

**GLOBAL INITIATIVE**  
**TO END ALL CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN**

**SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR LISTS OF ISSUES BEING PREPARED BY THE PSWG OF  
THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN –  
STATES TO BE EXAMINED AT THE 44<sup>th</sup> SESSION (JUL/AUG 2009)**

*From Peter Newell, Coordinator, Global Initiative*

[info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org)

**ARGENTINA (sixth report – CEDAW/C/ARG/6)**

There is no explicit prohibition of corporal punishment of children in legislation relating to any setting, and the Civil Code confirms parents' "right to correct". **In light of the recommendations by the Committee on the Rights of the Child that the state party prohibit corporal punishment of children in the home and all institutions (CRC/C/15/Add.187 (2002), Concluding observations on second report, para. 39), what progress has been made in ensuring that corporal punishment of girls is explicitly prohibited in all settings, including through repeal of article 278 of the Civil Code?**

**EGYPT (sixth/seventh report – CEDAW/C/EGY/7)**

Boys and girls may lawfully be hit in the name of "discipline" in homes, alternative care settings and possibly social welfare institutions. A recent opportunity to enact prohibition was missed in 2008 when legislation was enacted which confirmed parents' "right to discipline" (article 7A of the Child Law). **In light of the recommendation by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to prohibit corporal punishment in the family, schools and care institutions (CRC/C/15/Add.145 (2001), Concluding observations on second report, para. 38), what progress has been made in ensuring that corporal punishment of girls is explicitly prohibited in all settings, including through repeal of article 7A of the Child Law?**

**JAPAN (sixth report – CEDAW/C/JPN/6)**

The state party report provides information on efforts to address violence against women and to prevent child abuse, but makes no mention of the violence that may be inflicted on girls in the family home in the name of "discipline", legalised under the duty of parents to "take an appropriate way when disciplining child" in article 14 of the Child Abuse Prevention Law and the authority to punish a child under article 822 of the Civil Code. Neither does the report address the ambivalent interpretation of the prohibition of school corporal punishment. **In light of the repeated concerns and recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/15/Add.231 (2004), Concluding observations on second report, paras. 35 and 36; CRC/C/15/Add.90 (1998), Concluding observations on initial report, paras. 24 and 45), what progress has been made in ensuring that corporal punishment of girls is explicitly prohibited in all settings, including through repeal of article 822(1) of the Civil Code and article 14(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention Law and clarification that the prohibition of corporal punishment in schools applies to all forms of such punishment?**

### **LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (sixth/seventh report – CEDAW/C/LAO/7)**

The state party report documents extensive legislative and other measures to address violence against women but makes no reference to the physical and emotional violence that may be inflicted on girls within their own homes and alternative care settings in the name of “discipline”. **In light of the concerns and recommendations by the Committee on the Rights of the Child more than a decade ago (CRC/C/15/Add.78 (1997), Concluding observations on initial report, para. 20), what progress has been towards affording girls legal protection from all corporal punishment in the home, schools and institutions?**

### **SWITZERLAND (third report – CEDAW/C/CHE/3)**

The state party report cites research and statistics which reveal the extent of domestic violence against women, and documents legislative and other measures that have been taken to combat it. But it omits any mention of the violence that girls may lawfully experience within the family home in the name of “discipline”, and of the high prevalence of such violence that has been revealed by research. **In light of the recommendation by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment in the family, schools and institutions (CRC/C/15/Add.182 (2002), Concluding observations on initial report, paras. 32 and 33), what progress has been towards affording girls legal protection from all corporal punishment in the home, schools and institutions, including through repeal of the “droit de correction”?**

### **TIMOR-LESTE, DR (initial report – CEDAW/C/TLS/1)**

Girls may lawfully be subject to violence in the guise of “discipline” in the home, schools and alternative care settings. **In light of the recommendation by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings (CRC/C/TLS/CO/1 Unedited Version (2008), Concluding observations on initial report, para. 43), what progress has been towards ensuring that girls are protected from violent assault disguised as “discipline”, wherever it may occur and whoever the perpetrator?**

### **TUVALU (initial/second report – CEDAW/C/TUV/2)**

The state party report refers to norms which allow husbands to “discipline” their wives (para. 5.12) and to physically abusive “discipline” of girls and young women by parents and male relatives (para. 6.4). It does not mention that girls may also lawfully suffer violent “discipline” in schools, penal institutions and alternative care settings and that under the Island Courts Act parents may even be ordered to cane their children. **What intention is there to address this legalised form of violence against girls, to ensure that legislation protects them from all corporal punishment in all settings and by all adults with authority over them?**