Creating a Non-Violent Future:
Children's Rights and Advances in Protection from Corporal Punishment

BIOGRAPHIES

May 23-24, 2014
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Creating a Non-Violent Future:  
Children's Rights and Advances in Protection from Corporal Punishment  
May 23-24, 2014  
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**Keynote Speakers:**  
James Garbarino, Ph.D.  
Marjorie Fujara, M.D.  
Gertrud Lenzer, Dr. phil.  
Christian Pfeiffer, Ph.D.

**Additional Speakers:** Susan Bitensky, J.D., Joan Durrant, Ph.D.,  
Elizabeth Gershoff, Ph.D., George Holden, Ph.D., Asadah Kirkland,  
Samuel Martin, Marie Masterson, Ph.D., Seth Scholer, M.D.,  
Catherine Taylor, Ph.D., Eric Weber, Ph.D., Katherine C. Kersey, Ph.D.,  
Karen Polonko, Ph.D., Lucien Lombardo, Ph.D., Ruth Beaglehole,  
Lysa Parker, MS, CFLE, CEIM, Joshua Dankoff, J.D.

**Steering Committee:** Ellen Chiocca, MSN, CPNP, Eric Sanchez Gomez,  
Madeleine Y. Gomez, Ph.D., George W. Holden, Ph.D., Katherine Kaufka Walts, J.D., Gertrud Lenzer, Dr. phil, Marie Masterson, Ph.D.

**Catherine Taylor, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor, Department of Global Community Health & Behavioral Sciences  
Tulane University  
“A Public Health Approach to Ending CP”  
Catherine Taylor, PhD, MSW, MPH is an Associate Professor in the Department of Global Community Health and Behavioral Sciences at Tulane University’s School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine. She has been working on research focused on family violence prevention for over 15 years. Her post-doctoral training at Columbia University School of Social Work was focused on child maltreatment prevention including program evaluations of primary and secondary prevention strategies. She has a project funded by NICHD entitled “Prevention of child maltreatment: A focus on social norms and corporal punishment” and a CDC-funded project entitled “A Selected Prevention RCT to Address Parenting in a WIC population,” which will test the efficacy of two brief parenting interventions designed to help parents better manage difficult child behavior and promote non-physical child discipline strategies.

**Eric Weber, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Public Policy Leadership  
University of Mississippi, Oxford  
“The State of CP in Schools”  
Dr. Eric Thomas Weber is associate professor of Public Policy Leadership at the University of Mississippi and author of three books, including Democracy and Leadership: On Pragmatism and Virtue (2013). He chairs the American Philosophical Association’s Committee on Public Philosophy and serves as Executive Director of the Society of Philosophers in America (SOPHIA). In addition to nearly 20 scholarly articles, Weber has published pieces for general audiences as a guest columnist for The Clarion Ledger, Mississippi’s major newspaper, and as a frequent contributor to the Tehran Times. His next book in progress is titled A Culture of Justice: On Fairness and Pragmatism. For more information visit: EricThomasWeber.org.
Eric Sanchez Gomez  
*Loyola University Chicago*

Eric Sanchez Gomez is currently a student at Loyola University Chicago. He is a member of the “Creating a Non-Violent Future: Children’s Rights and Advances in Protection from Corporal Punishment” steering committee.

Seth Scholer, M.D.  
*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*  
*Vanderbilt University School of Medicine*

“Can Brief Primary Care Interventions Affect Parents’ Attitudes Toward Using Less CP?”  
Dr. Scholer is an associate professor of pediatrics at Vanderbilt University. He completed medical school at Indiana University, a residency in pediatrics at Duke University, and a master of public health at Indiana University. Since starting at Vanderbilt University in 1995, he has been an active clinician, educator, and researcher. Dr. Scholer serves on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

James Garbarino, Ph.D.,  
*Maude Clarke Chair in Humanistic Psychology, Senior Faculty Fellow, Center for the Human Rights of Children at Loyola University Chicago*

**Keynote Address: The Right to Be Safe**

My research focuses on issues in the social ecology of child and adolescent development. I have a long standing interest in a wide range of violence-related issues - war, child maltreatment, childhood aggression, and juvenile delinquency. In 1991 I undertook missions for UNICEF to assess the impact of the Gulf War upon children in Kuwait and Iraq, and have served as a consultant for programs serving Vietnamese, Bosnian and Croatian children. I also serve as a scientific expert witness in criminal and civil cases involving issues of trauma, violence, and children. In all these issues I am concerned with how developmental processes are shaped by the human ecology in which they occur, and have a particular interest in matters of spirituality and identity in this process. After completing a project on physical aggression in girls (resulting in a book entitled *See Jane Hit: Why Girls Are Growing More Violent and What We Can Do About It*), I am currently working on a project dealing with childhood in the face of the terrorist threat.

