**Need of Corporal Punishment**

The present era is the era of media and children of today are the future of tomorrow. After the banning of corporal punishment in public schools by the government, the children have become fearless. They have started neglecting their studies, indulging in wrong activities and talking to teachers in a rude manner. Due to this, teachers have become ineffective, suppressed and ultimately have started providing education improperly.

Corporal punishment should be required and the students who are defaulters should be physically punished from time to time so that they complete their work, study hard and do not indulge in irrelevant activities. This will help teachers teach well and so students would be able to get better education.

**Love Bansal**
Shamli (Muzaffarnagar)

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**Discipline the Undisciplined**

Once John Benjamin, a writer, remarked about schools - “The only things I can revive of my school days are - The dreads of beatings! The dreads of being late to school!” Not only Benjamin, but many others can recall their early schooldays by the deadly beatings they got. Schools are built to create a very intimate relationship between teachers and students. Teachers are committed to building the students’ characters, hence they themselves should be tolerant and forgiving. In this modern era of mouse-racing, students are overborne with more and more studies. And so, if a teacher tortures a student, he or she might develop suicidal tendencies. Due to the fear of harsh punishments many students feel afraid of going to schools and that can be a terrible blow to the country’s educational project. However, the undisciplined students may sometimes require harsh treatments for which, minor physical punishments can be justified.

**Sayan Chowdhury**
Kolkata

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**Pros**

**Sparing the rod does not always spoil the child.**

Corporal punishments are heinous and should be done away with. Beating or hitting the child is like physical torture and does not always yield productive results. The child, if beaten, tends to become rebellious, starts hating and distrusting the teacher and regular physical assault would be taken up as a challenge by the students. They might gradually get used to it and wouldn’t be deterred any further. The child then vents out his frustration and depression on other fellow students and might also become too violent to handle. There is always a better alternative for punishing (for punishing aims at making one realize his folly) the wrongdoers by making them do something they will never like missing games period, extra classes, detention, compulsory social service like cleaning the orphanage toilets, hospital beds etc that will eventually serve the purpose of punishments.

**Rituparna Dubey**
Haryana

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**Cons**

**More Cons Than Pros**

Sparing the rod does not always spoil the child. Corporal punishments are heinous and should be done away with. Beating or hitting the child is like physical torture and does not always yield productive results. The child, if beaten, tends to become rebellious, starts hating and distrusting the teacher and regular physical assault would be taken up as a challenge by the students. They might gradually get used to it and wouldn’t be deterred any further. The child then vents out his frustration and depression on other fellow students and might also become too violent to handle. There is always a better alternative for punishing (for punishing aims at making one realize his folly) the wrongdoers by making them do something they will never like missing games period, extra classes, detention, compulsory social service like cleaning the orphanage toilets, hospital beds etc that will eventually serve the purpose of punishments.

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**Fearless Teaching**

Gone are the days when “Spare the rod and spoil the child” was regarded as the ‘mantra’ of every teacher. But new path-breaking researches in the field of education have established that a school environment should be free from any type of punishment, be it physical or mental. Teaching-learning process can be a pleasurable experience in a punishment-free atmosphere. Students’ learning can be permanent if he/she learns it without any fear or compulsion.

**Jyotiranjan Biswal**
Odisha

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**Nurture Humanity in Schools**

Punishment is no doubt a necessary evil. Swami Vivekananda said “Education is the manifestation of the perfection already present in man.” Hence, one cannot explore his/her potentiality under utter stress & fear. It has been found in many cases that corporal punishment often exceeds its limit & causes a dreadful atmosphere in schools. Sometimes fatal injury occurs. If this is allowed then we should not expect healthy growth from our students, our future generations. What we need is proper counseling of the students when they commit any nuisance so that they

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**Friend, Not Nightmare**

Schools are meant for gaining knowledge; they are not jails to punish. Committing a mistake is not such a big crime to attract severe punishments. Doing a mistake is a child’s birth right. Correcting it is a teacher’s responsibility. There may be punishments but not too severe that a child may get hurt physically or psychologically. Schools should become a child’s friend not a nightmare.

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can change their mentality. This radical transformation will be permanent & instead of considering teachers as demons students will now consider them as their friends.

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No Torture
In schools corporal punishment creates problem. In many cases students are being injured seriously, sometimes fatally. To control the students, teachers should change their views. Their efforts should be to make a good student, not to torture them.

Debasis Ghosh
Barrackpur

Not Allowed
As a school teacher, I have seen in the classroom that if students have the fear of corporal punishment, then all the time they will be afraid of their teachers. So, I am totally against this kind of punishment. Gandhi once punished a student in South Africa. Later, he felt bad and made Tolstoy Farm where any kind of corporal punishment did not exist. So any kind of mental or physical punishment has an exponential and profound evil effect on the student’s mind and body. So it should not be allowed in schools.

Sandip Dutta
Chandpara

Temple of Knowledge
No... corporal punishments should never be allowed in schools. When corporal punishments are not allowed in military, mental institutions and prisons, then why in a schools, which is a temple of knowledge?

Kanupriya
R.I.E, Bhubaneswar

Punishment Necessary
Everyone wants to be the best among others, in the school. But only few prove to be the best. In older days students were not exposed to the outside world and hence were easier to control. Now a days they do so many activities that they get distracted. The only way to drag them back on track is by punishment. Punishment creates a sort of fear and responsibility in them, which makes them responsible. After all, education is the modification of character, and this can be done permanently by means of punishment.

