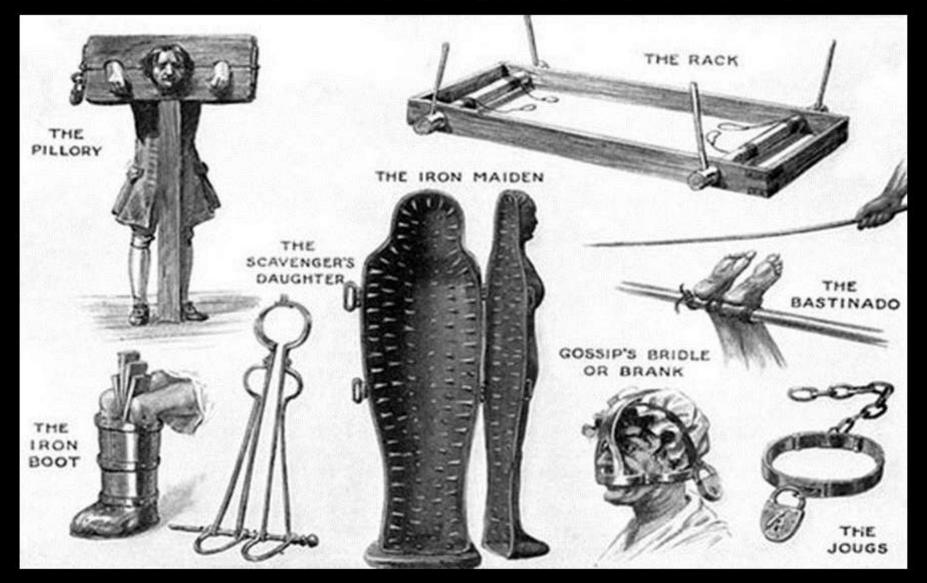
## Moving Forward Toward a Safe World for Children

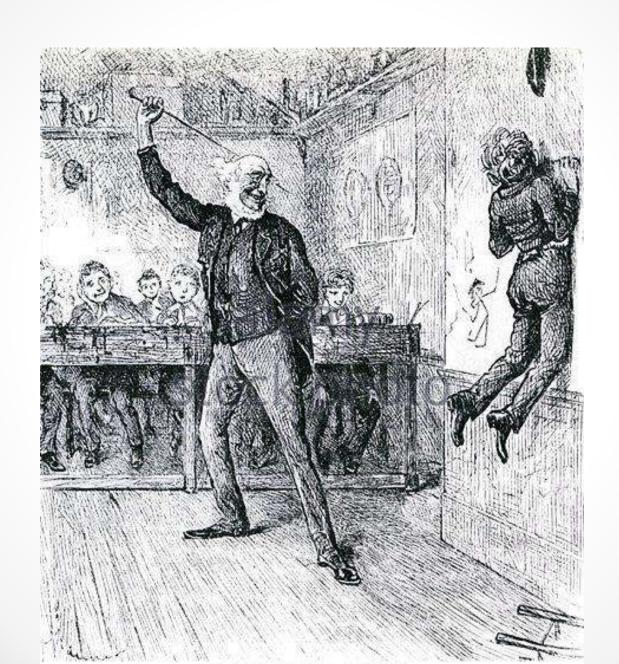
Joan E. Durrant, PhD
University of Manitoba
Canada

