

# **Teachers' Beliefs about Corporal Punishment of Children**

**Baseline survey carried out in  
“AAA BBB” School,  
“SSS BBB” Kindergarten Durrës;  
“XXX XXX” School and  
“WWW XXX” Kindergarten, Elbasan**

**Financed by  
Save the Children  
In Albania**

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**The author has the full responsibility of the content of this report, which does not  
necessarily represent the views of Save the Children in Albania**

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## **Acknowledgements**

The “Teachers’ beliefs about corporal punishment of children” Survey was carried out in “AAA BBB” School, “SSS BBB” Kindergarten, Durrës; “XXX XXX” School and “WWW XXX” Kindergarten, Elbasan which are located in areas with a high ethnic and cultural diversity.

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## **Content**

Acknowledgements .....	2
List of tables and charts .....	4
Executive Summary .....	5
Introduction.....	5
Methodology of the survey .....	5
Main findings of the survey .....	7
Results .....	9
Beliefs of all the teachers involved in the survey (of both schools) regarding corporal punishment.....	9
Beliefs concerning the nature of child-adult relation.....	10
Beliefs related to corporal punishment as part of the parental love.....	11
Beliefs on the disciplining value and consequences of corporal punishment.....	12
Beliefs concerning the use of corporal punishment in some cases .....	14
Beliefs concerning the types of corporal punishment that can be used .....	16
Beliefs concerning corporal punishment perpetrators .....	17
Beliefs concerning the use of corporal punishment by age and gender.....	18
Conclusions and recommendations .....	20
Appendix 1: .....	21
Beliefs regarding corporal punishment exerted by teachers, arranged and divided by schools.....	21
Appendix 2: .....	24
Sample of the Instrument of the survey .....	24

## List of tables and charts

Table 1	Teachers' beliefs regarding corporal punishment (total in %)	9
Chart 1	A good child always obeys to his/her parents	11
Chart 2	Who slaps the child, does it for his/her best	11
Chart 3	Corporal punishment is a good way of disciplining	12
Chart 4	Hitting turns a child into decent human being	12
Chart 5	Corporal punishment of children is absolutely harmful	13
Chart 6	It is allowed to slap the child when he/she exaggerates	14
Chart 7	If you talk to the child and he/she doesn't obey, then you must slap him/her	14
Chart 8	Corporal punishment is acceptable in some cases	15
Chart 9	Corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children	15
Chart 10	The child can be hit, but just by light slaps	16
Chart 11	There will not be any harm for the child if you slap him/her or pull his/her ear	16
Chart 12	A parent is allowed to slap the child but the teacher no	17
Chart 13	Teachers may be allowed to slap the child in some cases	17
Chart 14	Younger children do not understand when you talk to them, therefore they must be slapped	18
Chart 15	You can give a slap to little children, but you cannot do that with older ones, because they get hurt	19
Chart 16	You can slap the boy, but not the girl because she is more fragile	19
Annex 1	Beliefs of the teachers of "AAA BBB" School and "SSS BBB" Kindergarten, Durres about corporal punishment Beliefs of the teachers of "XXX XXX" School and "WWW XXX" kindergarten in Elbasan about corporal punishment	21 22
Annex 2	Sample of Survey Questionnaire	24

# Executive Summary

## Introduction

Based on the recommendations of the two national studies on violence against children, carried out by UNICEF in 2006 and by Save the Children in 2007, Save the Children has started, since 2008, to implement the “Violence in Schools” project in two pilot 9-year schools and two pilot kindergartens in Durrës and Elbasan. Data from both national studies provide evidence about the use of different forms of violence against children at high levels, both in their homes and in the schools. A survey especially conducted in the two pilot schools and pilot kindergartens also evidences high levels of corporal punishment exerted by teachers and parents.

On the theoretical aspect, it is known that the practice of corporal punishment is encouraged and based on specific beliefs related to the effectiveness of corporal punishment. Parents and teachers who believe in the disciplinary values of corporal punishment are more inclined to punish children corporally. Knowing and addressing the entire inventory of parents and teachers beliefs with regards to corporal punishment helps remarkably in reducing the use of corporal punishment.

The surveys conducted so far with regards to corporal punishment of children in Albania, provide copious data about the practices of corporal punishment in the schools and in the families. On the other hand, data on parents and teachers beliefs concerning corporal punishment are missing or are, at best, too superficial. In order to fill this gap and address corporal punishment the most thoroughly possible, Save the Children carried out this survey on teachers and parents beliefs<sup>1</sup> with regards to corporal punishment of children in the two pilot schools, “AAA BBB” in Durrës and “XXX XXX” in Elbasan, and two pilot kindergartens, “SSS BBB” kindergarten, Durrës and “WWW XXX” kindergarten, Elbasan, which are located in areas with significant ethnic and cultural diversity.

## Methodology of the survey

### Aim

The aim of this survey has been the collection of data on the most common beliefs among the teachers of AAA BBB” school, “SSS BBB” kindergarten in Durrës, “XXX XXX” school and “WWW XXX” kindergarten in Elbasan with regards to physical (corporal) punishment of children. The data gathered from this survey will be used as a starting point and will serve as a basis which the new data gathered from the re-conducting the same survey in a future moment, after some interventions with parents and teachers have taken place, will be compared with. The differences between the initial data and the data gathered after the interventions will be used to ascertain the effectiveness of these interventions in changing the beliefs concerning corporal punishment.

The specific objective of this survey has been to identify teachers’ beliefs concerning:

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<sup>1</sup> The methodology and the instrument used in both schools, both in the parents’ survey and in the teachers’ one, has been the same. Since Save the Children has asked two different reports, the present report will only include the data related to the teachers’ beliefs with regards to corporal punishment. Data on parents will be presented in a specific report. However, due to the use of the same methodology, both reports will be very similar in the way they are elaborated, but will include the respective differences in their results.

- Disciplinary value of corporal punishment
- Possible consequences of corporal punishment
- Tolerance in using corporal punishment
- Corporal punishment perpetrators
- Execution of corporal punishment by gender
- Execution of corporal punishment by age
- Relations between children and adults

## Procedures

### *The sample*

The sample of this survey have been the teachers of the “AAA BBB” school, “SSS BBB” kindergarten in Durrës, “XXX XXX” school and “WWW XXX” kindergarten in Elbasan. It was our intention to include in this sample all the teachers of these schools and kindergartens. At the end, we were able to include: 62 teachers out of 64 in “AAA BBB” school and “SSS BBB” kindergarten in Durrës (95% of the entire pedagogical staff) and 30 teachers out of 37 in “XXX XXX” school and “WWW XXX” kindergarten in Elbasan (81% of the entire pedagogical staff). The total number of teachers included in the survey was 92 (or 91% of the entire pedagogical staffs of both schools and kindergartens). Out of these, 21% are males and 79% are females; 24.15% are kindergarten teachers, 31% primary school teachers and 44.8% secondary school teachers; 6.6% are up to 25 years old, 45.1% are 26-39 years old, 24.2% are 40-49 years old; 23.1% are 50-59 years old and 1.1% are over 60 years old.