Bibhabasu Patra
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Bonds of Love
We all are taught to respect others feelings and not to hurt anyone mentally or physically. Corporal punishment in schools is a type of inhuman treatment of students. Below the age of ten, a student should be enlightened by love and care by the teachers, rather than being hit or pulled by the car. The teenagers’ minds are full of emotions and self-esteem. At this age, punishments in front of the class harm the dignity of the teens and this may lead to depression. Recently, in many cases it is found that the adolescents, after being punished at the school, commit suicide. Corporal punishments should not be practiced in schools, as the delicate relation between a teacher and a student should rest on the strong bonds of love and respect rather than on aversion.

Shreya Pramanik
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Discipline Must
Discipline is a must everywhere or we can say discipline is the building block of every thing. And it is must for a student for his study, growing personality and learning. A teacher should work to instil discipline among his/her student not through corporal punishment but through counselling.

Animesh Mondal
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Should be Allowed
These days, school children are becoming too inhuman in terms of behaviour. So, to control this aggressive attitude, corporal punishment should be implemented. Teachers should be allowed to use corporal punishment in schools to convert these school children into responsible future citizens.

Sankha Subhra Das
Siliguri Boys Hostel

Sensitive Minds
In our country, schools are not uniform as far as standard and quality are concerned. School administration also differs in government-run and private ones. Children are very sensitive. What we imprint on them will be returned to the society in the long run. Experience says that physical punishment has an adverse impact on the soft minds. The teachers should know what message to be transmitted for a fault.

Swapan Rudra
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Reformative, Not Retributive
Corporal punishment has been strictly banned by Supreme Court of India, which is being followed by schools of metropolitan cities but small cities and towns still have not abolished it. What is the effect of such punitive system on students? These punishments mar a child’s psyche, make him/her insecure and stubborn and draw them inwards retarding their ability to learn effectively and ultimately leading to criminal activities and juvenile criminals. Students can also be corrected by alternative humanitarian ways like making them understand with love and compassion and by counselling. However, parents need to instill discipline in their children since childhood. Hence, punishments should be reformative, not retributive.

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**Fear is Necessary**

Corporal punishment should be compulsory in schools. We pray to god because of his fear that’s why the student loses the fear of the teachers leading to indiscipline. A recent incident where a student hit a teacher because the teacher did not allow the student to cheat was a good example.

Shivam Arora
Guru Nanak Dev Polytechnic, Delhi

“Spare the Rod And spoil the Child”

If we raise our children the right way, with respect and manners, there will never be a need to put hands on them. School staff get abused by students, and when parents are called they say they will handle it. Next day, the same student comes and laughs at the staff member, calling them names, telling them their parents did nothing. Parents do their children a great disservice when they prevent them from being punished at school for misbehaving. There must be a balance between affection and punishment.

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**Spare the Rod and Improve the Child**

The aim of corporal punishment in schools is to make a student realise his mistake, mischief or wrong doing; he should change his behaviour; he should pledge not to repeat this act, etc. Corporal punishment given to a student should present an example to others. The object of corporal punishment is to create fear in one’s mind – and fear will restrain one from wrongdoing. And hence the classical maxim goes “Spare the rod and spoil the child.” The message behind this old saying is that if you don’t punish a child who commits a mistake or a mischief, you will spoil his character.

But today our society is continuously getting entangled in the meshes of complex passions and feelings – self-respect and ego. Today’s student is confronting information explosion – he is living in the Internet-era. He has become so egoist. Corporal punishment hurts his self-respect. When he is corporally punished before his classmates, he gathers hatred in his mind against the teacher, bringing out adverse consequences.

This critical moment should be handled carefully and skilfully by a teacher. A teacher should study the psychology of his students in general and that of a problem child in particular. Sympathy and friendly attitude towards students are two powerful tools with which a teacher can control the class – corporal punishment will no longer be needed. And hence modern maxim goes: “Spare the rod and improve the child.”

S.S. Ali, Akola

**Counselling Better**

In the short run corporal punishment may prove useful because by instilling fear an immediate effect might be noticed. But by merely inflicting pain, a person does not necessarily change for good. Instead it is seen that generally some negative traits are generated in the students who have been regularly subjected to corporal punishment. Arrogance, stubborn behaviour, anger, harsh attitude etc are some of the commonly generated characteristics. Instead using positive punishments such as tackling the students verbally or through counselling or by giving them detention related to their own capabilities is better.

Sanchit Kumar Thakur
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**Negative Effect**

No way. On the contrary, smacking a child is counter-productive. If it is continued for a longer period then it lowers his executive functioning ability and results in poor discipline. Spanking kids may appear to be beneficial, but in the long run it is not found conducive in curbing inappropriate tendencies or improving his learning potential.

Shashi, Indore

**Evil Practice**

Corporal punishment is totally out of practice in developed countries like USA, Britain, Germany, France etc. It is also banned in India by all school Boards across the country and even by the Supreme Court of India. Corporal punishment to students is an act against humanity and even crime. In this process least protected children are ill treated and misbehaved by the most intellectual & educated or civilised group of persons like teachers, principals & management etc. The practice of corporal punishment must be stopped by all means.

Nisha Pandey
Lucknow

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