

# Ending Violence Against Children in Canada



More than 25,000 children are victims of physical abuse every year in Canada. In 75% of these cases, the child was being punished. More than 90% of perpetrators are parents or caretakers. Corporal punishment violates the rights of children and has devastating impacts on both their physical and emotional well-being.

## Canada's Commitments to Ending Corporal Punishment

In 1991, Canada ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, committing to protecting children from all forms of violence, including corporal punishment.

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission called on Canada to end the legal justification for corporal punishment.

In 2018, Canada became a 'Pathfinder Country' for the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, which requires Canada to become a global leader.



Corporal punishment is prohibited in 62 countries.

**Canada is not one of them.**

27 more countries are committed to prohibiting corporal punishment.

**Canada is not one of them.**

Research consistently shows that corporal punishment has SOLELY negative impacts on children:

- Aggression
- Substance Misuse
- Antisocial Behaviour
- Slower Cognitive Development
- Mental Health Issues
- Weaker Parent-Child Relationships



## Call to Action

Ending all forms of violence against children by 2030 is Target 16.2 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. To become a 'Pathfinder' in ending violence against children, Canada must start by prohibiting corporal punishment.

Corporal punishment harms children and violates their rights. Action is needed in Canada NOW.