



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

23 MAR 22 P 4 :48

SENATE

S.B. No. 2036

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**AN ACT
PROMOTING POSITIVE PARENTING IN ALL SETTINGS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The physical and humiliating punishment of children remains to be a common practice in disciplining children in the Philippines¹. The Council for the Welfare of Children’s National Baseline Study on Violence Against Children in 2016 reaffirmed the commonality of physical and humiliating punishment when it found that the most common form of violence experienced by children was physical violence (66%) in the form of corporal punishment committed mostly by parents in the home setting. This is closely followed by psychological violence (55%) in the form of verbal abuse and threats, which mostly happens in the home and in the school setting². These figures represent an urgent need to protect children from this form of violence.

Physical and humiliating punishment are still accepted in the Philippines despite its detrimental and negative effects on children’s physical and psychosocial well-being. The use of physical violence is shown to have potential adverse effects on children’s development and increases their risk of developing mental health issues; children and adults who were spanked were more likely to develop mental health disorders and face difficulties in positively engaging in school³. It is also associated with impaired socio-emotional development, increased aggression, and acceptance and use of violence⁴. Children who are frequently punished were shown to exhibit aggressive and

¹ Save the Children. Corporal Punishment in the Philippines. 2005, <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/4895.pdf/>

² Council for the Welfare of Children. National Baseline Study on Violence against Children: Philippines. 2016. [https://www.unicef.org/philippines/media/491/file/National%20Baseline%20Study%20on%20Violence%20Against%20Children%20in%20the%20Philippines:%20Results%20\(executive%20summary\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/philippines/media/491/file/National%20Baseline%20Study%20on%20Violence%20Against%20Children%20in%20the%20Philippines:%20Results%20(executive%20summary).pdf)

³ Anderson, Jill. “The Effect of Spanking on the Brain.” Harvard Graduate School of Education, April 13 2021, <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/21/04/effect-spanking-brain>

⁴ World Health Organization. “Corporal Punishment and Health.” November 23 2021, <https://www.who.int/news-room/factsheets/detail/corporal-punishment-and-health>

criminal behavior as children and as adults (Gershoff, 2002, 2010, 2013; Gershoff et al., 2010)⁵.

In 2012, the Philippine government affirmed its commitment to prohibit physical and humiliating punishment in all settings. Moreover, the Philippines ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990. Art. 19 of the CRC states that, "States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child."⁶ The same Convention also states in Art. 37 that "No Child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." Despite strides toward enacting anti-child abuse laws, our government has yet to pass a law that effectively promotes and teaches positive parenting to help them in ending the practice of physical and humiliating punishments. Mere laws can be insufficient to prevent the use of violence toward children⁷. These measures must be supplemented by an information campaign that educates the public about children's rights and promotes positive parenting to encourage a healthier approach to discipline.

The State must honor its commitment to protecting the rights of the child by educating the public about positive parenting techniques. This bill maintains the right of the parent to discipline their children while taking into account the child's integrity and dignity. It seeks to implement the State's commitments both nationally and internationally by developing a comprehensive program to encourage positive parenting in diverse settings and provide psychosocial support for both the parent and child to foster healthier family relations.

The passage of this bill is thus earnestly sought.


RISA HONTIVEROS

⁵ Gershoff, E. T. (2002). Corporal punishment by parents and associated child behaviors and experiences: a meta-analytic and theoretical review. *Psychological bulletin*, 128(4), 539.

Gershoff, E. T. (2010). More harm than good: A summary of scientific research on the intended and unintended effects of corporal punishment on children. *Law and Contemporary Problems*, 73(2), 31-56.

Gershoff, E. T. (2013). Spanking and child development: We know enough now to stop hitting our children. *Child development perspectives*, 7(3), 133-137.

⁶ UN General Assembly. *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. New York, 1990,.

<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/crc.pdf>

⁷ Lansford, Jennifer E. and Bornstein, Marc H. "Corporal Punishment". *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, & Conflict* (Second Edition). 2020, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/psychology/corporal-punishment>



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**AN ACT
PROMOTING POSITIVE PARENTING IN ALL SETTINGS AND
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Be It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Positive Parenting of*
2 *Children's Act*".

