Play in parent's ball field
- Engage faith community as a whole



45

Potential Impact Of Cultural Competence

Child Abuse & Neglect 71 (2017) 69–79

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Child Abuse & Neglect

Research article

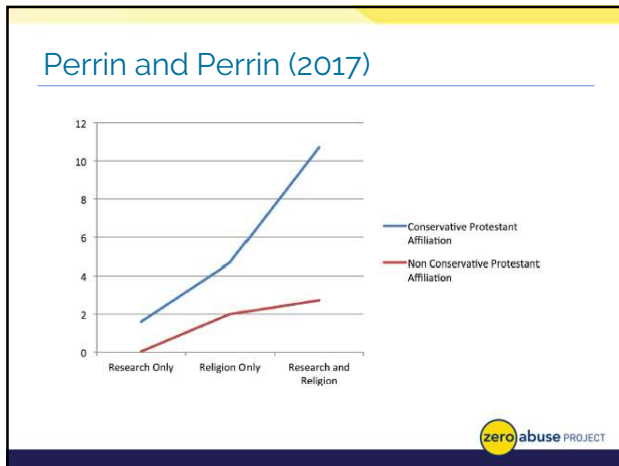
Changing attitudes about spanking among conservative Christians using interventions that focus on empirical research evidence and progressive biblical interpretations

Cindy Miller-Perrin^a, Robin Perrin^a

^aPepperdine University, United States

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U.S. Dept of Health & Human Services

Child Welfare Information Gateway

HOME TOPICS PUBLICATIONS LIBRARY STATE RESOURCES MORE TOOLS & RESOURCES NEWS & EVENTS

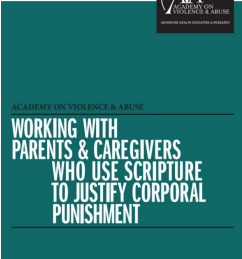
Discipline Versus Abuse

The following resources present research and literature differentiating among physical discipline, corporal punishment, and physical child abuse.

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Other Resources




ACADEMY ON VIOLENCE & ABUSE
WORKING WITH PARENTS & CAREGIVERS WHO USE SCRIPTURE TO JUSTIFY CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Special Section

Working With Molly: A Culturally Sensitive Approach to Parents Using Corporal Punishment Because of Their Religious Beliefs

Victor I. Vieth, JD, MA

"As for parents, don't provoke your children to anger, but raise them with discipline and instruction about the Lord" —Apostle Paul (Ephesians 6:4)



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More Research To Come



IVAT
International Violence Against Teachers
BOO! CORE



Child Abuse & Neglect
Volume 71, September 2017, Pages 69-79



Research article


Changing attitudes about spanking among conservative Christians using interventions that focus on empirical research evidence and progressive biblical interpretations

Cindy Miller-Perrin, PhD, Robin Perrin



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3. Every MDT member must recognize we have biases and take steps to limit the possibility biases may lead to poor or wrongful decisions.



51

Acknowledge Your Bias

- Harvard Implicit Association Test
 - (<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>)
- Silence about race reinforces racism
- Colorblindness is racist
- Introspection / critical self-reflection
- Thoughtful responses/questions
- Perspective taking
- Cultural humility
- Social awareness



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Testing our Individual Biases



<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>



53

Assess Disproportionality and Disparity

- "Pinpointing disparities along the child welfare continuum—and doing so on a continuous basis—allows agencies to develop targeted practice and policy solutions that are tailored to the culture, strengths, and challenges of specific communities."
- One resource recommended by the Children's Bureau is the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators "Disproportionality Diagnostic Tool"

Children's Bureau (2021)



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4. Dramatically improve undergraduate and graduate training of future MDTs and shift to experiential training of those in the field.



