

**Message to children  
attending sanctioned  
corporal punishment schools**

**The Hitting Stops Here!  
Parents and Teachers Against Violence in Education  
American SAFEPASS (Student Alliance For Education in Peaceful American Schools)  
and other Children's Rights Advocates**

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School corporal punishment is "pain-based" behavior management. It is an outdated and scientifically-proven harmful form of training a developing human being, resulting in all kinds of adult maladies including: dysfunctional relationships, drug abuse, criminal behavior and a shortened-life expectancy due to "child abuse-induced" health issues.

The word "corporal" means body, therefore, corporal punishment means, "punishing the body." As it applies in schools, it can mean striking children on their buttocks from one to more than 20 times with a wooden board. However, wooden boards are often substituted with leather straps, "switches" from trees, broken musical instruments, cords and the like.

"Corporal" punishment is not limited to buttocks beating, however. Corporal punishment occurs when teachers deny bathroom passes or implement "delayed lunches" causing pain and discomfort to the digestive system. Corporal punishment occurs when children are placed in uncomfortable crawl spaces for "time-outs." It occurs when children are duct taped over their mouths, including the pain of removal. It occurs when children are bungee corded or handcuffed to desks, chairs, poles, door handles and the like. It occurs when children are punched, pinched, grabbed, shaken, forced to exercise till they drop, electrically zapped as described in the recent UC Davis Law Review, **STATE ACTORS BEATING CHILDREN: A CALL FOR JUDICIAL RELIEF** (a document covering the unconstitutionality of corporal punishment in the US and its territories; see Home page of [www.TheHittingStopsHere.com](http://www.TheHittingStopsHere.com)).

Governing officials that allow the use of school corporal punishment and adults who practice it can be characterized by one or more of the following traits:

- **uncaring**
- **irresponsible**
- **self-seeking**
- **mentally unstable**
- **sadistic**
- **racist**
- **uninformed**
- **uneducated**
- **reckless**
- **hateful**
- **cowardly**

**Children all around the world are left without their basic inalienable right to be protected from harm when they are corporally punished, a violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.**

**Like slaves, children are unable to speak for themselves or organize independently. Like slaves, children need at least one adult to advocate for their rights. Members of The Hitting Stops Here!, Parents and Teachers Against Violence in Education, American SAFEPASS and other children's rights advocates are ready to be a voice for children in America and abroad.**

**Here is a list of "American-soil battles" that were won for freedom from oppression:**

- **American soldiers battled in the Revolutionary War for US freedom from the British**
- **Union soldiers battled in the Civil War to end slavery**
- **Women marched for freedom from spousal abuse**
- **Black communities protested for freedom from lynch mob attacks**
- **Prisoners rioted for freedom from guard attacks and beatings**
- **"Animal lovers" campaigned for animals to have protective laws from abuse and cruelty**
- **Concerned citizens in 30 US states campaigned for having their children protected from school beatings by the 14th amendment "equal protection" law**

**The only two places where children can use the skills they learn from being corporally punished in schools while avoiding a prison sentence, are in the military and in corporal punishment schools once they, themselves, become school teachers.**

**Countries that still allow school corporal punishment include Afghanistan, Republic of Korea, Viet Nam, Saudi Arabia, Rwanda, Cuba and the USA, which stands alone in this practice among Western industrialized countries. 108 countries prohibit this practice in their schools.**

**When America battled to be free from British rule, our "Minute Men" let them know that if they oppressed just one American they'd handle them with "bats," metaphorically speaking. They used whatever arsenal they had to protect themselves from being oppressed by the British.**

**We want all children to grab their arsenal of "bats" and to ready for war. But the "bats" that we refer to are harmless. They are:**

- **petitions**
- **your voices**
- **your unity with responsible caring adults who want to help you to have safe nurturing schools**
- **your knowledge of the laws governing your schools and your knowledge of how to have laws put in place that protect school children from sanctioned abuse**

**Members of The Hitting Stops Here!, Parents and Teachers Against Violence in Education, American SAFEPASS and other responsible caring adults and children's rights advocates are ready to support the work of having safe nurturing schools in the US and abroad.**

Numerous nonviolent behavior management models, befitting to the 21st century, are widely available.

Please learn about other organizations that care about the safety and well-being of school children at [www.TheHittingStopsHere.com](http://www.TheHittingStopsHere.com).

Sincerely,

Paula Flowe, Exec. Director

Tony Brian, Asst. Exec. Director

The Hitting Stops Here!

A campaign for teaching kindness and respect in schools everywhere.

[www.TheHittingStopsHere.com](http://www.TheHittingStopsHere.com)

Board members of Parents and Teachers Against Violence in Education

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# PETITION FOR HAVING SAFE NURTURING SCHOOLS

An URGENT Message to

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNING OFFICIAL

in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
city state country

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The following is an excerpt from a recently released report regarding the harmfulness of corporal punishment when targeted at a developing human being:

"...the nature of corporal punishment's impact on children is profound, dangerous, and enduring, rendering it a very serious liberty violation worthy of heightened judicial review... its dangerous consequences for both children and society renders it an irrational practice..."

Widely available scientific evidence exists confirming the above statement. Responsible caring leaders rely on scientific evidence for making sound decisions that benefit of the people they serve.

**WE ARE PETITIONING YOU TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE BY ENDING ALL FORMS OF SCHOOL ABUSE IMMEDIATELY**, replacing these harmful practices with proven nonviolent models of discipline befitting to the 21st century global world. You can learn about different organizations and find trainers of these models of discipline by going to [www.TheHittingStopsHere.com](http://www.TheHittingStopsHere.com).

We believe that our school officials want to lead justly and with integrity. Please give your utmost consideration to our petition for having safe nurturing schools for ALL children who are under your care and leadership.

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Signature

City, State, Country

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**Please mail copies of signed petitions to: The Hitting Stops Here!, P.O. Box 1033, Alamo, CA 94507-7033. Thank you.**