



Global Initiative to
**End All Corporal Punishment
of Children**

Progress towards prohibiting all corporal punishment in the Caribbean

Prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (www.endcorporalpunishment.org), July 2011

Note: The above information has been compiled from many sources, including reports to and by the United Nations human rights treaty bodies. Information in square brackets is unconfirmed. We are very grateful to government officials, UNICEF and other UN agencies, NGOs and human rights institutions, and many individuals who have helped to provide and check information. Please let us know if you believe any of the information to be incorrect: info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal system		Prohibited in alternative care settings
			As sentence for crime	As disciplinary measure	
Antigua & Barbuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Bahamas	NO	NO	[NO] ¹	[YES] ²	SOME ³
Barbados	NO	NO	NO	NO	[SOME ⁴]
Belize	NO	YES	YES	SOME ⁵	SOME ⁶
Dominica	NO	NO	NO	NO	SOME ⁷
Grenada	NO	NO	NO	NO	SOME ⁸
Guyana	NO	NO	NO ⁹	NO ¹⁰	NO
Haiti	NO ¹¹	YES	YES	YES	YES

¹ Judicial corporal punishment prohibited in 1984 but reintroduced in 1991; not prohibited in 2006 Child Protection Act

² But as at May 2011, some legislation still to be repealed

³ Prohibited in residential institutions, lawful in other forms of care

⁴ Prohibited in state-arranged foster care and pre-school settings, and in day care centres and children's residential centres run by Child Care Board, but lawful in private foster care

⁵ Prohibited in "Youth Hostel" detention centre but lawful in other penal institutions

⁶ Prohibited in residential care facilities and in day care centres

⁷ Prohibited in early childhood education facilities

⁸ Prohibited in child care homes by licensing requirements

⁹ Prohibited for under 17s, lawful for 17 year olds

¹⁰ See previous note

¹¹ Possibly prohibited by 2001 law, but no unequivocal confirmation

State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal system		Prohibited in alternative care settings
			As sentence for crime	As disciplinary measure	
Jamaica	NO	SOME ¹²	YES ¹³	YES ¹⁴	YES
Saint Kitts & Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Saint Lucia	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Suriname	NO	[YES]	YES	YES	NO
Trinidad & Tobago	NO	NO	NO ¹⁵	NO	NO ¹⁶

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¹² Prohibited in schools for children up to age 6; prohibition in all schools under discussion (2010)

¹³ Ruled unconstitutional in 1998; bills to repeal laws providing for judicial corporal punishment under discussion (2010)

¹⁴ But some legislation still to be repealed; bill to achieve this under discussion (2010)

¹⁵ Corporal Punishment (Offenders Not Over Sixteen) Act repealed in 2000 but as at January 2011 provision in Children Act authorising judicial whipping of children still in force

¹⁶ Policy advises against corporal punishment in health care and psychiatric institutions, but no prohibition in law