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Child Advocacy Studies (CAST)

ILLINOIS
CFRRC | Children & Family Research Center
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Final Report:
Program Evaluation of Mississippi's CAST Initiative

Therese P. Gross, Ph.D.
Yueying Chen, Ph.D.

with the assistance of Joel Epstein, Ph.D., and Heidi Meyer

August 2023

Prepared for:
Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi

- Implemented in 87 universities in 28 states.
- Nine peer reviewed studies support the model
- New research from University of Illinois finds potential impact on cultural competence and quality child protection decision making.



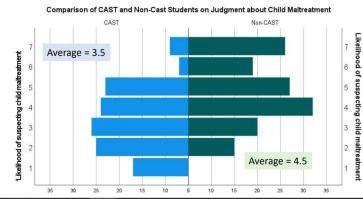
57

CAST Students Less Likely To Find Abuse If Alternative Explanation Is Possible

Shaunte is a 13-year-old female. You notice multiple scratches on her shoulder. You inquire about the scratches on her arm. She reports she was having an argument with her mother, and as she turned to walk out of the room, her mother grabbed her by the shoulder and "accidentally" scratched her. Her mother apologetically recounted the same story.

From the information provided, how likely are you to suspect child maltreatment?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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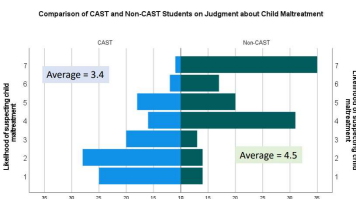
58

CAST Students & Greater Cultural Sensitivity

A toddler you know comes from a culture in which parents often swaddle young children. You learn that the toddler was wrapped tightly in a blanket so that she could not move. The child was left on the bed in this fashion for 15 minutes.

From the information provided, how likely are you to suspect child maltreatment?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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Medical Providers & Role of Simulations

POLICY STATEMENT
Commitment to Promote a Safe and Healthy Work Environment
American Academy of Pediatrics

The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health

The American Academy of Pediatrics is committed to addressing the health and well-being of all children and adolescents. This commitment includes addressing the impact of racism on child and adolescent health. Racism is a leading cause of health disparities, and it is essential to understand its impact on children and adolescents. The Academy is committed to addressing the impact of racism on child and adolescent health through a variety of initiatives, including research, advocacy, and education.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM
Racism is a leading cause of health disparities, and it is essential to understand its impact on children and adolescents. The Academy is committed to addressing the impact of racism on child and adolescent health through a variety of initiatives, including research, advocacy, and education.

- "Assess patients for stressors...and social determinants often associated with racism (e.g., neighborhood safety, poverty, housing inequity, and academic access) to connect families to resources."

- "[P]rovide simulation opportunities to ensure new pediatricians are competent to deliver culturally appropriate and patient and family-centered care."

— AAP (2019)

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5. Work with policy makers and other leaders in addressing systemic racism



61

Structural Racism

- Beginning with the New Deal, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) engaged in "redlining"—a policy of refusing to insure mortgages in African-American neighborhoods.
- FHA also required that suburban subdivisions the FHA was subsidizing "must be off limits to African American families."
- "These policies have had a long-lasting impact on economic inequities, in part because African-Americans have historically been forced to live in higher-poverty areas and because home ownership is a key means of building family wealth."
- "Poverty, in turn, is a well-established risk factor for child maltreatment."

Children's Bureau (2021)



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Intergenerational Trauma

Department of Interior releases first report detailing US Indian boarding schools

The Roman Catholic Church and a number of Protestant denominations are beginning to investigate their own roles in those boarding schools.




"The schools attempted to assimilate children in a number of ways, including giving Indigenous children English names, cutting their hair, even organizing them into units to perform military drills. They discouraged or prevented children from speaking Indigenous languages or from engaging in their own spiritual and cultural practices. Many children endured physical and emotional abuse. Some died."

— Religion News Service (2022)



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School Corporal Punishment




HHS Public Access
Author manuscript
See Policy Rep. Author manuscript, available in PMC: 2018 January 12.
Published in final edited form as:
See Policy Rep. 2016; 10:.

