

For your information,

Link to a report on [ending corporal punishment in schools to transform education for all children](#)

Ending corporal punishment in schools to transform education for all children: New report and international high-level webinar to launch the report on May 4, 2023

In May this year a landmark report on school corporal punishment in collaboration with the **Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (GPeVAC), Safe to Learn and the Coalition for Good Schools** was launched. The report explores how violent punishment in school remains lawful and common in many places, harming huge numbers of children and preventing them from accessing the opportunities of education. It calls for urgent focus on eliminating corporal punishment and all forms of violence in and around schools.

Q1. What is corporal punishment? Is it only physical or can it be psychological as well?

A punishment intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort is corporal punishment. It is often associated with physical pain and discomfort, but ridiculing, humiliating, verbally abusing or even threatening a child is also corporal punishment.

Q2. What are the immediate and long term impacts of corporal punishment?

- meting of corporal punishment to children has lead to disabling some children (fractures, impaired vision and hearing), mental abuse, cruelty, sexual abuse, harassment and even death
- Punishment in any form or kind in school comes in the way of the development of the full potential of children.
- Children subjected to corporal punishment become aggressive while dealing with peers and siblings
- It affects children's brain and cognitive development, leads to lower educational achievement, prevents them from building healthy relationships, and causes school drop-out.

Source: the report above ending corporal punishment

- While corporal punishment may lead to immediate compliance, researchers have found that the changes in behavior may only be short-term. Studies consistently show that over the long term, corporal punishment is ineffective and may even cause behavior problems to worsen over time.

Source: <https://www.verywellfamily.com/facts-about-corporal-punishment-1094806>

Q3. What shall we do as teachers, educators, school leaders and parents to counter corporal punishment in schools?

- Urge school authorities to understand that disciplining does not mean physical punishment or mental harassment
- Parents often turn a blind eye to the corporal punishment faced by their naughty children in the name of disciplining and ignore its long term impact on child's development
- Teachers to practise positive disciplining in classrooms

Q4. As a member of the Coalition what are we doing/plan to do in our respective countries?

Run a communication campaign to make the community, school authorities, teachers, parents and especially children understand well that corporal punishment in schools is against the law.

Often times corporal punishment is associated with cultural norms, which need to be changed

Source: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2774244/>

There is a gap in resources available in our region on the consequences of corporal punishment. We can collaborate to create regional resources