### *The instrument*

For the realization of this survey there were used two instruments: a half-structured questionnaire and a structured one.

The half-structured questionnaire was used in the focus groups and in the in-depth interviews. The aim was to identify the various beliefs which are more common among parents in order to include them in the structured questionnaire.

The structured questionnaire is divided in two parts<sup>2</sup>:

In the first part there are 27 statements which express various beliefs of teachers concerning corporal punishment. Each statement is measured with a five-level Likert scale: Strongly Agree, Partially Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Partially Disagree, Strongly Disagree.

The second part of the questionnaire includes questions related to the various demographic characteristics of the participants in the survey. The structured questionnaire has been used to measure the incidence of the various beliefs regarding corporal punishment among the teachers involved in the survey.

The same questionnaires have been used for both parents and teachers.

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<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1

### *Data collection and analysis*

Data collection has been carried out during March 2009. Some of the data are qualitative ones. They have been collected through the focus groups as well as through in-depth interviews with the teachers of both schools. Two focus groups have been carried out (each focus group included 10 teachers) as well as 8 individual in-depth interviews with teachers. Through the focus groups and the in-depth interviews we were able to identify the range of teachers' beliefs regarding corporal punishment of children. These beliefs, together with other beliefs identified by other studies on corporal punishment carried out in Albania, have been included in the structured questionnaire, which has been delivered to a large number of teachers of both schools. This structured questionnaire was distributed to 101 teachers of which 92 filled it in and returned it.

For data elaboration we have used the SPSS program. For data analysis we used elements of descriptive statistics. In this study only data which are within the statistical parameters have been reported.

### **Main findings of the survey**

1. About 73% of the teachers of both schools believe that a good child should always obey to his/her parents.
2. One in about three teachers thinks that who smacks the child does it for his/her best
3. Only 6.5% of the teachers believe that corporal punishment is a good way of disciplining.
4. 7.6% of the teachers agree with the idea that slapping makes you a decent human being.
5. Though believing that corporal punishment does not have any important educative value, one in two teachers thinks that corporal punishment is acceptable, at least in some cases
6. One in about three teachers thinks that when the child exaggerates he/she must be slapped
7. One in three teachers thinks that they are allowed to slap their students in some cases
8. One in two teachers thinks that the child can be slapped, but only with a few light slaps
9. Less than 1 in 3 teachers thinks that a slap wouldn't be of any harm for the child
10. One in three teachers thinks that corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once everything else fails
11. One in five teachers believes that if the child isn't slapped, he/she would be out of control
12. One in five teachers believes that the child cannot be educated if he/she doesn't feel any fear.
13. One in ten teachers believes that corporal punishment is the only mean by the use of which some children can be disciplined.
14. One in four teachers believes that it is more appropriate to slap a boy than a girl, because girls are more vulnerable than boys.
15. One in four teachers believes that it is more appropriate to slap a little child than a bigger one, because the latter may get hurt.

16. About 7% of the teachers believe that little children can be slapped because they do not understand words, while the bigger ones shouldn't be slapped because they do understand.
17. 1 in 2 teachers believes that it is better to slap the child than to insult him/her.
18. 14% (or 1 in 7) of the teachers believe that corporal punishment is not entirely harmful for the child and that it shouldn't be completely banned.

## Results

### Beliefs of all the teachers involved in the survey (of both schools) regarding corporal punishment

**TABLE 1. BELIEFS OF THE TEACHERS OF BOTH SCHOOLS REGARDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (IN %)**

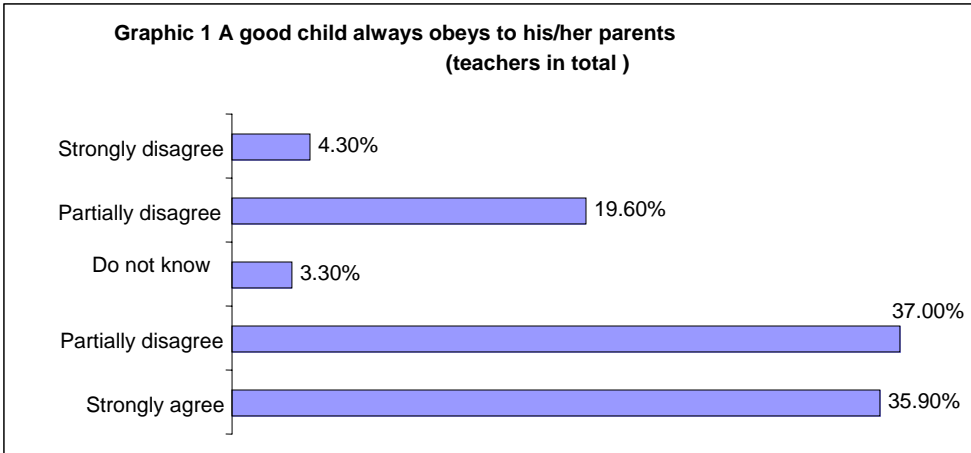
How much do you agree with the statements below?	Strongly Agree	Partially Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Partially Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Who slaps the child does it for his/her best	7.7%	22.0%	14.3%	26.4%	29.7%
2. It's better to pull a child's ear or slap him/her than insult him/her	16.3%	29.3%	14.1%	18.5%	21.7%
3. A child cannot be educated if he/she doesn't feel any fear	4.4%	16.5%	8.8%	20.9%	49.5%
4. A slap or ear pulling will not cause any harm to the child	18.7%	20.9%	9.9%	24.2%	26.4%
5. It is allowed to slap the child when he/she really exaggerates	7.7%	25.3%	8.8%	25.3%	33.0%
6. If you don't slap the child, he/she will be out of control	5.4%	15.2%	7.6%	14.1%	57.6%
7. If you talk to the child and he/she doesn't obey, than you should slap him/her	5.5%	15.4%	15.4%	19.8%	44.0%
8. A good child always obeys to his/her parents.	35.9%	37.0%	3.3%	19.6%	4.3%
9. The child can be slapped but only by light slaps	25.0%	33.0%	6.8%	14.8%	20.5%
10. Little children do not understand when you speak to them, thus they should be slapped, while the bigger ones do understand.	3.3%	3.3%	5.4%	16.3%	71.7%
11. Corporal punishment (slapping, hitting) is a good way of disciplining	0%	6.5%	4.3%	15.2%	73.9%
12. Corporal punishment is the only mean to discipline some children	0%	10.90%	10.9%	20.7%	57.6%
13. Corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once everything else fails	18.0%	12.4%	12.4%	22.5%	34.8%
14. Hitting makes a child a decent human being	3.3%	4.3%	8.7%	8.7%	75.0%
15. Corporal punishment only is acceptable as an exception, in some specific cases	19.3%	27.3%	11.4%	27.3%	14.8%
16. Children do not understand words, that's why they must be slapped	1.1%	6.5%	13.0%	21.7%	57.6%

