

12/1/19.

Equalities and Human Rights Committee,
Scottish Parliament.

I find it very difficult to understand why our government wishes to criminalise loving parents by passing a bill to ban smacking. Scotland already has the best protection for children - ie. no implement used, not hitting on head or face, and not leaving a permanent mark on child.

Why would our government wish to add to the burden of police, social workers and teachers, when they are already struggling?

As a mother and grandmother I can clearly see there is a clear difference between child abuse and loving necessary parental discipline. I would ask that the already existing child protection laws in Scotland be upheld.

It has been my experience as a teacher that if a child is not lovingly disciplined as a young child, he or she seldom learns self discipline needed for life.

To quote from a very reliable source Proverbs chapter 22, Verse 6. "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it"

Yours faithfully,