

The case for ending all forms of hitting children...

Why risk it...for no gain at all!

Parents used to think the only downside to spanking was not doing it enough.
With new knowledge, we now know better.

How many risks do you recognize?

- **Emotional risks:** depression, low self-esteem, anger, lack of resilience, little self-control.
- **Learning risks:** lower IQ, stress, anger, resentment or fear of authority.
- **Physical risks:** injuries from being paddled with a board, or from more extreme measures that often follow spanking like burns, lacerations, broken bones, head injuries, even brain damage.
- **Sexual risks:** eroticizing of spanking, inability to have orgasms without it or illegal actions like exhibitionism to gain “sexual high” from punishment.
- **Societal risks:** poorly educated, angry, pent up young people causing harm to themselves, other children, adults, their relatives, or at schools.

To end child abuse, we need to stop spanking children!

Rather than being based on brain research or child development studies, hitting/paddling/ spanking is based on “Cultural Holdovers.”

- Adults might say: “I was spanked. I’m OK.”
- Fundamental religious belief: “It’s God’s loving discipline.”
- Some call it: “Black culture.”

Spanking and paddling send harmful and costly messages.

- Normal **childhood behavior** issues are often judged as rebellious, shameful and bad.
- Our **States** are being robbed of needed money by paying for the high cost of child abuse in all its ramifications.
- States spent **\$20 billion** on child Welfare Services in 2000. Less violence against children will reduce this figure enormously according to the Urban Institute.
- The US spent **\$2 trillion** in 2011 on all health care costs...\$1 trillion for **violence-related** healthcare costs.
- Our **schools** need money for real education and can’t afford paddling.
- **Lawsuits** from parents trying to protect their children take valuable money and energy from education.
- **No evidence** exists that paddling improves student behavior. The opposite is true.

We all want to end child abuse.

New ways of raising responsible, strong, loving children are replacing hitting and paddling.

- The most heinous things done to children are now illegal, but **85% of these abuses began** with spanking and progressed from there.
- In the US, **33 states have abolished** paddling in schools, and in the other 19 states, many individual districts have stopped it.
- **Today** many tested alternatives exist that **teach self-responsibility** and skills at making better choices.

*Therefore to end child abuse, we must
stop all hitting of children.*

For research and links to studies and for resources on powerful, modern parenting:
US Alliance to End the Hitting of Children: www.endhittingusa.org