17.	Parents are allowed to slap their children, but teachers aren't.	16.5%	16.5%	4.4%	20.9%	41.8%
18.	You can smack the boy in case he is disobedient, but not the girl as she is fragile and can be hurt	9.9%	13.2%	9.9%	17.6%	49.5%
19.	You can give a slap to little children, but you cannot do that with older ones, because they can get hurt	7.6%	16.3%	14.1%	19.6%	42.4%
20.	The child makes mistakes, that's why he/she must be hit (slapped)	11.0%	0%	5.5%	19.8%	63.7%
21.	Mothers are more justified than fathers when hitting the child	8.7%	12.0%	1.1%	20.7%	57.6%
22.	The teacher is allowed to slap the child in some specific cases	6.6%	24.2%	14.3%	16.5%	38.5%
23.	The teacher is allowed to slap his/her own child but is absolutely not allowed to slap students at school	10.0%	13.3%	10.0%	24.4%	42.2%
24.	Corporal punishment of children is absolutely harmful	72.5%	7.7%	5.5%	8.8%	5.5%
25.	Corporal punishment of children should be banned completely	61.1%	16.7%	8.9%	5.6%	7.8%

Table 1 shows the percentages of the beliefs of all the teachers of both schools, "AAA BBB" in Durrës and "XXX XXX" in Elbasan, and both kindergartens, "SSS BBB kindergarten, Durrës and "WWW XXX" kindergarten, Elbasan.

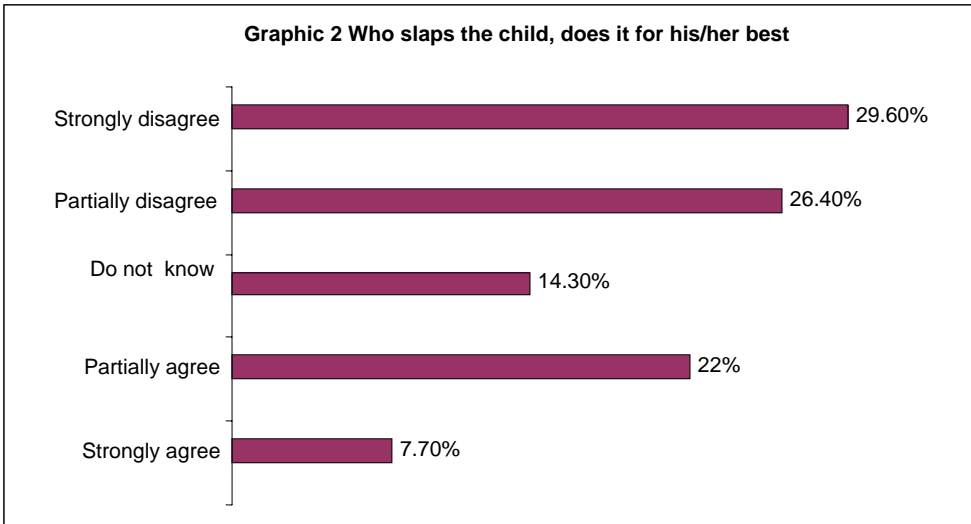
Further down we will make a description of some of the main categories of beliefs concerning corporal punishment: the belief related to corporal punishment as part of the parental love; the beliefs related to the importance of corporal punishment in children's disciplining; the beliefs related to the consequences of corporal punishment; the beliefs about when corporal punishment must be used; the beliefs regarding the level of severity of corporal punishment that must be used; beliefs about who has the right to practice corporal punishment against children and beliefs about corporal punishment depending on child's age and gender.

## Beliefs concerning the nature of child-adult relation



About 73% of the teachers agree with the idea that a good child must always obey to his/her parent (See Graphic 1). As you can observe, most of the teachers see children as being the obsessions of their parents and the relation parent-child is conceived as a relation based on unequal obligations, where parents are always superior and children inferior. Disobedience, as we will see below, is seen by teachers as one of the cases that legitimate the use of corporal punishment against children.

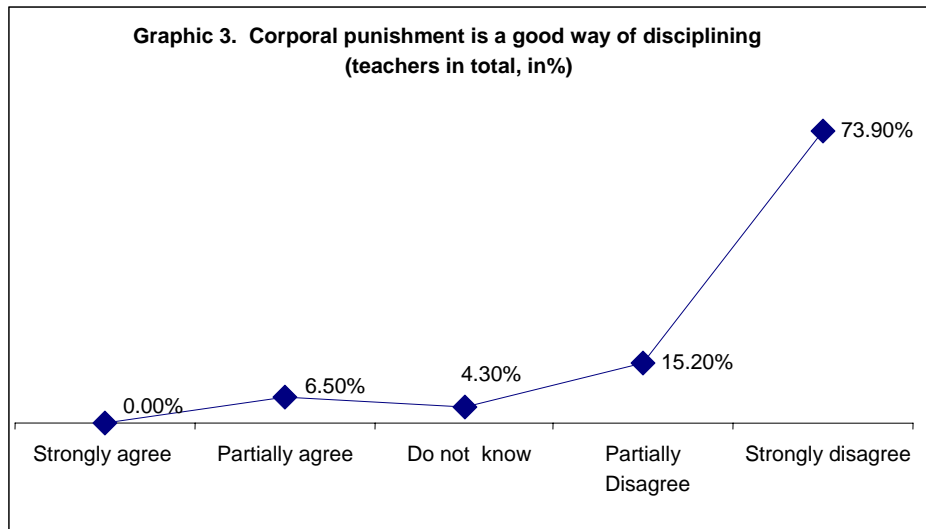
**Beliefs related to corporal punishment as part of the parental love**



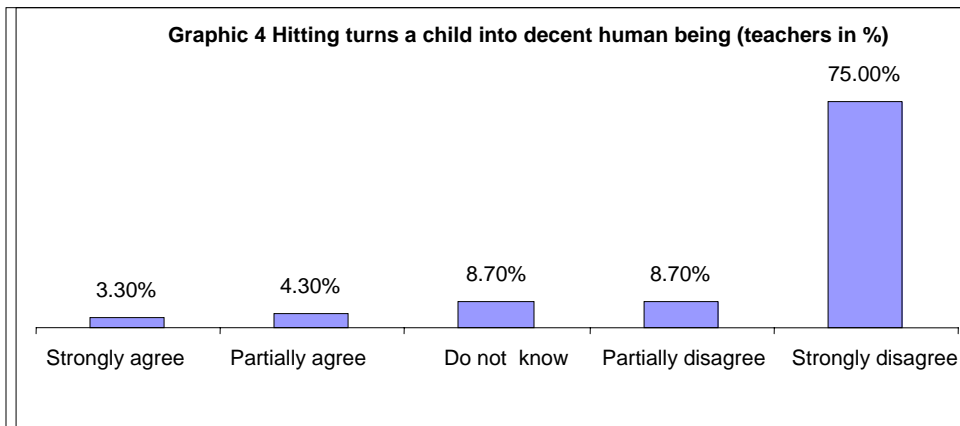
The belief “who slaps you, loves you” is quite diffused among teachers though at a lower level compared to parents. About 30% of the teachers agree with the idea that who beats the child does it for his/her best, while 14.3% are undecided (See Graphic 2). This belief, which according

to previous studies is diffused not only among parents and teachers but also among children, legitimates the use of corporal punishment.

