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English 1010

Children, and what to do with them.

My research topic is about “Disciplining children.” Is it right or wrong? Or is there a limit on how to Discipline? Some basic questions that I have pondered and wonder about, because my sister is pregnant and about to bring an infant into this world, I want to know more about parenting and how I will raise my kids the best I can. The following sources will help you understand the background of disciplining and the good and bad it may cause.

The very first source that I chose to draw information out of is based out of the internet. Its name is “Where and when to spank” by Rebecca Pettit, and Emiko Katsurada. This source is a little different and unique, because it compares child punishment between 2 countries. I have included a graph the demonstrates statistics. What a shocking graph to see, I would’ve never guessed that so many parents have punished their kids in these ways.

Table 1 Reported common sites on the body for physical punishment

	U.S. (%)	Japan (%)	Chi-square
Bottom	97	47	72.19***
Face	26	56	19.95***
Head	5	76	116.00***
Hand	71	33	31.74***
Arm	30	14	7.62%
Legs	31	27	<i>ns</i>
Chest	0	0	<i>ns</i>
Abdomen	0	3	<i>ns</i>
Other	0	1	<i>ns</i>

*** $p < .001$.

I think this chart and source is interesting for the topic. You realize how common it is. Which either makes you think its ok to do, or that might seem unusual and you might change your outlook on it. I was shocked to see the numbers.

From my next bit of research I learned Sanjena Sathian the writer gives us statistics, and percentages of the average American family spanking children. It shows us that 32 countries have banned spanking children, but mentions America has not. She uses many good sources like several doctors to show that spanking isn't the answer. She has many reasons why you shouldn't do it, although others and myself see good points about it.

This source helps my research paper, because it shows me the side of why spanking children isn't the answer. It is very clear about health reasons. What caught my eye were the behavioral differences, of those that get spanked or not spanked.

Sisneros, Larry. Telephone Interview. 12 Nov. 2012.

Larry is my step-dad and he has plenty experience. He has changed his opinion over the years. He first would use spanking as tool for punishment. He

mainly did it to get their attention. Now after raising 9 kids, he has changed his outlook over time. He realized with his first couple of kids, he would do it in anger, but now he thinks, you should only do it when it's the last source. For example: when a kid is in danger or when a kid isn't listening at all; spanking will get the kids' attention. He said most parents who spank forget to do it in love. He recommends not do it all if you can, but if you do, he says it will help in some ways.

I thought he was very helpful. It was great source to go to, because you can tell it's a honest topic when talking to someone with experience. He shared similar outlooks on how I see it. So that was a source I can definitely use to my advantage. "Smarty-pants." *Maclean's* 12 Oct. 2009: 9. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*.

Web. 3 Nov. 2012.

This article explains how kids who aren't spanked have higher IQ's. Very interesting and how that might be true, because you can also argue that those that have been spanked have done exceptional well in life. "Want your child to be the standout of the class?" This article relates to "Study points to downside of spanking children." This article explains why you shouldn't spank your children although it can be helpful to discipline children with the appropriate attitude.

This source helps us see another point about why spanking isn't the solution. It helps you think and wonder if the IQ thing is true. I would like to see more stats on that and how different the IQ reports are.

Springen, Karen. "On Spanking: New survey shows many parents think it's OK

Newsweek 16 Oct. 2000: 64. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*. Web. 3 Nov. 2012.

article lets us know that fathers and mothers think spanking is ok. Despite strong evidence to the contrary, 61 percent of parents of children under 7 think spanking is an appropriate "regular form of discipline," according to a nationwide survey of 3,000 adults released last week. A third of the parents even believe spanking "helps children develop a better sense of self-control."

But perhaps spanking a child is not the best method to discipline a child. Other forms like a time out, other physical punishments, loss of privileges, or even pre-establishing rules and regulations would be better? The last reference that I will bring up is drawn from the Bible. In proverbs 22;6 it states "Train up a child in the ways he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." This verse states that if a child is raised with good standards and caring parents, those traits will stick with him into adulthood