There is no more fundamental human right than the right to be safe—at home, at school, and in the community. This presentation will explore the role of efforts to prevent physical assault (“corporal punishment”) by parents and educators as part of the larger campaign to establish, protect, and nurture the human rights of children.
Marjorie Fujara, M.D.,
John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital, Chicago

Keynote address: CP from the Perspective of a Child Abuse Pediatrician
Dr. Marjorie Fujara is a board certified pediatrician, who also holds a certification in the sub-specialty of child abuse pediatrics. For over ten years, Dr. Fujara has served Cook County as a physician on the Child Protective Services team at Stroger Hospital and on the staff at the Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center. Most of her time is spent evaluating children for abuse and neglect. She appears frequently on behalf of her patients in court as an expert witness in the criminal trials of the perpetrators. She is witness daily to the effects of the cycle of violence in our communities.

Dr. Fujara has been an active advocate for children’s health issues throughout her career. Her current professional interests include obesity, toxic stress and the impact of exposure to violence on children. She enjoys collaborating across disciplines with others interested in promoting and increasing protective factors for young families. Dr. Fujara is a native of Chicago. Her work at Stroger continues a strong family tradition of service to Chicago and Cook County, which includes members of the Chicago Fire and Police Departments. Though she takes great pride in her work as a physician, she is most proud of her work at home where she shares the privilege of raising four great kids with her husband, Karl.

Christian Pfeiffer, Ph.D.,
Criminological Institute of Lower Saxony
Hannover, Germany

Keynote Address: How We Abolished the Parental Right to Use Corporal Punishment in Germany and What the Consequences Were
Christian Pfeiffer, Prof. Dr. jur., born 1944, studied Law and Social Psychology in Munich and London. 1987 he became Professor of criminology, Juvenile criminal law and correction at the University of Hanover and director of the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (KFN). From 2000 to 2003 he was Minister of Justice in Lower Saxony. Since March 2003 he is back in his former position at the KFN.

Lysa Parker, MS, CFLE, CEIM
“Promoting Positive Discipline”
Lysa Parker (Lisa) received her bachelor’s in education and her master’s degree in human development and family studies from the University of Alabama. She earned her designation of Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) from the National Council on Family Relations in 2004 and is trained as a Certified Educator of Infant Massage (CEIM). Lysa is the president-elect 2013 for the Southeastern Council on Family Relations. As cofounder of Attachment Parenting International (API), she served as the executive director for thirteen years, focusing on program development, public relations, and fundraising. Lysa is a co-author of Attached at the Heart: Eight Proven Parenting Principles for Raising Connected and Compassionate Children (iUniverse, 2009). Lysa Parker has committed her life to working with parent-child relationship issues and is a leading authority on attachment parenting. She has been featured in national and regional publications including, Newsday, Child Magazine, Mothering Magazine, Natural Life Magazine, Washington Post, Seattle’s Child, Today’s Parents, Westchester Parent, and Charlotte Parent, as well as many international publications. Lysa is a frequent guest on national, international, and local radio and TV programs. Attached at the Heart won the 2009 Book of the Year Gold Award from ForeWord magazine. Prior to her involvement with API, she worked as a special education teacher helping children with multiple handicaps and learning difficulties. She lives with her husband in Huntsville, Alabama and is the mother of two grown sons, a stepdaughter and the grandmother of one granddaughter and twin grandsons.

Karen Polonko, Ph.D., Old Dominion University
University Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice