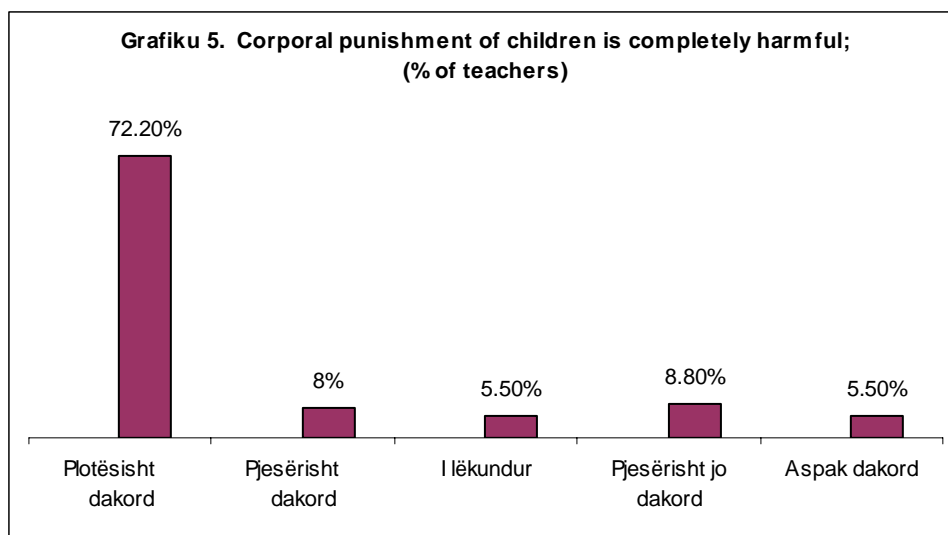
## Beliefs on the disciplining value and consequences of corporal punishment



The majority of teachers (about 90%) do not agree with the statement that corporal punishment is a good way of disciplining, 4.3% are undecided and only 6.5% agree with it (See graphic 3)



About 84% of the teachers do not agree with the statement "Hitting turns a child into a decent human being" (educates the child), 8.7% are undecided and about 8% believe that corporal punishment has educative values (See Graphic 4)



More than 80% of the teachers believe that corporal punishment of children is absolutely harmful, about 6% are undecided and 14% believe that corporal punishment is not completely harmful (See Graphic 5).

“It is not worth to smack the child, but there are moments in which you have no choice. You are explaining a subject and they ruin it all, and you have the impulse to smack them.”

35-year old teacher

“Yesterday 6 of my students came without their homework done. I obliged them to do the homework during the break. Today I asked them again to show me their homework and the same thing happened. What should I do? Smacking them is the right thing to do. There are teachers who hit their students and students stay quiet during their classes, but hitting does not change a child’s personality. If a teacher would smack my child, I would be on the side of the teacher, not of the child.

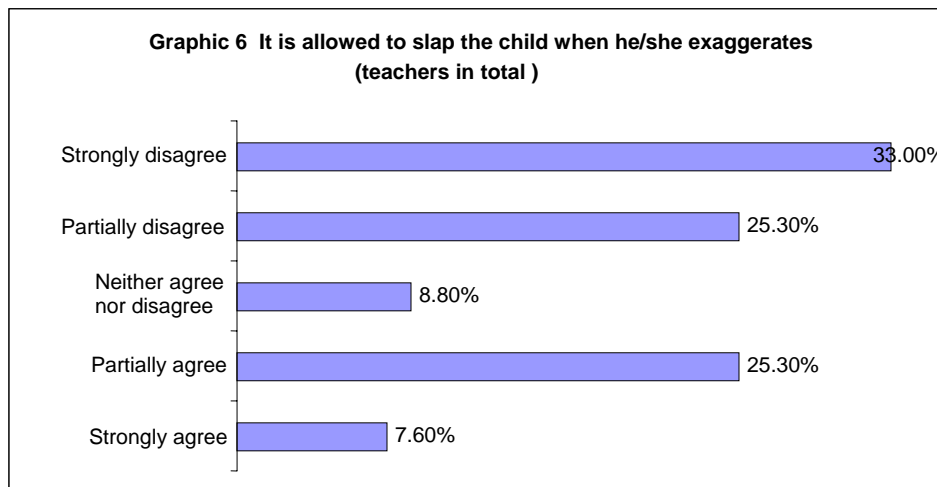
50-year old teacher

Data reveal that most of the teacher think that corporal punishment has very little disciplining and educative values. They also believe that corporal punishment has absolutely harmful consequences on the child. Teachers recognise the fact that they use corporal punishment not because they believe it has any value, but because sometimes they feel circumstances oblige them to use it.

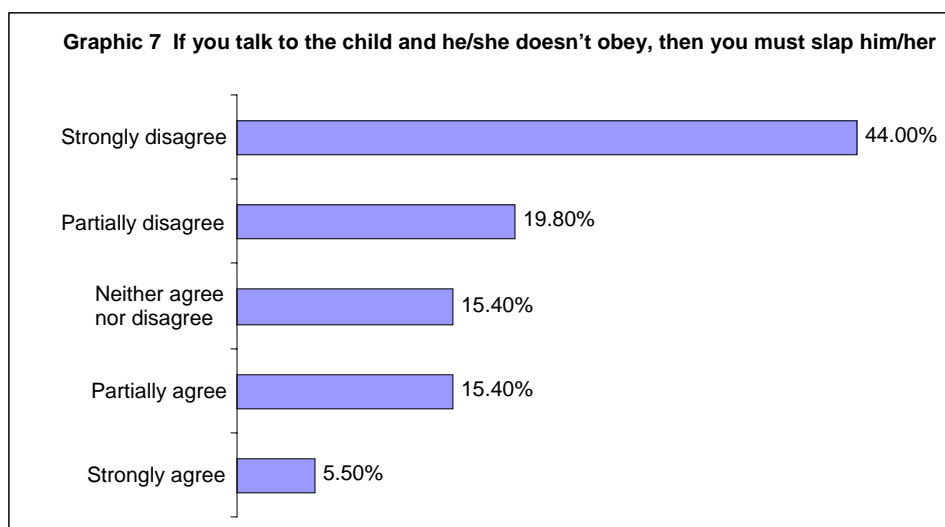
However, considering that in the teachers’ case we have to do with an educated category of people, we should address with the due concern the fact that about 1 in 5 teachers believes that corporal punishment is a good way of disciplining and 1 in 7 teachers believe that corporal punishment is not totally harmful.

