



Coalition for
Good Schools

SECRETARIAT

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Panel Discussion on

Corporal Punishment Free Literacy

Date: 6th September 2023

ASIA HUB

Coordinator: Samya Development
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www.coalitionforgoodschools.org

A Brief Report

Members of the Asia hub of the Coalition for Good Schools hosted a panel discussion to commemorate this year's International Literacy Day. Here is a brief report and a list of resources shared by participating organisations.

List of panelists:

- Hassan Muluusi, Technical Advisor-Good Schools, Violence Against Children Prevention, Raising Voices, Uganda.
- Luz Indah Abayan, Program Officer, Child Rights Coalition Asia, Philippines.
- Dr. Sangeeta Saksena, Co-founder, Enfold Proactive Health Trust, India
- Mohammad Zia-ur-Rehman, Founder and Chief Executive, Awaz Foundation Pakistan: Centre for Development Services *as the moderator*.
- Urvashi Gandhi, CEO, Samya Development Resources Private Limited *as the host of the session*

Points of discussion:

- How often do the panelists hear about corporal punishment being used in their region?
- What are the consequences of corporal punishment on the children facing it and the role of intersectionality in aggravating it for them (minorities)?
- What shall we do as teachers, educators, school leaders and parents to address corporal punishment in schools?
- How can students' voices and experiences be taken into account to create safer schools?

Key takeaways:

- Corporal punishment is normalised in most parts of Asia and Africa but once people figure out that any form of violence especially corporal punishment is unacceptable, innovative means to address this come to light.



- Leadership among policy makers and all stakeholders from the school eco system to work together to stop corporal punishment, so that children have consistent experience across all spaces they occupy.
- Enforce policies including zero tolerance policy to corporal punishment to protect children.
- Allow children to develop class values along with the teachers - what kind of behaviour will make the classroom a safe space to share, discuss and learn?
- Involve older children in developing school policies to promote responsibility and accountability.
- There is no one size fits all when it comes to solutions. We need to look at children in every school as primary stakeholders to help them reflect what forms of violence impact them most and ask them what should be done to address these problems.

Important Resources for reference:

Name of the Organisation	Document and Description	Access Link
Coalition for Good Schools	Evidence Review: Prevention of violence against children in and through schools in the Global South	Global Coalition Evidence Review
	Report by the Coalition and partners on Corporal Punishment released in May 2023	Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools to Transform Education for all Children
	Document review by the Asia hub of the Coalition across 10 Asian countries	Preventing School Based Violence Against Children in Southern Asia
	A video by members of Asia hub on prevalence of Corporal Punishment	Prevalence of Corporal Punishment in Asia - An effort by the Coalition for Good Schools - YouTube



<p><u>Enfold Proactive Health trust</u></p>	<p>It is a series of 17 videos on Restorative circles, providing practitioner perspectives, by professionals and experts in the field who share their learning, their points of view and their recommendations.</p>	<p>https://youtu.be/k1himExp1QI?feature=shared</p>
	<p>“Demystifying Sexuality Handbook - for Teachers and Students of Education”</p> <p>A coursebook for students pursuing Bachelors in Education (B. Ed) program published in November 2021 to be used in conjunction with the Demystifying Reference Book</p>	<p>Demystifying Sexuality Handbook for Teachers and Students of Education (B Ed)</p>
	<p>Demystifying Sexuality Reference Book - a basic, theoretical foundational reading material for all teachers and students of undergraduate and postgraduate courses, looking at sexuality with a rights-based, restorative and gender transformative lens. Published in June 2021</p>	<p>Demystifying Sexuality Reference Book</p>
<p><u>CRC Asia</u></p>	<p>Child participation guidelines for online discussion with children</p>	<p>https://www.crcasia.org/guidelines-online-discussions-with-children/</p>
	<p>General Comments (GCs) of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child</p>	<p>13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment in adopting measures to combat all forms of VAC</p>



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Awaz Foundation Pakistan - Centre for Development Services	Status of girls' education in Pakistan	https://awazcds.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Pakistan.pdf
	Evidence based research study on the dynamics of governance, financing and accountability mechanisms for supporting girls right to quality secondary education in southern districts of Punjab, Pakistan dated August 2019	https://awazcds.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Girls-Right-to-Quality-Secondary-Education.pdf
	Impact of Early Age Marriages on Girls' Right to Education - A research study on status of married girls' access to education in public schools dated June 2010	https://awazcds.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Early-marriage.pdf
	Ujala Documentary on the Rights of Young Peoples, Trans genders, Women and Persons with Disabilities	https://youtu.be/rB_KpZDQIRs
	Stop Child Abuse- A bunch of posters	Awaz Posters
Raising Voices	Information on Good School Toolkit	https://raisingvoices.org/children/the-good-school-toolkit/
	A video on positive disciplining	Positive Discipline at School

We thank our audience for attending the panel discussion.

Among the audience [Agrasar](#) team shared their research - [Choking Childhood](#) - highlighting the drivers, risks factors and forms of punishment faced by disadvantaged children.