Using qualitative data from a sample in the United States, this study explores the small but significant increase of corporal punishment between parents and children in present day. One major factor affecting the use of corporal punishments by parental guardians is the transition from youth to adolescence. This increase results in cognitive, social, and physiological transformations that occur in puberty. Our findings show that all three factors intertwined together cause emotional distress, a decline in academic performance, and future problems in adult romantic relationship. A parent’s childhood could be connected to their present alienated relationship with their children. According to the Awareness Campaign Against Corporal Punishment of Children in families, corporal punishment is the use of physical force against any child or youth, causing pain, but not leaving physical wounds, for means of punishment against children. If they leave a mark, it would then be considered child abuse. When differentiating corporal punishment and physical abuse, you have to consider the differences between intensity and intention. Intensity is the degree in which the injuries have resulted from the use of violence and forcefulness. Intention is the parent’s reason behind using corporal punishment; the only acceptable rationale to use corporal punishment are to teach and/or discipline the child. The use of corporal punishment varies among ethnicity as well as gender, but the debate about using it to develop a child’s sense of morality persists. However, there is no set, defined way to raise a child.

**Research Question**

**WHAT ARE LONG-TERM AND SHORT-TERM EFFECTS OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT?**

**Material and Methods**

- Charts and Tables regarding a census
- Scholarly sources used
- Analysis of charts to make comprehensive conclusion

**Findings**

The research shows the long-term and short-term effects of corporal punishment. Graph 1 shows the utilization of corporal punishment based on races, showing that African-American parents accept the use of physical punishment at a higher percentage than European-Americans. All data is collected among families in similar social and economic classes to control the factors of the census as much as possible. Table 1 and Table 2 show the differences among the use of corporal punishment among genders. African-American women use corporal punishment at a higher percentage than European-American women, causing a higher rate of adolescence hostility and aggression based on race. Overall the findings show the factors that affect corporal punishment both for the child and adult. Physical punishment is a cycle; parents using corporal punishment negatively impact their relationship with their child, influencing the child to use corporal punishment as an adult. This also explains the aggression among adolescents, especially among races. Aggression and hostility are results of physical punishment as a child. The substantial acceptance and utilization of physical punishment in the African-American culture shows the reasoning why African-American youth are perceived as far more aggressive than European-Americans in society. The negative long-term effects of physical punishment show the inferiority in using this as a means of developing a child. Instead of aiding in the development of a child’s mentality, a parent is harming their relationship as well as causing pugnacity in their child. Corporal punishment, while far more prevalent in African-American cultures, is still used among many European-American cultures, but is a substandard way of nurturing a child.

**References**


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