3 Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes that the family, being
4 the foundation of the nation, is a basic social institution which public policy cherishes
5 and protects, and that parents are primarily responsible in the rearing and nurturing
6 of their children keeping in mind the best interest of the child. To this end, the State
7 shall, pursuant to its constitutional mandate, protect and strengthen the family as a
8 basic, autonomous social institution, and support the natural, primary right and duty
9 of parents in the rearing of youth for the development of their moral character and
10 civic efficiency. As such, the State shall respect the rights of parents to rear their
11 children in whatever manner they deem appropriate for as long as it does not violate
12 the rights of the children.

13 The child is an embodiment of her/his own personhood. Hence, her/his
14 individual traits and aptitudes should be cultivated to the utmost insofar as they do
15 not conflict with the general welfare.

16 The molding of the character of the child starts at home. Consequently, every
17 member of the family shall strive to make the home a wholesome and harmonious
18 place as its atmosphere and conditions will greatly influence the child's development.

1 The State likewise recognizes the vital role of the child and the youth in
2 nation building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual,
3 intellectual, and social well-being. Pursuant thereto, a child has the right to be
4 protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or
5 negligent treatment, and maltreatment or exploitation as a form of discipline while in
6 the care of parents, legal guardians or any other person who has the care of the
7 child. Such treatment or punishment violates the child's rights, human dignity and
8 physical integrity.

9 As such, the State shall:

10 (a) Recognize and uphold the right of the child as human being, individual,
11 and member of a family and community, to equal protection of the law;

12 (b) Promote positive parenting of children at home, in school, in institutions,
13 in alternative care systems, in workplaces and in all other settings by encouraging
14 behavior change in adults and establish the necessary structures and mechanisms
15 and mobilize resources to make this possible;

16 (c) Defend the right of the child to assistance, including proper care and
17 nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty,
18 exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development;

19 (d) Protect the best interests of the child through measures that will ensure
20 the observance of international standards of child protection, especially those
21 expressed in international conventions and treaties to which the Philippines is a
22 party, particularly the United Nation Conventions on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC)
23 and its optional protocols to which the Philippines is a party, International Labor
24 Organization Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action
25 for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, the Sustainable Development
26 Goals, and all other relevant and universally accepted human rights instruments and
27 other international conventions to which the Philippines is a party;

28 (e) Respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents, guardians or
29 other persons legally responsible for the child, including those exercising special or
30 substitute parental authority as those provided for under Presidential Decree No.
31 603, otherwise known as the "Child and Youth Welfare Code", as amended,
32 Executive Order No. 209, otherwise known as the "Family Code of the Philippines",

1 as amended; and Republic Act No. 7610, as amended, otherwise known as the
2 "Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination
3 Act"; to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child,
4 appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise of the child's rights;

5 (f) Provide an enabling environment for parents to empower themselves and
6 fulfill their parental obligations to rear their children through positive and nonviolent
7 means;

8 (g) Render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the
9 performance of their child-rearing responsibilities and shall ensure the development
10 of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children.

11 (h) Ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner that respects the
12 child's human dignity;

13 Pursuant to UNCRC, the State recognizes the primary responsibility of
14 parents, or as the case may be legal guardians for the upbringing and development
15 of the child keeping in mind the best interest of the child.

16 Section 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

17 a) Child refers to a person who is below eighteen (18) years of age, or over
18 but is unable to fully take care of one's self or protect one's self from abuse, neglect,
19 cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or
20 condition.

21 b) Foster parents refer to persons duly licensed by the Department of Social
22 Welfare and Development (DSWD) to provide planned, temporary, or substitute
23 parental care to a child.

24 c) Guardians refer to legal guardians, foster parents and other persons,
25 including relatives, with physical custody of a child;

26 d) Child Caring Institutions refer to registered, licensed, and/or accredited
27 residential and nonresidential child-caring agencies, including youth homes, youth
28 rehabilitation centers, Bahay Pag-asa and other youth rehabilitation centers,
29 agricultural camps and other training facilities, drop-in centers, temporary shelters
30 and orphanages, and churches or religious centers, including places of worship and
31 parish centers;

32

1 e) Parents refer to biological parents, stepparents, adoptive parents, or the
2 common-law spouse or partner of the parent;

3 f) Persons legally responsible for the child, including those exercising special
4 or substitute parental authority refer to those provided for under Executive Order
5 No. 209 otherwise, known as the "Family Code of the Philippines" as amended; In
6 case of death, absence or unsuitability of the parents, the following shall exercise
7 substitute parental authority in this order: (1) surviving grandparent; (2) the oldest
8 brother or sister, over twenty one (21) years of age; and (3) the child's actual
9 custodian, over twenty one (21) years of old. In case of foundlings, abandoned,
10 neglected, or abused children, parental authority is entrusted to heads of children's
11 homes, orphanages and similar institutions duly accredited by the proper
12 government agency.

