

CAMPAIGN ACTION

Children are unbeatable!

An alliance of organisations and individuals seeking legal reform to give children the same protection under the law on assault as adults and promoting positive, non-violent discipline

HELP US STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT

SEND A MESSAGE TO ED BALLS NOW!

Please send the message below (personalise if you have time) to Ed Balls, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools & Families.

[Message follows...]

For the attention of
Rt Hon Ed Balls MP
Secretary of State for Children, Schools & Families

Dear Ed Balls

EQUAL PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN

It is welcome that the Government says it does not condone physical punishment of children. Hitting children, whether we call it a "smack" or a "slap", is wrong.

However, it is disappointing that the Government continues to defend the current law which allows parents and others to justify common assault of children as "reasonable punishment". This is unjust and it does not satisfy our human rights obligations under important UN and European treaties. It sends out a dangerous message and undermines efforts to promote positive, non-violent discipline.

The law should send the clear message that hitting children is as unacceptable as hitting anyone else. Modernising the law on assault to give children equal protection is the only credible way forward. Please do everything you can to ensure that this long-overdue reform is achieved in this Parliament.

Yours sincerely

[insert name and address of sender]

[...Message ends]

**SEND YOUR MESSAGE TO
ED BALLS BY EMAIL TO:**
dcsf.ministers@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

OR POST AS A LETTER TO:

Rt Hon Ed Balls MP
Secretary of State for Children,
Schools & Families
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