## Beliefs concerning the use of corporal punishment in some cases

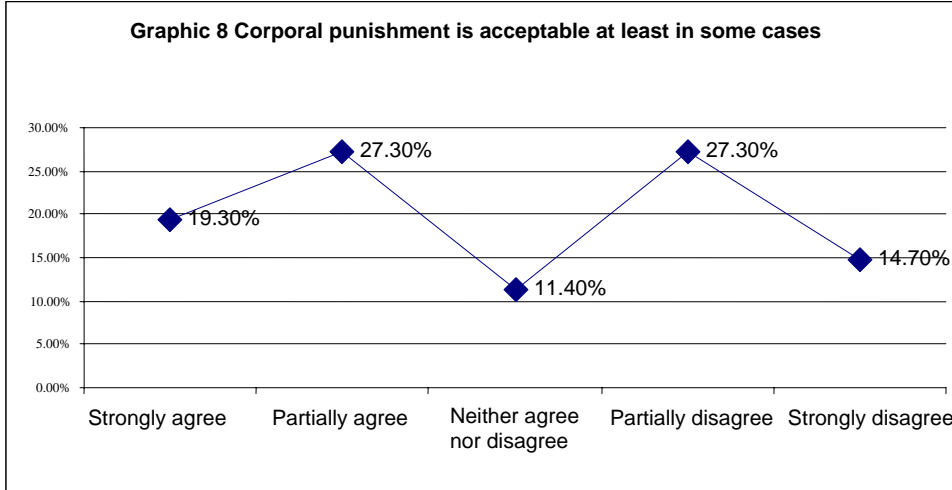
Though believing that corporal punishment does not have any important disciplining and educative value, a significant percentage of teachers still do think that it can be used in some cases, when the child exaggerates or when the child cannot be disciplined with other means (e.g. with advices); therefore corporal punishment is the last resort to be used for disciplining.



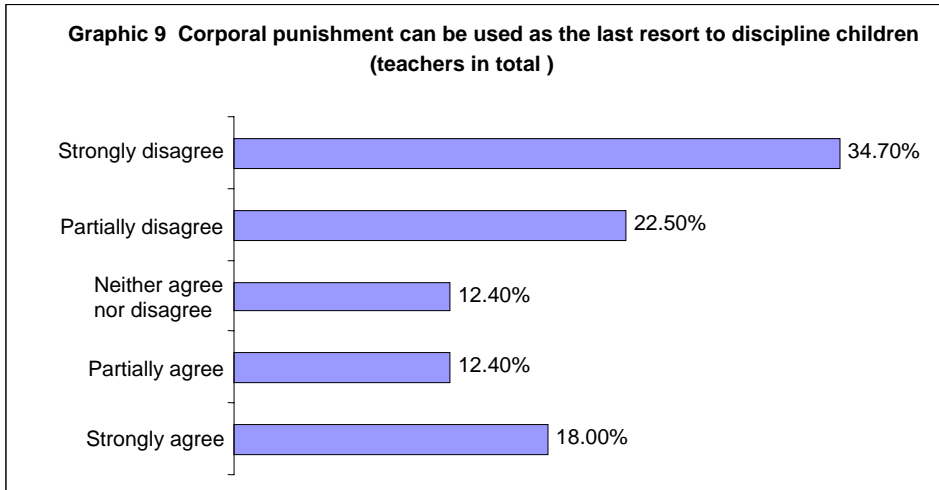
About 33% of the teachers (or 1 in 3 teachers) think that children can be slapped when he/she exaggerates, 8.8% are undecided and more than 58% do not agree (Shih Graphic 6).



More than 20% of the teachers (or 1 in 5 teachers) think that corporal punishment can be used when you talk to the child and he/she doesn't obey (Graphic 7)



About 47% of the teachers (or 1 in 2 teachers) think that it is acceptable to use corporal punishment in some cases, as an exception, and 11.4% are undecided (Graphic 8)



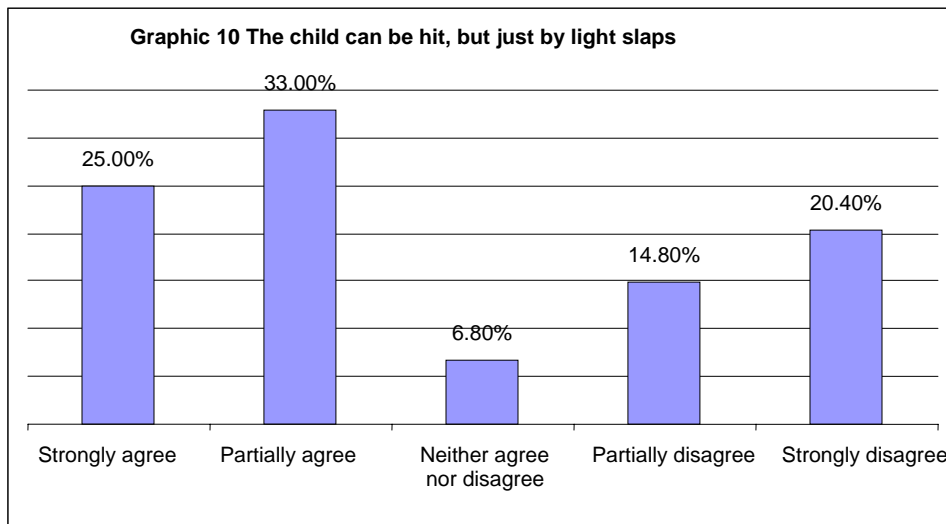
More than 30% of the teachers interviewed believe that corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once everything else fails, 12.4% are undecided and 57% do not agree (Graphic 9)

## Beliefs concerning the types of corporal punishment that can be used

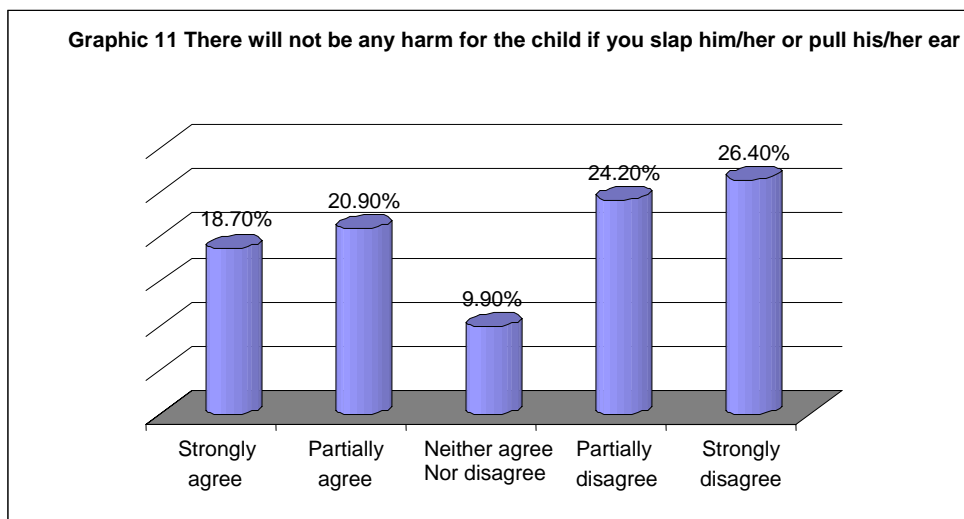
Besides believing that corporal punishment should be used only in some cases, when there is no other choice, most of the teachers also believe that, even when it is used it has to be in mild forms, e.g. slapping, ear pulling or hear pulling, just to make the child be a little afraid, not to hurt him/her.