13 School administrators and teachers, or the individual, entity or institution
14 engaged in childcare shall have parental authority and responsibility of the minor
15 child while under their supervision, instruction and custody.

16 (g) Physical, humiliating, or degrading acts as a form of violent punishment or
17 discipline in which physical force is used and intended to cause pain or discomfort.
18 In addition, other non-physical forms of punishment that are cruel, degrading, and
19 that cause a child to feel belittled, humiliated, denigrated, scapegoated, threatened,
20 scared or ridiculed are contemplated in this definition.

21 (h) Positive parenting is based on the principles of child's rights and
22 development and effective teaching and parenting. It is non-violent and this is
23 achieved by providing a warm and caring environment, building the child's
24 competence and confidence, assisting the child in understanding and abiding by
25 rules, fostering healthy relationships, and teaching the child life-long skills and
26 respect for human rights.

27 (i) Restorative justice refers to a principle which requires a process of
28 resolving conflicts with the involvement of the victim, the offender and the
29 community. It focuses on the harm that has been done to people and relationships
30 which create obligations and liabilities. The principle of restorative justice using
31 positive parenting seeks to rebuild and strengthen the relationship between the

1 parent and the child through mediation and agreement in the aftermath of a
2 traumatic or violent experience in the family; and

3 (j) Service providers – refer to persons who, whether in public or private
4 settings, provide services to children. These include teachers, guidance counselors,
5 social workers, center administrators and personnel, interns, parent-teacher
6 association officers, house parents, health care providers, day care/child
7 development workers, volunteers, teaching and non-teaching personnel, security
8 guards in schools and centers, guards in a youth detention home, law enforcement
9 officers to include the police, barangay officials, tanods, and jail officers, and mental
10 health care providers.

11 Section 4. *Development of a Comprehensive Program to Promote Positive*
12 *Parenting.* – The Department of Social Welfare and Development and the
13 Department of the Interior and Local Government shall lead in the formulation of a
14 comprehensive program that shall be implemented to promote positive parenting to
15 include prevention and response programs in collaboration with the Council for the
16 Welfare of Children (CWC), National Authority on Child Care (NACC), Juvenile Justice
17 and Welfare Council (JJWC), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of
18 Education (DepEd), Early Childhood Care and Development Council, Commission on
19 Higher Education (CHED), Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority
20 (TESDA), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Justice (DOJ), and
21 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

22 A continuing information dissemination campaign shall be conducted
23 nationwide by the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), DSWD for the parents, DILG-
24 National Barangay Operations Office for the local government officials, PNP for law
25 enforcement personnel, and the DepEd, CHED, and TESDA for the teachers on how
26 to practice positive parenting.

27 All barangay personnel and service providers who will be involved in the
28 management of cases and the provision of interventions shall receive the necessary
29 capacity-building programs for the implementation of this Act.

30 Section 5. *Protection of the Child from Physical, Humiliating and Degrading*
31 *Acts as a Form of Punishment.* – No child shall be subjected to any form of physical,
32 humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment as defined in Section 3(g) in

1 homes, schools, institutions, alternative care systems, the juvenile welfare system,
2 places of worship, workplace, and in all other settings where there is direct or
3 indirect contact with a child.

4 Section 6. *Reporting Physical, Humiliating and Degrading Acts as a Form of*
5 *Punishment of a Child.* – Reports of any physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a
6 form of punishment of a child may be filed by any person having personal
7 knowledge of the act or acts complained of.

8 All reports of the commission of physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a
9 form of punishment of a child shall be brought to the attention of the barangay or
10 the police or both. The police shall bring the report to the attention of the barangay
11 and social worker and if needed, a health care provider: Provided that for acts
12 committed in the school settings shall be in accordance with the guidelines to be
13 drafted under Section 10(r) of this Act. Provided further that schools shall submit
14 periodic reports to the barangay where the school is located.