Corporal Punishment in U.S. Public Schools: Prevalence, Disparities in Use, and Status in State and Federal Policy

Elizabeth T. Gershoff and
University of Texas at Austin
Mark A. Fort
Pennsylvania State University

Abstract
School corporal punishment is currently legal in 19 states, and over 100,000 children in these states are subject to corporal punishment in schools each year. Given that the use of school corporal punishment is heavily concentrated in Southern states, and that the federal government has not excluded corporal punishment in its recent initiatives about improving school discipline, public knowledge of this issue is limited. The aim of this policy report is to fill the gap in knowledge about school corporal punishment by describing the prevalence and geographic distribution of corporal punishment in U.S. public schools and by assessing the extent to which schools disproportionately apply corporal punishment to children who are Black or boys, and to children with disabilities. This policy report is the first-ever effort to describe the prevalence of and disparities in the use of school corporal punishment at the school and school-district levels. We end the report by summarizing sources of concern about school corporal punishment, reviewing state policies related to school corporal punishment, and discussing the future of school corporal punishment in state and federal policy.




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Public Policy

Murphy Announces Legislation To End Corporal Punishment in Schools


November 19, 2020

WASHINGTON—U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), a member of the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, on Thursday announced that he is introducing Senate legislation that would eliminate the use of corporal punishment in schools across America. The *Protecting Our Students in Schools Act* provides a broader definition of corporal punishment and prohibits the practice of corporal punishment in any school that receives federal funding. The legislation would also establish much-needed enforcement protections and a federal grant program to assist states and school districts in improving the climate and culture of schools across the country. Earlier this year, U.S. Representatives A. Donald McEachin (VA-04) and Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01) introduced companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.



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6. Criminal justice system should be open to alternatives to conviction and incarceration in cases of physical abuse involving corporal punishment that do not involve egregious harm.



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Criminal Justice Council Subcommittee

Racial Disparities Subcommittee

The Racial Disparities Subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Council was formally created in January of 2014 to examine disproportionate minority contact in the criminal justice system. The subcommittee has worked closely with the Community Restorative Court (CRC), among a wide range of other programs. The subcommittee has examined the Racial Justice Improvement Project (RJIP), disparities in pretrial practices, disproportionate minority contact in the juvenile justice system, and more.

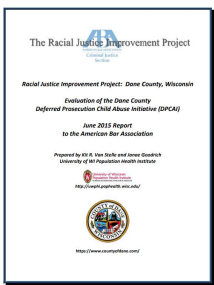
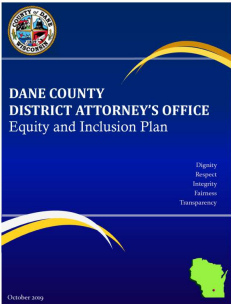
Racial Disparities Subcommittee Members


John Reuman, Dane County Juvenile Court Administrator
Ron Chance, Dane County Human Services
Catherine Dorf, Dane County Public Defender
Ismael Olanne, Dane County District Attorney
Judge Mario White, Dane County Circuit Court Judge
Wesley Sparkman, Director, The Tamara D. Grigsby Office for Equity and Inclusion
Shelia Stubbs, Dane County Supervisor
Jonathan Triggs, Lieutenant, Dane County Sheriff's Office
Matt Tye, Captain, Madison Police Department



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Dane County DA's Office






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A Promising Practice

Dane County Deferred Prosecution Child Abuse Initiative




Child Abuse Initiative

In collaboration with the Dane County Criminal Justice Council Racial Disparities Subcommittee, the District Attorney's Office started the Dane County Deferred Prosecution Child Abuse Initiative in 2014 in an effort to reduce the use of corporal punishment and address racial disparities in the criminal justice system.



