

Appendix C: Revised Attitudes Towards Corporal Punishment Scale

Q0: What's your definition of physical or corporal punishment?

Questions 1-4 are for parents or caregivers only:

Q1: What do you do when your child misbehaves?

Q2: Which (of those mentioned in Q1) works best?

Q2A: Is this the one you usually use? Yes ☐ No ☐

Q2B: If **NO**, which method do you usually use?

Q3: [Ask only if not mentioned in Q1]: Have you ever used any form of physical punishment with your child? Yes ☐ No ☐

Q3A: If **YES**: You said in the previous question that you use physical punishment. Please describe (circle one).

With hand _____ (slap, pinch, etc.)

With object _____ (what object(s)?)

Q3B: When is the last time you used physical punishment? (circle one)

Today/this week/past 2 weeks/past month/past 6 months/past year/longer

Q3C: How often do you use physical punishment? (circle one)

More than once a day/daily/more than once a week/once a week/a few times a month/
once a month/ a few times a year/ less than once a year

For the next questions we are going to ask for your opinions about physical punishment; we mean any form of physical punishment, including pinching, pulling, tapping, slapping, spanking, hitting, smacking, giving licks, beating.

Q4: From this list, which of the following statements comes closest to your personal opinion on using physical punishment on your child(ren)? (circle one)

- a. I think it is always wrong to use physical punishment on a child.
- b. I don't like the idea of using physical punishment, but I will do it if nothing else works.
- c. I'm comfortable with the idea of using physical punishment.
- d. I believe that if you spare the rod, you spoil the child.
- e. Refused, don't know.

The next set of statements asks you to rate how much you agree or disagree with them. Please answer strongly agree/agree/neutral/disagree/strongly disagree.

Q5: Only bad parents use physical punishment on their children. (circle one)

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q6: Physical punishment is a good way of teaching children right from wrong.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q7: Using physical force on a child is the same as using physical force on an adult.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q8: There is a big difference between administering physical punishment and physically abusing a child.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q9: There should be a complete ban on parents using physical punishment with their children.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Q10: It is sometimes necessary to use physical punishment with a child.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q11: Schools should be allowed to use physical punishment on children.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q12: Physical punishment is an effective method of disciplining a child.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q13: Physical punishment leads to the development of good character.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q14: Physical punishment helps build respect for authority figures.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q15: Physical punishment helps children become successful adults.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

Q16: Would you support a law that made it illegal for parents to use physical punishment to discipline their children? Yes/No

Q17: Additional comments (optional)

Scoring: There is no formal scoring for the ACP as yet.

Groups were compared on individual items using appropriate analysis (e.g. chi square).