15 Section 7. *Interventions.* – Upon receipt of a report, the Punong Barangay
16 shall determine if the act committed falls under the definition of physical, humiliating
17 or degrading acts as a form of punishment, the Punong Barangay shall inform the
18 offender that there is a finding of commission of physical, humiliating or degrading
19 acts as a form of punishment. The Punong Barangay shall ensure that the offender
20 is familiar with and understands positive parenting, provide reading materials to the
21 latter, and may:

22 a. Refer both the offender and the offended party to mediation and
23 conciliation; and

24 b. In extreme cases where the safety of the child is at stake, recommend
25 barangay protection orders, taking into consideration the best interest of the child.

26 The Local Social Welfare Development Officer (LSWDO) shall be informed that
27 a case of physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment of a child
28 has been reported to the barangay. The LSWDO shall conduct an assessment
29 pursuant to Section 10 (b) of this Act. The process of coordination between the
30 barangay, Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC), and the LSWDO shall
31 be defined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act.

1 In cases of repeat offenders, the Punong Barangay shall require the offender
2 to: (1) undertake seminars on positive parenting, anger management, and child's
3 rights; (2) undergo counseling or therapy; and/or (3) avail of other rehabilitative
4 services as may be applicable. The child shall also be provided counseling and, if
5 necessary, accorded other proper interventions. In school settings, interventions
6 shall be in accordance with the guidelines to be drafted under Section 10 (r) of this
7 Act.

8 Nothing in this Act shall prevent the filing of appropriate criminal cases if the
9 offense is punishable under the "Revised Penal Code", as amended, and other
10 special laws.

11 Section 8. *Immunity for Intervening Persons.* – In every case of physical,
12 humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment, any person who, acting in
13 good faith, responds or intervenes without using violence or restraint greater than
14 necessary to ensure the safety of the victim, shall not be criminally, civilly, or
15 administratively liable.

16 However, persons causing a child to lie or fabricate about incidents of
17 physical, humiliating and degrading acts shall be liable under existing civil and
18 criminal laws.

19 Section 9. *Confidentiality.* – All records pertaining to cases of physical,
20 humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment of a child, including those in
21 the barangay, the police, school, or public or private health care facility shall be kept
22 confidential and the right to privacy of the victim shall be respected, except upon
23 order of the court for the benefit of the child or to prosecute the offender. Whoever
24 publishes or causes to be published, in any format, the name, address, telephone
25 number, school or any identifying information of a victim or immediate family
26 member of the victim, without consent, shall be penalized under existing laws.

27 The victims, or an immediate family member of the victim, may file an action
28 for damages against whoever publishes or causes to be published, in any format,
29 the name, address, telephone number, school or any identifying information of a
30 victim or immediate family member of the victim, without prior consent.

31 The Department of Information and Communications Technology and the
32 National Privacy Commission in coordination with the DSWD and the DILG shall

1 develop a centralized database and monitoring system for all reported cases in
2 violation of this Act.

3 Section 10. *Duties and Responsibilities of Government Agencies.* – To
4 achieve the policy and objectives of this Act, the duties and responsibilities of the
5 implementing agencies are as follows:

6 a) The DSWD –

7 1. The DSWD, in coordination with the DepEd, other relevant
8 government agencies, the private sector, including academic
9 institutions, non-government organizations (NGOs) and General
10 Parents Teachers Associations (GPTA) shall formulate a comprehensive
11 program to promote the positive parenting and the prevention of the
12 use of physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment
13 of children. The program shall include capacity building of service
14 providers, content development of reading materials and other
15 promotional items, parenting education positive parenting, child
16 friendly reporting mechanisms, child protection and support services
17 and documentation, data management and monitoring systems.

18 2. The DSWD shall integrate positive parenting in the training of
19 officials and staff of child-caring institutions. It shall ensure that
20 officials and staff institutions do not use physical, humiliating or
21 degrading acts as a form of punishment of children under their
22 custody. It shall also ensure that appropriate action is taken against
23 erring officials and staff of the institutions.

24 3. The DSWD shall integrate positive parenting in the capacity-building
25 activities for the Local Social Welfare Development Office (LSWDO) to
26 enable them to provide counseling and appropriate intervention
27 programs for both offended child and offender.

28 4. The DSWD shall seek assistance from other relevant government
29 agencies such as the DOJ, Commission on Human Rights (CHR),
30 Philippine Information Agency (PIA), and the National Commission on
31 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to perform specific duties for the
32 implementation of this Act.

