


ANTI-SPANKING CAMPAIGN


Family Advocacy Program

The Department of Defense Manual states that child abuse is "The non-accidental use of physical force on the part of the child's caregiver" which includes hitting with an open hand and spanking (DODM 6400.01 Vol. 3, p. 17).



What is Child Abuse?




The physical or sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect of a child by a parent, guardian, foster parent, or by a caregiver, whether the caregiver is intrafamilial or extrafamilial, under circumstances indicating the child's welfare is harmed or threatened.




Types of Abuse:

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- Physical
 - Emotional
 - Sexual
 - Neglect
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Physical Abuse includes



Hitting with open hand or slapping, including spanking, dropping, pushing or shoving, grabbing or yanking limbs or body, poking, hair-pulling, scratching, pinching, restraining or squeezing, shaking, throwing, biting, kicking, hitting with fist, hitting with a stick, strap, belt, electrical cord, or other object, scalding or burning, poisoning, stabbing, applying force to throat, strangling or cutting off air supply, holding under water, brandishing or using a weapon.



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How can we discipline positively?

Extensive research shows

- Consistency with clear and reasonable expectations.
- When safe, ignore negative behaviors.
- Teach emotions; model this with your own behaviors.
- Give choices that you are okay with.
- Positive reinforcement; praise positive behavior.
- Give attention, schedule times for distraction-free environments.
- Diversion; redirect to an alternative.

If all else fails, have a safety plan to best address negative behaviors to avoid physical abuse.



Where can we find resources?

Family Advocacy Program & New Parent Support Program offer:

- In-person/online parenting classes & workshops
- Re-Train Your Brain classes for adult & teens
- New Parent Support Program home visits
- Customized unit briefs

What Can I say to Promote Positive Behavior?

- Good job.
- I am proud of you.
- You got this.
- I believe in you.
- How can I help?
- Instead of that, let's do ____.
- I trust you.
- It's okay to feel ____ but ____.



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For more information, contact Family Advocacy Program
at fapprevention@usmc.mil or 645-2915 / 098-970-2915.