“Ending Corporal Punishment: Higher Education as an Example of a Multidimensional Program”
Dr. Karen A. Polonko is Professor of Sociology and University Professor at Old Dominion University. She received her PhD in Sociology from Indiana University. She has taught courses on the sociology of children, marriage and families, child welfare and violence against children globally. She is coauthor of the book “The Sexual Bond” and has published widely in the areas of families and children. She is co-author of “Children and Young People in a Changing World”, Special Edition of Global Bioethics, Vol. 18. Winter 2005. Current interests include research on violence against children globally, assessment of implementation of the UN CRC, and the long-term consequences of corporal punishment on children.
Samuel Martin
New Foundation for Biblical Research, Jerusalem, Israel
“New Directions for Working with the Religious Right”
Samuel Martin was born in England and is the youngest child of Dr. Ernest L. and Helen R. Martin, who are both Americans. He lived in the UK for the first 7 years of his life before moving to the USA with his family at age 7. He lived in the USA until 2001 when he married a native Israeli and relocated to live in Jerusalem. He and his wife, Sonia, have 2 daughters. His experience with biblical scholarship began at an early age. His father initiated a program in conjunction with Hebrew Univ. and Prof. Benjamin Mazar, where over a 5 year period, some 450 college students came to work on an archaeological excavation in Jerusalem starting in 1969. Since that first trip, Samuel has visited Israel on 14 different occasions living more than 5 years of his life in the country. He has toured all areas of Israel as well as worked in several archaeological excavations. Today, he has begun his academic career publishing 2 books dealing with biblical issues. I write regularly on biblical subjects with a particular interest in children, families, nature, science and the Bible and gender in the Biblical context.

Marie Masterson, Ph.D., Dominican University, Chicago
Assistant Professor
“The Relationships of Punishment, Stress, and Neurobiology”
Marie Masterson, Ph.D. is assistant professor of early childhood education at Dominican University, River Forest, IL and past coordinator of The Director’s Institute at Old Dominican University, Norfolk, VA. She is an early childhood researcher, child behavior expert, author and speaker. As early childhood specialist for the Virginia Department of Education, she provided leadership to The Virginia Preschool Initiative, Head Start, Inclusive Placement Opportunities for Preschoolers, and the Virginia Star Quality Initiative. Dr. Masterson is a 2011 Fulbright early childhood specialist grant recipient to Thailand. She holds a Virginia meritorious teacher distinction, and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi. She is the writer of articles in professional journals such as Young Children and Early Childhood Education, and is the co-author of 101 Principles for Positive Guidance: Creating Responsive Teachers. Dr. Masterson provides consulting and professional development to state departments of education, child and family organizations, education centers and schools to ensure high-quality environments and interactions that support optimal achievement for all children.

Gertrud Lenzer, Dr. phil.,
Professor/Director, Children’s Studies Center for Research, Policy & Public Service
Brooklyn College, The City University of New York
Keynote Address: Children’s Rights and Violence
Gertrud Lenzer is a Professor of Sociology and Children’s Studies at Brooklyn College and in the Ph.D. Program of the Graduate Center of The City University of New York. In 1991, she became the Founding Chair of the Sociology of Children as a new field and Section of the American Sociological Association. In the same year and under her leadership, Brooklyn College became the first academic institution to develop an interdisciplinary liberal arts Children's Studies program in the nation. Gertrud Lenzer is the founding director of both the Children’s Studies Program and of the Children’s Studies Center (CSC), established in 1997 with mission mandates tied to pedagogy, research, and public service to the community.

Gertrud Lenzer received the national 1997 Lewis Hine Award in Honor of Outstanding Service on Behalf of Children and Youth of the National Child Labor Committee. She has been the recipient of such distinguished fellowships as the American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship in American Studies, a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship in the Humanities, a Visiting Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, a Fellowship at the National Humanities Center, and a Research Fellowship at the Rockefeller Bellagio Center, Italy. In addition, she was selected as the first American scholar and the first woman to deliver the 12th Auguste Comte Memorial Lecture at the London School of Economics. Gertrud Lenzer has also been selected and featured in the Marquis Who’s Who in America editions from 2011 through 2014.
Ruth Beaglehole
Founder, The Echo Center

“Promoting Positive Discipline”
Ruth was born in New Zealand where she gained a B.A. in Education and a Diploma in Preschool Teaching. After she settled in the U.S., Ruth founded a preschool for the children of working people in Echo Park and then became a parent educator for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). After going back to school to earn her M.A. in Marriage, Family and Child Therapy, Ruth established a model program for teen parents within LAUSD, which she ran for 16 years. When Ruth retired, she founded the Center for Nonviolent Education and Parenting (now doing business as Echo Parenting & Education) to continue her work teaching parents and professionals nonviolent child-raising. In the last 2 years, Echo has partnered with Gabriella Grant of the California Center of Excellence for Trauma Informed Care to integrate trauma informed care into our parenting services and train professionals from the a variety of fields. Ruth has received many awards, including the 2010 Betty Fisher Award from the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council in recognition of her work in breaking the cycle of violence within families.

