



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

## **DENMARK – COUNTRY REPORT**

### **Summary of necessary legal reform to achieve full prohibition**

Corporal punishment is prohibited in all settings, including the home.

# DETAILED COUNTRY REPORT

## Legality of corporal punishment

### Home

Corporal punishment is prohibited in the home. A 1997 amendment to the Parental Custody and Care Act (1995) states: “The child has the right to care and security. He or she shall be treated with respect as an individual and may not be subjected to corporal punishment or any other degrading treatment.”

### Schools

Corporal punishment in schools was prohibited in 1967 under Danish Order No. 276 Concerning the Promotion of Order in the Schools.

### Penal system

Corporal punishment was abolished as a **sentence for crime** in 1911.

Corporal punishment has been unlawful as a **disciplinary measure in penal institutions** since 1933, but we have no details of prohibiting legislation.

### Alternative care

Corporal punishment is unlawful in alternative care settings. The prohibition of corporal punishment by parents and carers in the Parental Custody and Care Act (see above) applies to all persons with parental authority over children.

## Prevalence research

None identified in the last ten years.

For research published more than ten years ago, see the research pages at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org).

## Recommendations by human rights treaty bodies

### *Committee on the Rights of the Child*

(10 July 2001, CRC/C/15/Add.151, Concluding observations on second report, para. 6)

“The Committee notes with satisfaction that in 1997, the right of parents to use corporal punishment on their children was abolished by law. The Committee expresses further satisfaction at the nationwide awareness raising campaign undertaken to inform parents about the new legislation. The Committee notes the efforts to include material in minority languages as a follow-up to the campaign.”

### *European Committee of Social Rights*

(1 January 2001, Conclusions XV-2 vol. 1, pages 139-142)

“The Committee notes with satisfaction that Act No. 416/1997 abolished corporal punishment in the home; a child may not be punished corporally or exposed to other degrading treatment.”

## **Universal Periodic Review**

Denmark is due to be examined under the Universal Periodic Review process in 2011.

*Report prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children*

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