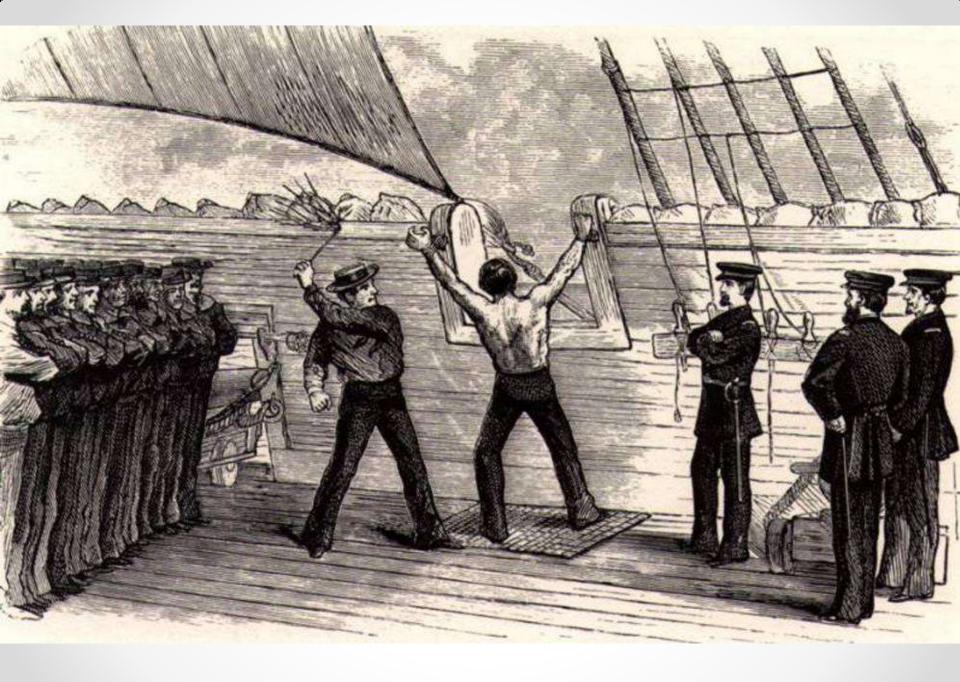




### PUNISHMENT TOOLS



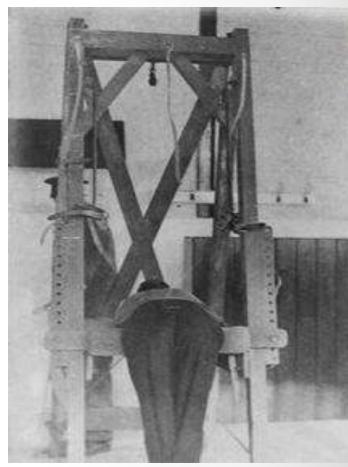


















### Good Pain



#### Bad Pain





#### Good Pain

### Bad Pain









Scotland: "justifiable assault"

Canada: "force by way of correction is justifiable"

Pain Learning

### British Common Law

For, as he is to answer for her misbehaviour,
the law thought it reasonable
to entrust him with this power of restraining her
by domestic chastisement,
in the same moderation that a man is allowed to correct
his apprentices or children; for whom the master or parent
is also liable in some cases to answer.

But this power of correction was confined within <u>reasonable bounds</u>; and the husband was prohibited to use any violence to his wife other than lawfully and reasonably pertains to the husband for the <u>rule and correction</u> of his wife.

The civil law gave the husband the same, or a larger, authority over his wife; allowing him, for some misdemeanors, to beat his wife severely with whips and sticks, for others, only with moderate punishment.

(Blackstone, 1765)

### Today in Iraq

"There is no crime if the act is committed while exercising a legal right [which includes] the punishment of a wife by her husband and the disciplining by parents and teachers of children under their authority within certain limits prescribed by law or by custom."

### In Delaware

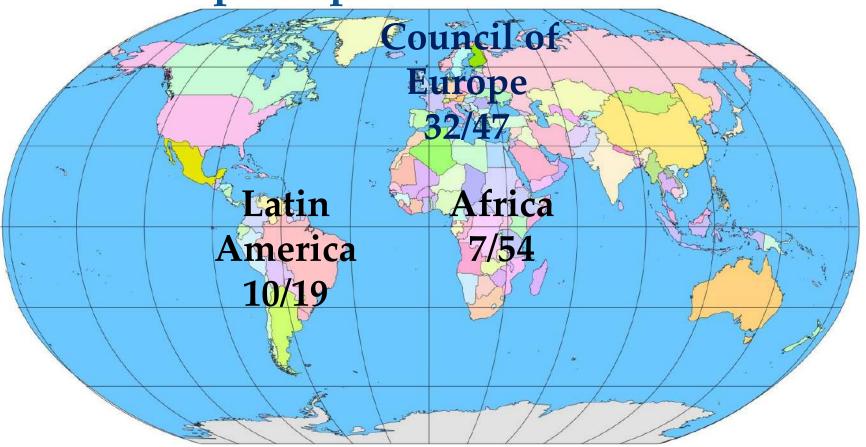
Parental corporal punishment is justified if it is "intended to benefit the child" and does not consist of:

"throwing the child, kicking, burning, cutting, striking with a closed fist, interfering with breathing, use of or threatened use of deadly weapon, prolonged deprivation of sustenance or medication, or doing any other act that is likely to cause or does cause physical injury, disfigurement, mental distress, unnecessary degradation or substantial risk of serious physical injury or death."

### In Texas

#### A parent

"is justified in using <u>non-deadly force</u> against a child when and to the degree the actor reasonably believes necessary to discipline, or safeguard or promote the child's welfare." Today, 53 countries have prohibited all corporal punishment of children.



And 54 countries are committed to prohibition.

### Prohibition

Children are humans with rights

Corporal punishment has solely negative outcomes

### Austria, 1989

"The use of force and infliction of physical or psychological suffering are not permitted." (Section 146a, General Civil Code)

### Latvia, 1998

"A child shall not be treated cruelly,
tortured or physically punished,
and his or her dignity or honour
shall not be violated."