No Hit Zone

As part of the Child Abuse Initiative, the District Attorney's Office joined children's hospitals across the country and established a No Hit Zone to create and reinforce an environment of safety and comfort for all people who come into the District Attorney's Office and its public spaces.



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Deferred Prosecution of CP

General Deferred Prosecution Child Abuse Initiative Guidelines*		
Elements	Not Eligible	Eligible
Severity	Intentional: torture, burns, broken bones, internal head trauma, internal organ damage, bite marks, poly victimization	Bodily harm as the result of excessive corporal punishment, with the exception of Intentional: torture, burns, broken bones, internal head trauma, internal organ damage, bite marks, poly victimization
Frequency	History of chronic excessive corporal punishment causing bodily harm to a child within past ten years**	Lacks chronic history of excessive corporal punishment
Accepting Responsibility	Not accepting responsibility	Is accepting responsibility
Prior Criminal Behavior	History of criminal convictions, formal supervision, or Deferred Agreements within past 5 years	No criminal convictions, formal supervision, or Deferred Agreement within past 5 years
Prior Child Protective Services Involvement	More than three prior CPS referrals (for similar conduct) resulting in recommendations for services, or more than 1 prior substantiated case	Not more than three prior CPS referrals (for similar conduct) resulting in recommendations for services and not more than 1 prior substantiated case.

* These guidelines are subject to change while the program continues to develop. Additionally, the director maintains ability to make exceptions when compelling circumstances exist.
 ** Chronic excessive corporal punishment: evidence of more than three incidents resulting in bodily harm



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Must Complete 13-week ACT Course

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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PUBLIC INTEREST DIRECTORATE

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- Boards and Committees
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- Aging
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- Children, Youth and Families

ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids Program

Based on research that indicates that effective parenting is a critical factor to prevent youth behavior problems, the APA created and launched **ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids**, the ACT 8-week program. The program focuses primarily on educating parents and other adults who raise and care for young children to create early environments that protect them from violence.

The **ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids** program focuses on parents

ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids Program for Incarcerated Fathers

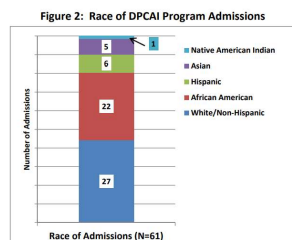
Download and Order Materials

Adults and Children Together Against Violence Web site



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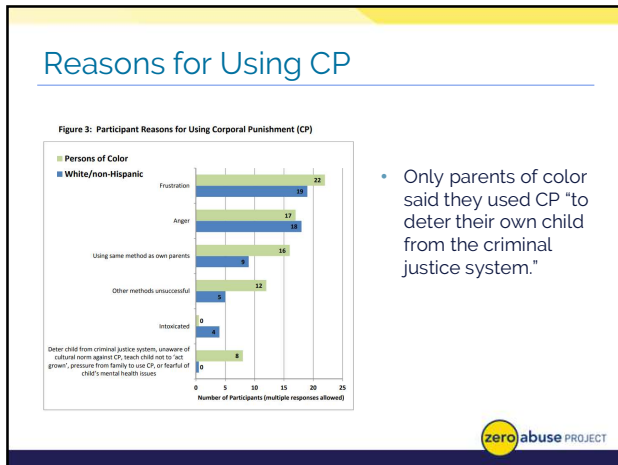
Demographics of DPCA1 participants



- 56% were persons of color
- Had an average of 2.6 children
- 63% had annual income of less than \$30,000
- Nearly half had no prior CPS reports
- 3 of 61 participants had prior substantiated CPS reports



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7. When CP incidents are not unlawful, don't subject families to formal interventions but offer voluntary and community services.

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Community Partnerships

- "Forming partnerships with community and faith-based organizations can also help child welfare agencies take a more encompassing approach."
- "A regular review process can help ensure that programs and connected services are delivered in a culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate manner."

Children's Bureau (2021)

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All The Children Are Watching Us



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Training Opportunities

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