"In some cases you can pull his/her ear or slap him/her. This has little importance, but does help you"

30-year old teacher

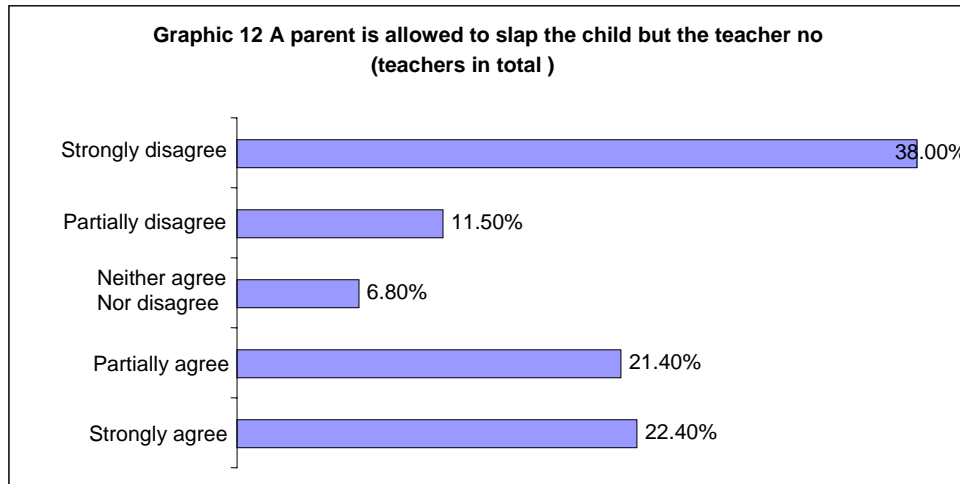


58% of the teachers think that a child can be hit by a light slap (See Graphic 10)

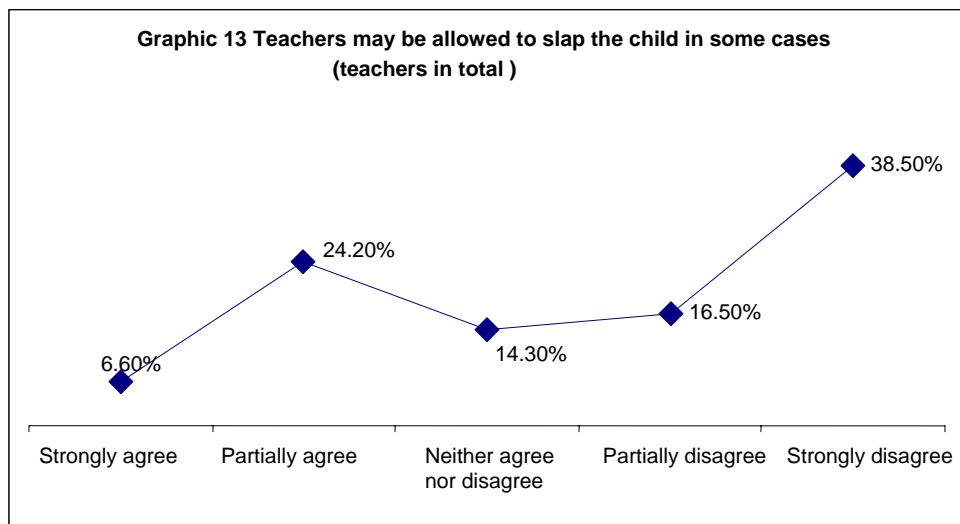


Tolerance towards the use of mild forms of corporal punishment is based on the other belief that this kind of punishment does no harm to the child. About 40% of the teachers agree with the idea that nothing will happen to the child if you give him/her a light slap (See Graphic 11).

## Beliefs concerning corporal punishment perpetrators



More than 43% of the parents agree with the idea that parents are allowed to slap their children, but teachers no. Meanwhile, most of the teachers (about 62%) think that the right to slap the child is not an exclusive right of the parents (See Graphic 12).



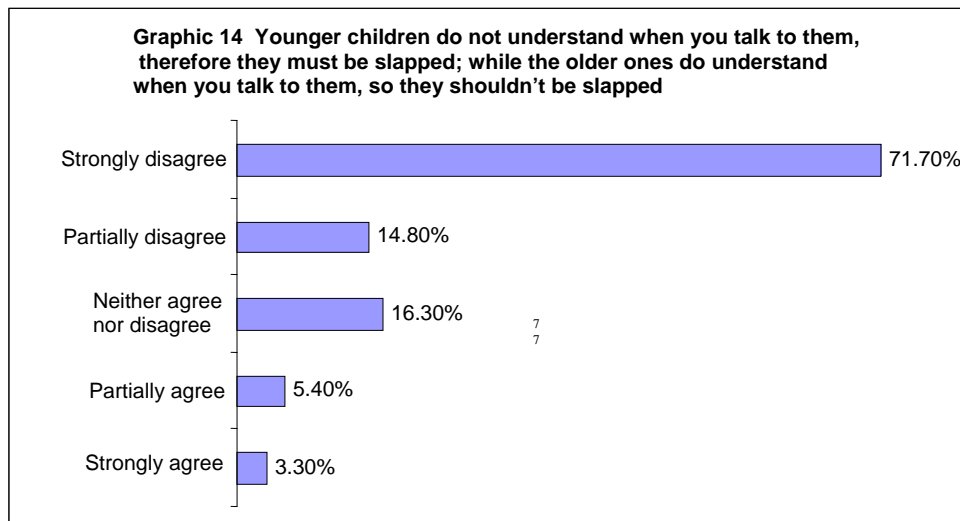
About 31% (or 1 in about 3 teachers) think that in some cases they are allowed to slap their students. The data should be given even more importance if we consider that other 14.3% of the teachers are undecided (Graphic 13)

It is interesting to notice that at this point teachers have parents' full understanding.

"It is not a problem; the teacher does it for his best. I have not been able to persuade my child and I have asked the teacher to pull his ear"  
40-year old mother

"I send my child to school so that he can be educated and the teacher makes him have some fear. I don't want the teacher to hit him to death, but I accept a slap for his best. The teacher has the same right I as parent have to slap my child. No one agrees in beating the child to death, but a light slap or pulling his/her ear is necessary just to make him be afraid"  
50-year old Roma father

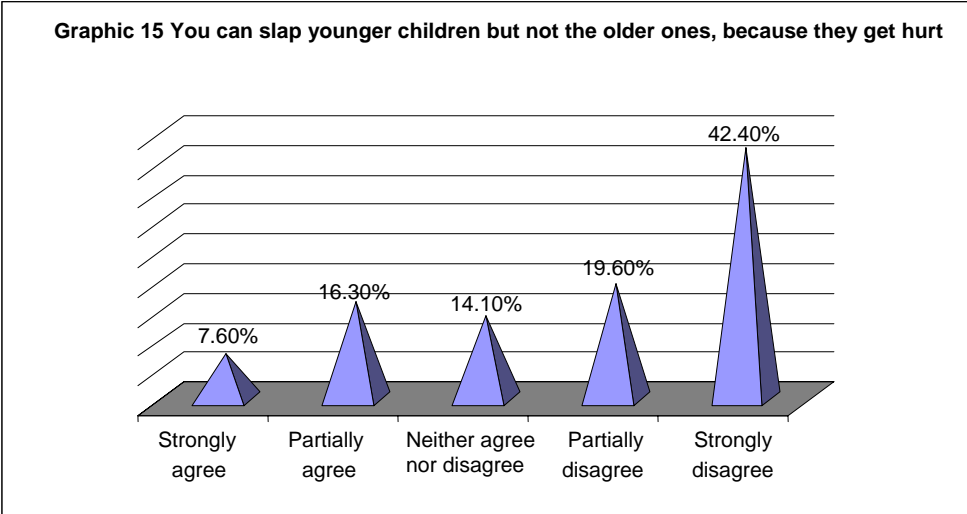
## Beliefs concerning the use of corporal punishment by age and gender