(Law on Protection of the Rights of the Child)

### Croatia, 1999

"Parents and other family members
must not subject the child
to degrading treatment,
mental or physical punishment and abuse."

(Family Act)

### Ukraine, 2004

"All intentional physical and psychological violence against any family member is unlawful."

(Prevention of Domestic Violence Act)

If corporal punishment
is a necessary educational tool,
children in these countries
should be less well-socialized
than children in Canada or Switzerland.

 Heuser (1988): Qualitative observational study

"Parents are quite universally abiding by norms and imposing rules and limits on their children's behaviour."

"Permissive parenting appears to be dead."

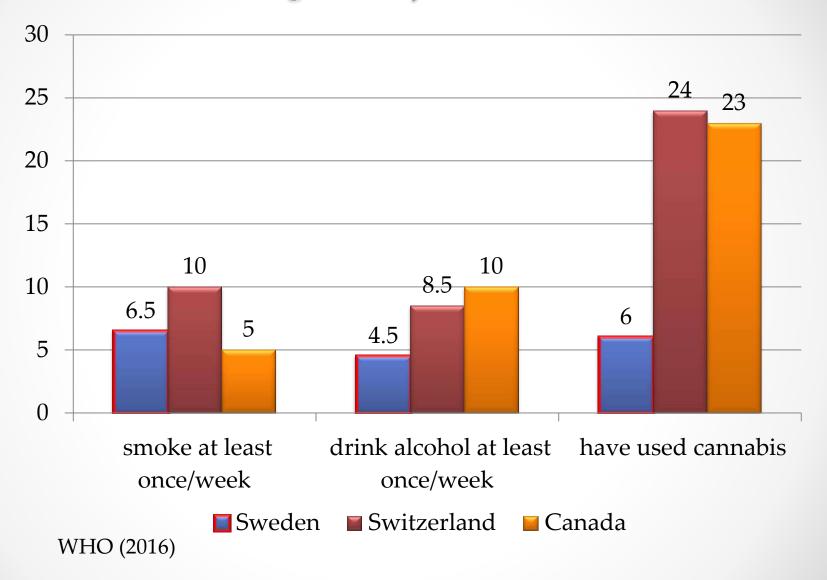
## Palmerus & Juntengren (2003): Study of Swedish parents of preschoolers

"It is not valid to label the Swedish parent as permissive."

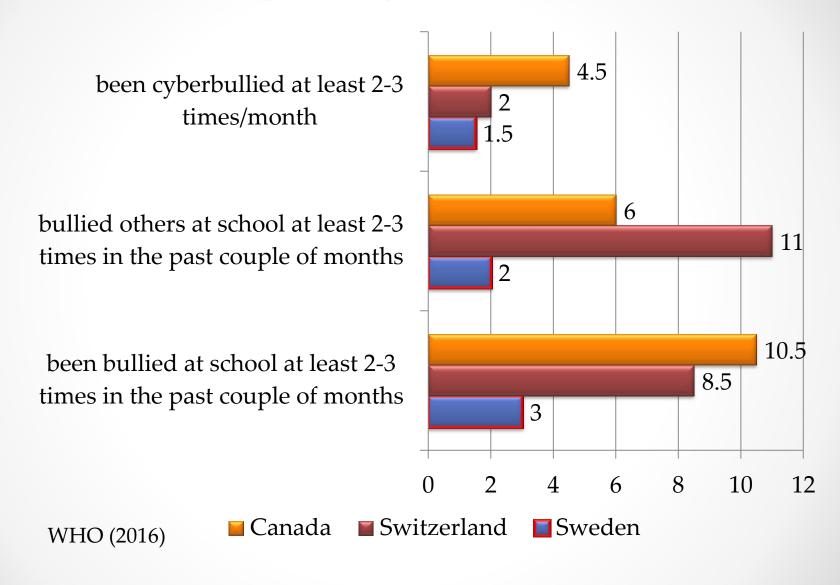
## Juntengren & Palmerus (2007): Study of Swedish youth

Swedish youth who viewed their parents as power assertive were more likely to have adjustment problems than those who viewed their parents as warm and respectful.