Susan Bitensky, Ph.D.,
Director, Lori E. Talsky Center for Human Rights of Women and Children
Michigan State University

“The Ways the Law Can Help End CP”
Susan H. Bitensky is the Alan S. Zekelman Professor of International Human Rights Law and the Director of the Lori E. Talsky Center for Human Rights of Women and Children at Michigan State University College of Law. Professor Bitensky teaches Constitutional Law, International Human Rights Law, Evidence, and Jurisprudence. She has published a book on corporal punishment of children as a human rights violation and many scholarly articles in leading law reviews on children’s rights under international law and the U.S. Constitution. Prior to entering upon a career in academia, she was a practicing lawyer for fourteen years. In chronological and seriatim order, she served as an assistant general counsel to the United Steelworkers of America, as an associate at the union-side labor law firm of Cohen, Weiss and Simon, and as an associate counsel to the New York City Board of Education. She earned a B.A. magna cum laude from Case Western Reserve University, where she became a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and received her J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School. Before college, Professor Bitensky was apprenticed to the Robert Joffrey Ballet Company.

Lucien Lombardo, Ph.D., Old Dominion University
Professor, Sociology and Criminal Justice

“It’s Never Ok to Hit a Child: Toward a New Normal”
Lucien Lombardo, Ph.D. is Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Old Dominion University and has been at Old Dominion since 1977. He received his doctorate from the School of Criminal Justice, SUNY, Albany in 1978. He also earned a M.A. in Criminal Justice in 1974, a M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1969 and a B.A. in Spanish Linguistics from the University of Rochester in 1967. Dr. Lombardo teaches courses that are part of the Sociology and Criminal Justice undergraduate and graduate programs, the Work and Professional Studies BS degree program and The Understanding the World of Children and Conflict and its Resolution Interdisciplinary Clusters. Dr. Lombardo also serves as Coordinator of the upper level general education Cluster program, The Work and Professional Studies BS program and the Center for the Study of Work. Dr. Lombardo is a leader in general education and interdisciplinary curriculum development at Old Dominion University. Over the years, Dr. Lombardo teaching and research have explored the working lives of correctional officers, prison policy processes, collective violence in prisons, the violence process: from suicide to genocide, and violence in the world of children, perspectives on organizational behavior, and the changing nature of work and its relation to higher education. Dr. Lombardo’s most current research focuses on assessing the impact of the implementation United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the lives of children. Dr. Lombardo is the author of the Choice Magazine Award wining book, Guards Imprisoned: Correctional Officers at Work (1st and 2nd updated editions) and Co-editor of the 2nd edition of Prison Violence in America. With Dr. Karen Polonko he is also co-guest editor of a forthcoming edition of the journal Global Bioethics focusing on Children in a Changing World, published by the University of Florence, Italy. In addition, Dr. Lombardo has authored numerous articles, professional presentations and OP-Ed pieces in his areas of expertise.

Committee on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention. He also serves on the AAP Subcommittee on Violence Prevention and the AAP Committee on Early Childhood. Dr. Scholer’s research has focused on how to improve pediatric primary care services. He has conducted and published multiple studies of brief interventions in primary care and preschool settings.
Katherine C. Kersey, Ph.D., Old Dominion University
Professor of Early Childhood Education

“Promoting Positive Discipline”
Dr. Kersey is Professor of Early Childhood Education and Chairperson of the Department of Early Childhood, Speech Language Pathology and Special Education at Old Dominion University, where she has been on the faculty since 1969. She has authored three books - The Art of Sensitive Parenting, Helping Your Child Handle Stress, and Don’t Take It Out On Your Kids, and co-authored a fourth book, The First Year Teacher, published by the National Education Association. Dr. Kersey wrote a weekly column entitled Raising Children, and Parents, Too, which appeared for twelve years in The Virginian-Pilot Ledger Star, The Roanoke Times, and other syndicated newspapers. She has appeared on several national talk shows, including "Oprah", "Sonya Live", CNN, and the Les Brown Show. Dr. Kersey received the 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and is the author of The 101s: A Guide to Positive Discipline which has received three national awards for standards of excellence. Dr. Kersey is married to Dr. Wilbur Kersey and they have three grown children: Dr. Barbara Kersey, a family therapist, two sons, David and Marc, both engineers in the construction business, and three grandchildren.