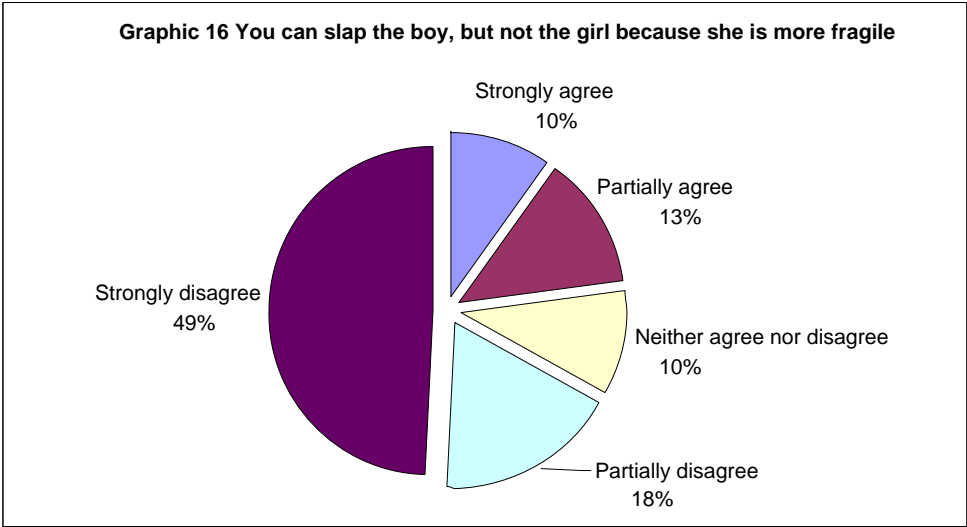
Most of the teachers (more than 86%) do not agree with the idea that little children do not understand when you talk to them and for this reason they must be slapped. However, about 9% of them do agree with this idea and 16.3% are undecided (Graphic 14).

“In primary school it is easier to slap them, while in secondary it is different. In secondary school children understand and talk more. Children grow up and change. Now children are taller than us and may answer back”.

45-year old teacher



Data reveal that the belief that older children may get hurt if they are slapped while younger children do not get hurt if slapped, is significantly diffused among teachers. More than 24% of the teachers interviewed (1 in 4 teachers) agree with this idea (Graphic 15).



At the same extent is also diffused the other belief, that you can slap a boy more easily than a girl, because the boy is stronger and more resistant, while the girl is more delicate (fragile) and

may get hurt if she is slapped. As shown in Graphic 14, 23% of the teachers agree with this statement, while 10% are undecided (See Graphic 16).

## **Conclusions and recommendations**

Though at a lower percentage compared to parents, among the teachers of the above mentioned schools and kindergartens, there are diffused many wrong beliefs concerning corporal punishment. It is quite a concern see how the following beliefs are legitimated, such as: a good child should always obey to his/her parents; who smacks the child, does it for his/her best; it is more appropriate to beat younger children because they don't understand when you talk to them; teachers have the same right as parents to slap the child; corporal punishment is not completely harmful for the child; the child cannot be educated if he/she is not afraid; if you don't smack the child, he/she will be out of control, etc.

All this range of beliefs, regardless the level of their diffusion, encourage the concrete punishment practices applied by teachers to children in these schools. Addressing these beliefs is indispensable. To this purpose, I recommend:

1. Delivery of detailed trainings to the school and kindergarten teachers regarding the consequences of corporal punishment on children and the alternative methods of disciplining
2. Drafting of a teacher's manual on the techniques of positive disciplining, respect of children's rights and non-discrimination
3. Activities that promote a friendly climate in the school based on trust, respect and care for one another
4. Activities to help empower children to recognize and ask for better implementation of their rights

## Appendix 1:

### Beliefs regarding corporal punishment exerted by teachers, arranged and divided by schools

Below there are two tables showing the percentages of the various beliefs of teachers with regards to corporal punishment, divided by schools. The tables allow a comparison between the various beliefs in the two schools. In addition, they are necessary because they can be used as bases with which to compare the new data that will be collected through the replication of the same survey in both schools after the interventions on teachers have taken place.

**TABLE 2. BELIEFS OF THE TEACHERS OF “AAA BBB” SCHOOL AND “SSS BBB” KINDERGARTEN IN DURRES ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (IN %)**

How much do you agree with the statements below?	Strongly Agree	Partially Agree	Neither agree No disagree	Partially disagree	Strongly disagree
1. Who hits the child, does it for his/her best	11.3%	21.0%	9.7%	27.4%	30.6%
2. It is better to pull a child's ear or slap him/her, than to insult him/her	17.7%	27.4%	19.4%	12.9%	22.6%
3. The child cannot be educated if he/she doesn't feel some fear	6.5%	12.9%	9.7%	22.6%	48.4%
4. Slapping or pulling a child's ear will not do him/her any harm	23.0%	16.4%	9.8%	24.6%	26.2%
5. It is allowed to slap the child when he/she exaggerates	11.3%	29.0%	4.8%	22.6%	32.3%
6. If you don't slap the child, he/she will be out of control	8.1%	21.0%	8.1%	14.5%	48.4%
7. If you talk to the child and he/she doesn't obey, then you should slap him/her	8.2%	18.0%	16.4%	18.0%	39.3%
8. A good child always obeys to his/her parents	45.2%	32.3%	1.6%	16.1%	4.8%
9. The child can be hit, but only by light slaps	31.7%	30.0%	6.7%	10.0%	21.7%
10. Younger children do not understand you when you talk to them, that's why you have to slap them; while the older ones do understand	4.8%	3.2%	6.5%	14.5%	71.0%
11. Corporal punishment (hitting, slapping) is a good way to discipline a child	-	6.5%	3.2%	9.7%	80.6%
12. Corporal punishment is the only way to discipline some children	-	9.7%	11.3%	24.2%	54.8%
13. Corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once	23.3%	16.7%	8.3%	21.7%	30.0%