1 b) LSWDOs –

2 1. All LSWDOs shall adopt and implement programs and services to
3 promote positive parenting and the prevention of the use of physical
4 and humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment of a child.
5 They shall also provide assistance to victims of physical, humiliating, or
6 degrading acts as a form of punishment and their families. It shall,
7 together with the DSWD and the local government units (LGUs) ensure
8 the delivery of intervention programs such as seminars and counseling
9 for offenders.

10 2. All LSWDOs shall immediately conduct an assessment of every
11 reported instance of physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a form
12 of punishment of a child, and determine the appropriate interventions,
13 considering the best interest of the children at all times. The
14 assessment shall be completed within three (3) calendar days from the
15 report of the incident, without prejudice to the conduct of a more
16 comprehensive case study report. The interventions for the children
17 and their families, protective custody by the social worker, temporary
18 placement, medical, counseling and legal services for a child, and for
19 the offenders, counseling and seminar on children's rights, positive
20 parenting, anger management, mental, psychological or psychiatric
21 services, and referrals to other rehabilitative services. The assessment
22 shall be conducted and interventions shall be provided by the LSWDO
23 whether or not a criminal case is filed.

24 c) Council on the Welfare of Children –

25 1. The CWC shall disseminate all relevant information of this Act
26 among concerned government agencies and entities. It shall monitor
27 the enforcement and the implementation of all programs and services
28 provided for under this Act. It shall also mobilize the different inter-
29 agency mechanisms within its national and local structures to support
30 the implementation of programs and services. It shall, together with
31 the Philippine Information Agency, devise and implement an

1 information campaign or program for popularizing the use of positive
2 parenting of children nationwide;

3 2. The CWC shall mobilize the different inter-agency mechanisms,
4 particularly the Regional Committees and Subcommittees on the
5 Welfare of Children.

6 d) Department of Education –

7 1. The DepEd shall integrate positive parenting in the training of school
8 officials, teachers, and personnel. It shall ensure that school officials,
9 teachers and personnel do not use physical, humiliating or degrading
10 acts as a form of punishment on any learner or student. The DepEd
11 shall also integrate discussions on positive parenting in the relevant
12 subjects in the curriculum of students. The rights of the child shall also
13 be discussed along with their responsibilities in the home, community,
14 and school. It shall likewise strengthen its Values Education in the K-
15 12 curriculum to instill obedience, courtesy and open communication to
16 help foster parent-child relationships.

17 2. The DepEd and ECCDC shall, within six (6) months from the
18 effectivity of this Act, in consultation with students' organizations,
19 GPTA, and teachers' unions promulgate the Guidelines on the
20 Implementation of Positive Parenting in school settings consistent with
21 this Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

22 3. Positive parenting actions imposed in accordance with the said
23 Guidelines shall not be considered as physically humiliating or
24 degrading acts under Section 3 (g) of this Act.

25 e) The Early Childhood Care and Development –

26 1. The Early Childhood Care and Development Council (ECCDC) shall
27 develop an appropriate approach on positive parenting of children 0-4
28 years old in child development centers. It shall integrate positive
29 parenting of children in the training of child development workers and
30 personnel of the child development centers.

31 f) The Department of the Interior and Local Government and its attached
32 agencies –

1 1. The DILG shall mandate the LGUs to strengthen and support local
2 structures involved in the protection of a child. It shall, together with
3 the DSWD and the LSWDO, encourage parents and individuals who are
4 not married but exercise parental authority to participate in training,
5 seminars, or counseling on positive parenting, and child's rights, and
6 shall ensure the delivery of intervention programs for offenders and
7 the offended parties.

8 In accordance with Section 7 of this act, the DILG shall provide
9 capacity-building to barangay officials and personnel on positive
10 parenting and procedures for handling cases and concerns relative to
11 this Act.

12 g) LGUs –

13 1. The LGUs shall mobilize, strengthen, and support local structures,
14 such as the Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPC), local
15 special bodies, homeowners' associations, Lupong Tagapamayapa and
16 children's welfare and protection organizations in facilitating the
17 reporting and prevention of, and response to instances of physical,
18 humiliating or degrading acts as a form of punishment and promotion
19 of positive parenting in their respective localities. It shall, together
20 with the DSWD and the LSWDO, ensure the delivery of intervention
21 programs such as seminars and counseling for offenders and the
22 offended parties.

23 2. All LGUs shall have at least one registered LSWDO.

24 h) LCPC. –

25 1. The LCPC shall support programs that promote positive parenting,
26 prevent the use of physical, humiliating or degrading acts as a form of
27 punishment of children, and coordinate with the LSWDO in responding
28 to such cases.