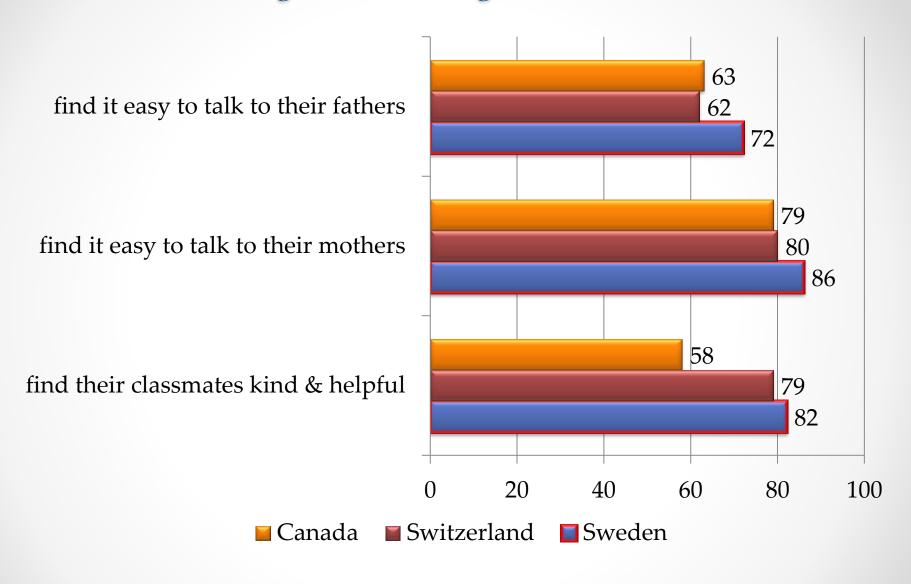
#### Percentage of 15-year-olds who . . .

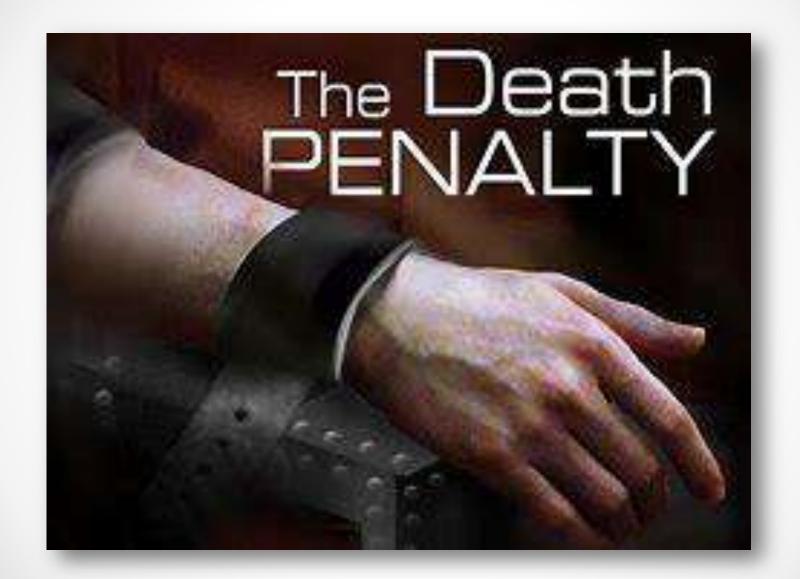


#### Percentage of 15-year-olds who have . . .



#### Percentage of children aged 11, 13 & 15 who . . .





All grandeur, all power, and all subordination to authority rests on the executioner: he is the horror and the bond of human association.

Remove this incomprehensible agent from the world and at that very moment order gives way to chaos, thrones topple and society disappears.

-Joseph-Marie, comte de Maistre, 1753-1821

### The Swiss Guillotine



15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> centuries

1,445
people
condemned
to death

915 beheaded

**54%** of Swiss voters support abolishing the death penalty.



Last person beheaded.



Death penalty abolished.

### <u>1985 & 2015</u>

Attempts to have it reinstated. Neither gathered enough signatures.



Switzerland adopts a strategy on the universal abolition of the death penalty by 2025.



# Mr. Didier Burkhalter, President of the Swiss Confederation

Statement to 25<sup>th</sup> Session of United Nations Human Rights Council

In abolition processes, whether short, or lengthy, it is the pressure exerted by sections of civil society, but mainly also the political courage of political leaders that have enabled progress.

This courage often has to be demonstrated in the face of a divided public opinion, at times even a straightforward unfavourable opinion . . .

I therefore mainly call on the courage of politicians when I invite them to join the numerous countries that have done away with this outdated form of punishment.

Sweden	Portugal	Malta
Finland	Uruguay	Brazil
Norway	Venezuela	Bolivia
Austria	Spain	Cabo Verde
Cyprus	Costa Rica	Argentina
Denmark	Moldova	San Marino
Latvia	Luxembourg	Nicaragua
Croatia	Liechtenstein	Estonia
Bulgaria	Poland	Benin
Israel	Albania	Ireland
Germany	Tunisia	Peru
Iceland	Kenya	Andorra
Ukraine	Togo	Mongolia
Romania	Congo	Paraguay
Hungary	South Sudan	Slovenia
Greece	Turkmenistan	Lithuania
Netherlands	Macedonia	Montenegro
New Zealand	Honduras	Switzerland??