

School corporal punishment in Egypt

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Abstract

School corporal punishment (SCP) against students in Egypt is officially forbidden; however it is being widely used in public and private schools. This large gap between current education policy that bans corporal punishment (CP) and actual policy implementation could be attributed to both family-based and school-based factors. This research was conducted as a part of an MA thesis which aimed at finding out why corporal punishment is being practiced widely in Egyptian schools. Teachers, parents and recent-graduate students were surveyed about the use of CP as a tool for discipline. The findings indicate that CP is highly correlated on one hand to family acceptance through practicing CP at home against children, lack of parental reporting of teachers perpetrating it, and sometimes encouraging teachers to practice it. On the other hand, CP is correlated to school administrative acceptance through having school principals themselves practice CP, tolerate teachers perpetrating it, failure to respond to parents' complaints by taking action with teachers.

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