29 i) CHED and TESDA-

30 1. The CHED and the TESDA shall integrate positive parenting of
31 children in the curricula of education, psychology, social work, and
32 other disciplines. They shall also ensure that appropriate training on

1 positive parenting is provided for school officials, teachers and other
2 non-teaching personnel.

3 j) DOLE

4 1. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall make the
5 attendance of employers to positive parenting training as a prerequisite
6 to the issuance of employment permits for children.

7 k) DOH

8 1. The DOH shall integrate early child development interventions in the
9 various health and nutrition programs and services with emphasis on
10 family-child interaction during well-and-sick child visits. It shall also
11 provide technical assistance to LGUs, through the DOH Regional
12 Offices, to enhance the capabilities of local health offices in the
13 implementation of early child development interventions, including the
14 promotion of age appropriate parent-child interactions to foster
15 understanding of the child's behavior and needs.

16 l) PNP

17 1. The PNP shall promote positive parenting and ways of treating and
18 handling children in conflict with the law. It shall ensure that officials
19 and staff do not use physical, humiliating, or degrading acts as a form
20 of punishment to a child under their custody. It shall integrate into
21 their training curriculum the training of all police officers on child-
22 friendly and child-sensitive procedures in handling children, and
23 coordinate closely with government and private organizations for
24 effective investigation of cases.

25 m) National Youth Commission and the Sangguniang Kabataan. –

26 1. The National Youth Commission and the Sangguniang Kabataan
27 shall include in its programs prevention of physical, humiliating or
28 degrading acts as a form of punishment of children and endeavor to
29 build collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

30 n) School Administrators. –

31 1. School administrators and teachers exercise special parental
32 authority over their students while under their supervision, instruction

1 and custody. As such, guidelines to be produced by DepEd shall
2 recognize their authority in the schools and in school-sanctioned
3 events, and the need to conduct their classes in an organized manner
4 that is conducive to learning. Thus, teachers have the authority to
5 ensure that their students behave, respond and treat their teachers
6 and classmates in a respectful manner. They have the right to call out
7 disorderly and disrespectful behavior and deal with the same consistent
8 with the law and the guidelines to be implemented.

9 o) DBM. –

10 1. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall ensure a
11 sufficient number of guidance counselors who will serve as support
12 personnel in implementing positive parenting of students. For
13 purposes of this Act, the DBM shall, in accordance with Republic Act
14 No. 11036, otherwise known as the "Mental Health Act," endeavor to
15 meet the recommended ratio of one (1) guidance counselor for every
16 two hundred (200) students in public elementary and high schools.

17 Section 11. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial
18 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the
19 concerned agencies. Thereafter, the amount needed for the continued
20 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
21 Act. For LGUs, the implementation of the programs may be charged against the
22 internal revenue allotment and other internally generated funds of the LGU
23 concerned.

24 Section 12. *Periodic Review.* – The DSWD and the DILG with the DepEd, the
25 TESDA, the CHED, the DOJ, the DOH, and other relevant government agencies,
26 LGUs, and civil society organizations (CSOs) shall, after three (3) years upon
27 effectivity of this Act, and every five (5) years thereafter, conduct a periodic review
28 and evaluate the implementation of this Act and shall submit its report and
29 recommendation to the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations
30 and Gender Equality and the House of Representatives' Committee on the Welfare of
31 Children.

1 Section 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DSWD Secretary and
2 DILG Secretary in collaboration with the Executive Director of the CWC and in
3 consultation with the DepEd, CHED, TESDA, DILG NBOO, DOH, and other relevant
4 government agencies, LGUs, CSOs, NGOs, teachers' unions and at least two (2) child
5 focused organizations, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations
6 (IRR) of this Act within six (6) months from its approval. They shall likewise ensure
7 that techniques in, and examples of, practicing positive parenting shall be
8 extensively enumerated, described, and explained in the IRR.

9 Section 14. *Suppletory Application.* – For purposes of this Act, the Revised
10 Penal Code as amended, the Child and Youth Welfare Code as amended; Republic
11 Act No. 7610 as amended and other applicable laws shall have suppletory
12 application.

13 Section 15. *Separability Clause.* – If any section or provisions of this Act is
14 held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions shall not be affected.

15 Section 16. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive order
16 and rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
17 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18 Section 17. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
19 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,