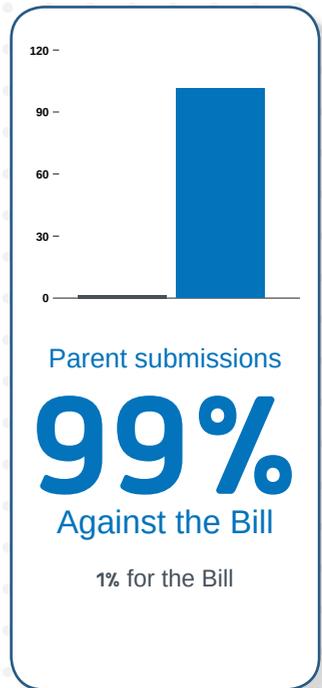
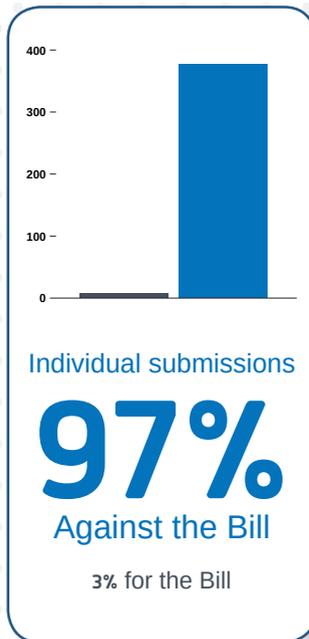
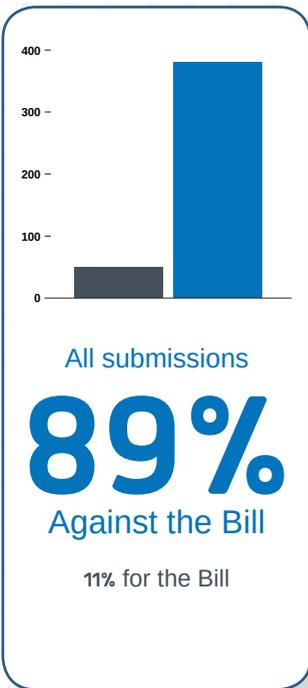


# SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT CONSULTATION: HUGE PUBLIC OPPOSITION TO SMACKING BAN BILL

Submissions to Equalities and Human Rights Committee call for evidence



# WILL POLITICIANS LISTEN?



"I am not able to support the Bill. My view is that it will not in fact enhance the protection of children and that at the same time it will have a number of negative consequences."

**Professor Tommy MacKay, leading child psychologist and former President of the British Psychological Society** (Submission 238)

"As a serving Police Officer, we are already working hard to protect children with current legislation and introducing this bill will overwhelm police and social workers with agencies having to submit more trivial reports. I believe this use of resources will cause real cases of child abuse to be missed."

**Police Officer** (Submission 271)

"I have spent the last 10 years working in Child Protection departments as a Detective Sergeant... I have never come across a case where I have felt the law as it stands is inadequate for any investigation into child abuse... I have found no appetite amongst my operational colleagues for any legislative changes."

**Police Officer** (Submission 349)

"I have never personally smacked my child – not even once – but I would defend any parent's right to do so in appropriate circumstances. It is the role of parents, not the Government, to bring up children, and this law would represent a needless and objectionable intrusion into family life."

**Parent** (Submission 419)

"As a retired senior social worker with experience of investigating child abuse, reasonable chastisement is very different from assault and abuse. Caring parents could well find themselves suddenly criminalised."

**Retired senior social worker** (Submission 135)

"there is no sound causal evidence against smacking".

**Robert Larzelere, Professor of Parenting Research, Oklahoma State University** (Submission 247)

"Child abuse and loving parental discipline are two very different things and to conflate the two through outlawing smacking sends such a dangerous message."

**Parent** (Submission 395)

Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill  
Equalities and Human Rights Committee call for views: 2 November 2018 to 25 January 2019.

**Read more: [bit.ly/smackingbillsubmissions](https://bit.ly/smackingbillsubmissions)**

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