Asadah Kirkland,
Author of Beating Black Kids

“Asconvincing African-Americans to Change Disciplinary Practices”
Asadah is the author of Beating Black Kids: So What Have You Been Beat With, which demonstrates how not hitting our children to discipline them works better. The book and her workshops have been used as guides for human services organizations, foster care agencies, mental health organizations, parenting groups and schools to generate greater solutions for getting adults to improve their performance as guardians and role models. Asadah has successfully worked with youth and families for over 20 years. She creates hands-on activities and dramatic role play with both children and their guardians, as a means of confronting issues that need improvement in their family settings. Asadah’s message has inspired the collegiate audience’s of Old Dominion University, Medgar Evers College, and The Borough of Manhattan Community College to name a few. The importance of her work has been featured in Essence.com, CNN.com, The School Library Journal, The Amsterdam News, Metro Parent Magazine , Here and Now on ABC, New York, with upwards of 10 television appearances and over 15 radio interviews across the country.

Ellen Chiocca, MSN, CPNP, DePaul University
Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing

Ellen Chiocca, MSN, APN, RNC, CPNP, is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing at DePaul University. She specializes in; the effects of corporal punishment on children, children’s exposure to community violence, the impact of maternal depression on young children, children’s exposure to domestic violence, gun violence and children, and psychological and physical health of vulnerable populations of children. Her current research includes Corporal Punishment: Evaluation of an Intervention by PNPs. A descriptive study that examines pediatric health care providers' attitudes and beliefs about corporal punishment as a method of child discipline.

Joshua Dankoff, J.D.
Associate, The Columbia Group for Children in Adversity

“Confronting Corporal Punishment in Schools in Sierra Leone”
Joshua Dankoff, J.D., is an Associate at The Columbia Group for Children in Adversity in Cologne, Germany. In mid-April 2014, he completed a post as Child Protection Specialist (Child Justice) with UNICEF-Sierra Leone. Over the last decade, Joshua has worked and researched in favor of children at the following organizations: UNICEF; the Ministry of Justice in Côte d’Ivoire while on a Fulbright-Clinton Public Policy Fellowship; the Firelight Foundation in California; and as a consultant on child protection systems building. As a law student, Joshua worked in the child protection and immigration systems in Chicago, and at the US Environmental Protection Agency office of Regional Counsel. Joshua’s interests include linking community-based child protection mechanisms to the formal system, legal empowerment, and child justice policy reform.

Joshua holds a Juris Doctor and ChildLaw Certificate from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and a Masters in Development Practice from the University of Queensland, Australia. While working at UNICEF-Sierra Leone, Joshua developed a strong working relationship with Sierra Leone Police leadership (including AIG Crimes and AIG Gender) and with line staff within the Family Support Unit, the Training Unit. He has a firm grasp of the relationships between the police and other justice and child protection agencies in Sierra Leone, and of the challenges facing children in conflict and contact with the law.
Joan Durrant, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor at Arthur V. Mauro Center for Peace and Justice
University of Manitoba

“Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting”
Throughout her 25-year career, Joan Durrant has advocated at all levels for the protection and rights of children. As a Professor of Family Social Sciences at the University of Manitoba, she has focused her research and teaching on prevention of punitive violence against children. With Ron Ensom, she co-authored the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth, which has been endorsed by more than 490 professional organizations across Canada. She was a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the United Nations Secretary-General’s Study on Violence against Children, and co-edited a book published by UNESCO on Eliminating Corporal Punishment: The Way Forward to Constructive Discipline. With Anne Smith, she co-edited a book on Global Pathways to Eliminating Corporal Punishment: Realizing Children’s Rights. In addition to publishing many academic articles, Joan has been very active in public education. Most recently, she collaborated with Save the Children to develop a parenting program which is being implemented in more than 30 countries. Joan has received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal; Human Rights Commitment Award (Manitoba Human Rights Commission); Health Promotion and Innovation Award of Excellence (Canadian Institute of Child Health); YWCA Woman of Distinction Award; Canadian Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year Award (Manitoba Chapter); and Ian Logan Memorial Award for Leadership in Child Abuse Prevention (Manitoba Provincial Advisory Committee on Child Abuse).

Elizabeth Gershoff, Ph.D.
Faculty Research Associate
Associate Professor of Human Development & Family Sciences
University of Texas at Austin

“The State of CP in U.S. Homes”
Elizabeth Gershoff, Ph.D., is a developmental psychologist who studies child and adolescent development in the context of families, schools, neighborhoods, and public policies. She is an internationally recognized expert in the effects of parents’ use of corporal punishment on children. Dr. Gershoff is currently an Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin.