14.	everything else fails Hitting turns a child into a decent human being	4.8%	6.5%	11.3%	3.2%	74.2%
15.	Corporal punishment of children is acceptable in some specific cases, as an exception	22.0%	25.4%	11.9%	23.7%	16.9%
16.	A child do not understand you when you talk to him/her, that's why you should slap him/her	-	9.7%	9.7%	22.6%	58.1%
17.	A parent is allowed to slap the child, the teacher no	19.4%	14.5%	1.6%	21.0%	43.5%
18.	You can smack the boy in case he is disobedient, but not the girl as she is fragile and can be hurt	14.5%	16.1%	4.8%	19.4%	45.2%
19.	You can give a slap to little children, but you cannot do that with older ones, because they may get hurt	11.3%	17.7%	14.5%	14.5%	41.9%
20.	Children make mistakes, that's why they should be slapped	-	16.4%	3.3%	18.0%	62.3%
21.	Mothers are more justified than fathers when hitting the child	11.3%	11.3%	1.6%	22.6%	53.2%
22.	Teachers are allowed to slap the child in some specific cases	9.8%	24.6%	18.0%	13.1%	34.4%
23.	Teachers are allowed to slap their own children, but not their students at school	8.2%	16.4%	11.5%	23.0%	41.0%
24.	Corporal punishment of children is absolutely harmful	77.0%	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	8.2%
25.	Corporal punishment of children should be banned completely	62.3%	16.4%	6.6%	4.9%	9.8%

**Table 3 BELIEFS OF THE TEACHERS OF "XXX XXX" SCHOOL AND "WWW XXX" KINDERGARTEN IN ELBASAN CONCERNING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN %**

How much do you agree with the statements below?	Strongly Agree	Partially Agree	Neither agree No disagree	Partially disagree	Strongly disagree
1. Who hits the child, does it for his/her best	-	24.1%	24.1%	24.1%	27.6%
2. It is better to pull a child's ear or slap him/her, than to insult him/her	13.3%	33.3%	3.3%	30.0%	20.0%
3. The child cannot be educated if he/she doesn't feel some fear	--	24.1%	6.9%	17.2%	51.7%
4. Slapping or pulling a child's ear will not do him/her any harm	10.0%	30.0%	10.0%	23.3%	26.7%
5. It is allowed to slap the child when he/she exaggerates	--	17.2%	17.2%	31.0%	34.5%

6.	If you don't slap the child, he/she will be out of control	--	3.3%	6.7%	13.3%	76.7%
7.	If you talk to the child and he/she doesn't obey, then you should slap him/her	--	10.0%	13.3%	23.3%	53.3%
8.	A good child always obeys to his/her parents	16.7%	46.7%	6.7%	26.7%	3.3%
9.	The child can be hit, but only by light slaps	10.7%	39.3%	7.1%	25.0%	17.9%
10.	Younger children do not understand you when you talk to them, that's why you have to slap them; while the older ones do understand	-	3.3%	3.3%	20.0%	73.3%
11.	Corporal punishment (hitting, slapping) is a good way to discipline a child	--	6.7%	6.7%	26.7%	60.0%
12.	Corporal punishment is the only way to discipline some children	--	13.3%	10.0%	13.3%	63.3%
13.	Corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once everything else fails	6.9%	3.4%	20.7%	24.1%	44.8%
14.	Hitting turns a child into a decent human being	-	--	3.3%	20.0%	76.7%
15.	Corporal punishment of children is acceptable in some specific cases, as an exception	13.8%	31.0%	10.3%	34.5%	10.3%
16.	A child do not understand you when you talk to him/her, that's why you should slap him/her	3.3%	-	20.0%	20.0%	56.7%
17.	A parent is allowed to slap the child, the teacher no	10.3%	20.7%	10.3%	20.7%	37.9%
18.	You can smack the boy in case he is disobedient, but not the girl as she is fragile and can be hurt	--	6.9%	20.7%	13.8%	58.6%
19.	You can give a slap to little children, but you cannot do that with older ones, because the latter may get hurt	--	13.3%	13.3%	30.0%	43.3%
20.	Children make mistakes, that's why they should be slapped	--	--	10.0%	23.3%	66.7%
21.	Mothers are more justified than fathers when hitting the child	3.3%	13.3%	-	16.7%	66.7%
22.	Teachers are allowed to slap the child in some specific cases	--	23.3%	6.7%	23.3%	46.7%
23.	Teachers are allowed to slap their own children, but not their students at school	13.8%	6.9%	6.9%	27.6%	44.8%
24.	Corporal punishment of children is absolutely harmful	63.3%	13.3%	6.7%	16.7%	-
25.	Corporal punishment of children should be banned completely	58.6%	17.2%	13.8%	6.9%	3.4%

## Appendix 2:

### Sample of the Instrument of the survey

#### Questionnaire

Dear teachers,

The following questionnaire serves to identify the opinions concerning children's disciplining. This questionnaire is being applied with teachers and parents in various districts of Albania. You have been chosen as one of the relevant persons to fill it in.

Please, be honest in answering the questions. The information you will provide will remain completely confidential and will only be used for research reasons by Save the Children in Albania.

Thank you for your collaboration

Statements	Circle or check only one for each statement				
	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1. Whoever smacks you (the child), loves you (the child)	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2. It is better to slap or pull the ear of the child than to shout or yell at him/her.	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
3. You can hit the child as long as he/she is frightened by you but not to (physically) harm/damage.	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
4. The child cannot be educated without being afraid of adults (parents/teachers)	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
5. It is not harmful to the child, if you smacks or pull his/her ear once a while.	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
6. It is permissible to slap the child once he/she deserves it (gives you hard time).	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
7. Should you not smack the child, s/he is disobedient (naughty).	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
8. If you talk to the child and s/he fails to listen to you, then you may smack him/her.	Strongly Agree (5)	Partially Agree (4)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Partially Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)

9. A good child always listens to his/her parents	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
10. The child can be hit, but only very mildly	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
11. Little children do not obey/ behave, that's why they may be smacked/spanked, but adults listen to when talking to them	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
12. Corporal punishment is a good way of disciplining	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
13. Corporal punishment is the only means to discipline some children	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
14. Corporal punishment can be used as the last resort to discipline children once everything else fails.	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
15. Beating makes you a real man	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
16. Corporal punishment of children is acceptable at least as exception in some cases	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
17. The child does not obey by words, that's why s/he can be smacked	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
18. A parent is allowed to smack his/her child, but the teacher is not	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
19. You can smack the boy in case he is disobedient, but not the girl as she is fragile and can be hurt.	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
20. You can give a slap to little children, but you cannot do that with older ones.	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
21. The child makes mistakes, that's why s/he should be smacked	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)

22. Mothers are more justified than fathers when hitting the child	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
23. The teacher can be allowed to smack the student in few limited cases	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
24. The teacher can be allowed to smack his/her own child, but not allowed at all to hit the students in school	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
25. Both, shouting and smacking are harmful	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
26. Corporal punishment of children is completely harmful	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
27. Corporal punishment of children should be banned completely	<b>Strongly Agree</b> (5)	<b>Partially Agree</b> (4)	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b> (3)	<b>Partially Disagree</b> (2)	<b>Strongly Disagree</b> (1)
28. Gender:	<b>Male</b> (1)	<b>Female</b> (2)			
29. Age	<b>Up to 25 years old</b> (1)	<b>26-39 years old</b> (2)	<b>40-49 years old</b> (3)	<b>50-59 years old</b> (4)	<b>Over 60</b>
30. Which grades of the 9-year schools do you teach?	<b>Kindergarten</b> (1)	<b>Primary school</b> (2)	<b>Secondary School</b> (3)		