Katherine Kaufka Walts, J.D.
Director, Center for the Human Rights of Children
Loyola University Chicago

Katherine Kaufka Walts, JD is the Director of the Center for the Human Rights of Children at Loyola University Chicago. The Center represents, coordinates, and stimulates efforts of the Loyola University community to understand and protect the human rights of children utilizing an interdisciplinary approach. Prior to joining Loyola, Ms. Kaufka Walts served as the Executive Director of the International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA). At IOFA she developed several projects in the US and abroad advancing the rights of children and youth, including a program to develop the capacity of child welfare system to better respond to child trafficking and exploitation cases. Prior to IOFA, Ms. Kaufka Walts managed the Counter-Human Trafficking project at the National Immigrant Justice Center, where she worked with several local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies on single and multiple-victim sex and labor trafficking cases. She successfully represented dozens of victims of human trafficking in the United States within immigration and criminal justice proceedings under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Ms. Kaufka Walts has provided expert testimony to local, national, and international governmental bodies. Ms. Kaufka Walts continues to provide technical assistance, training and consultation to law enforcement, service providers, task forces and coalitions, government agencies, federal and local law enforcement, and media in the US and internationally on the subject of human trafficking. Her international work includes project development, training, and consultation in the Dominican Republic, Latvia, Ethiopia, and Kosovo.
George Holden, Ph.D.
Professor and Undergraduate Director at Dedman College of Humanities & Sciences
Southern Methodist University

After receiving his BA from Yale University and his PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, George Holden was a member of the psychology faculty at the University of Texas at Austin for 23 years. Holden’s research interests are in the area of social development, with a focus on parent-child relationships. His work, into the determinants of parental behavior, parental social cognition, and the causes and consequences of family violence, has been supported by grants from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Justice, Department of Health and Human Services, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, The Timberlawn Research Foundation, and, most recently, the U.S. State Department. He is the author of two books, Parenting: A Dynamic Perspective (2010) and Parents and the Dynamics of Child Rearing (1997). In addition, he co-edited Children Exposed to Marital Violence (1998) and the Handbook of Family Measurement Techniques (2001).

Holden is a fellow of the American Psychological Society and a member of the Society for Research in Child Development, the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, and the Society for Research in Human Development, where he served as president. He was a member of State of Texas Task Force to Address the Relationship between Domestic Violence and Child Abuse and Neglect (Senate Bill #434). He is a founding steering committee member of the U.S. Alliance to End the Hitting of Children (endhittingusa.org). He is married and the father of three adult children.

Madeleine Y. Gomez, Ph.D
Founder
PsycHealth Ltd.

Madeleine Y. Gomez, PhD, is a licensed clinical psychologist and president of PsycHealth Ltd., a certified minority and women’s behavioral health-care organization established in 1989. PsycHealth Ltd. has received URAC Gold and Bronze Awards as well as a Global Communications League of American Communications Professionals Bronze Award. Dr. Gomez is widely respected in her area of specialty—children, families, and abuse. A published researcher, presenter, and assistant professor at Northwestern University, she is also a lifelong human rights advocate. The Southern Poverty Law Center recognized her "outstanding dedication to human rights and equal justice," and the Chicago Board of Education honored her with its Voices of Freedom Award for her work promoting nonviolence and "continuously supporting the self-esteem" of students in Chicago Public Schools. In 2010, Dr. Gomez received the National Psychologist Award from the Dorland Group for her work dedicated to nonviolence, serving the underserved, and promoting quality care.
Map of Corporal Punishment in the United States

31 States (In White) Have Banned School Corporal Punishment. Nineteen states (in red) have laws permitting corporal punishment in schools.

Source: StopHitting.com

Declaration

What We Know:

1. Corporal punishment (also called spanking, slapping, smacking, whooping, etc.) is hitting and by definition is therefore an act of violence.
2. CP is ineffective in teaching children how to behave.
3. CP can result in unintended negative consequences.
4. Abundant research warns the risks associated with CP are too great for CP to be justified.
5. CP is demeaning and does not reflect parental love.
6. Children should have the same right as adults to safety and to not be hit.
7. Many parents have behavioral expectations of their children that are not age appropriate.
8. The use of pain or CP on children damages healthy attachment, brain processes, and emotional as well as cognitive development.
9. U.S. schools must ban all forms of CP.
10. No person should have the right to use CP on children.
11. Ending CP will help end child abuse and elevate the human rights of children.