

Newsletter — Summer, 2021

Editor: Stephen Davis



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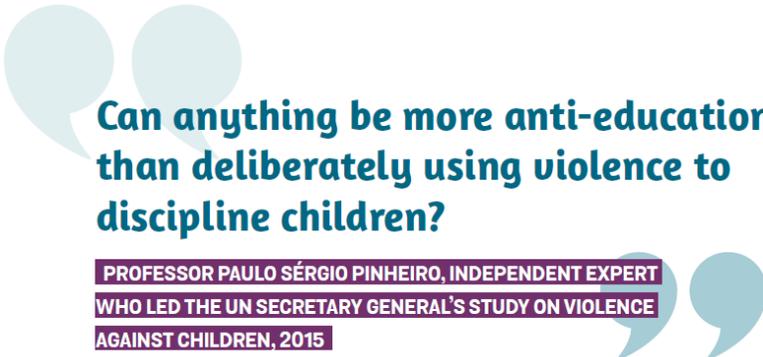
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✚ 1. Announcing the 2nd Annual Hit No More Social Media Contest & last year's winners

Due to the success of the first Hit No More Social Media Contest, the U.S. Alliance is pleased to sponsor a second contest. This year's contest addresses two topics: school corporal punishment and positive parenting. The contest opened on July 1 and entries will be accepted until September 1. We encourage ambassadors (and anyone interested) to submit short videos or memes on either or both topics. Cash prizes are awarded! In addition, everyone is encouraged to participate in the voting for the best video or meme. Those who vote are entered into a lottery to win an iPad mini. To submit entries to the contest, go to: <https://endhitting.wishpondpages.com/landing-page-2635276/>

The winning entries from last year can be seen at: <https://www.endphysicalpunishment.org/public-awareness>.

✚ 2. Update on countries that have banned corporal punishment in schools



Can anything be more anti-educational than deliberately using violence to discipline children?

**PROFESSOR PAULO SÉRGIO PINHEIRO, INDEPENDENT EXPERT
WHO LED THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S STUDY ON VIOLENCE
AGAINST CHILDREN, 2015**

In total, 135 countries so far have fully prohibited corporal punishment in schools. In March 2021, a Sri Lanka Supreme Court judgment condemned corporal punishment in schools; in February 2021, Sudan prohibited corporal punishment in schools, day care and penal institutions; and in March 2020, the Cayman Islands prohibited corporal punishment in schools and early childhood care and education.

Among the 64 states where corporal punishment is currently lawful in schools:

34 or more have policies, ministerial orders or similar against its use in some or all schools, but legislation is either silent on the issue or undermines policy by expressly authorizing corporal punishment - this means the Government has acknowledged that corporal punishment is wrong and ineffective, and simply needs to confirm that policy in legislation.

53 or more are undergoing processes of law reform which provide immediate opportunities for enacting prohibiting legislation (see our global table of opportunities for reform).

8 are Pathfinding countries under the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children meaning the Government has committed to accelerated action to end violence against children, including implementation of the INSPIRE strategies at scale.

3 have endorsed the #SafetoLearn Call to Action, which aims to end violence in all schools by 2024, including through prohibition of corporal punishment in all schools and promotion of positive discipline.

For more information, visit the website ***End Corporal Punishment***, an initiative of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children: <https://endcorporalpunishment.org/countdown/>

3. Bill to Ban School Corporal Punishment is Introduced in U.S. Congress

In June, U.S. Representatives A. Donald McEachin (4th district in Virginia), Suzanne Bonamic (1st district of Oregon) and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (Connecticut) introduced the **Protecting our Students in Schools Act of 2020** (HR 8460). The bill would prohibit the use of corporal punishment in any school that receives federal funding. School corporal punishment typically takes the form of students being hit with paddles. They are paddled for such infractions as being tardy, talking in class, chewing gum, or forgetting to turn in homework. The bill is designed to promote a positive school climate by implementing such programs as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), restorative justice interventions, and trauma-informed care of students.

The bill would eliminate the option of corporal punishment to discipline students, currently available in 19 states. Corporal punishment of students can be traumatic as well as physically and emotionally damaging to students. Furthermore, it does not create an environment conducive to learning. The bill would also serve to reduce race-related and disability-related disparities in the use of punishment. If passed, the ban would go a long way to help protect students' well-being. The *U.S. Alliance* is one of more than 25 organizations that has endorsed the bill.

4. A chance to tell the government what you think about corporal punishment

The Department of Education has sent out a "Request for Information Regarding the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline" and you have the opportunity to tell them how you feel about corporal punishment in schools. Simply go to

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/06/08/2021-11990/request-for-information-regarding-the-nondiscriminatory-administration-of-school-discipline>

and click on "Submit a formal comment." In the space provided, start your comment with "RE: 4(d) – Corporal Punishment."

PLEASE NOTE: They are closing these comments on July 23rd, so you have very little time.

5. Excerpts from the End Violence Partnership 2020 Annual Report

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children is a public-private partnership launched by the UN Secretary-General in 2016 which exists to galvanize a movement, connect partners and catalyze investment in solutions that protect children from violence.



2020 was an extraordinary year for humanity. The health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic put children at even greater risk of violence, exploitation and abuse. Amidst the crisis, the End Violence Partnership provided a platform for collective, adaptive and evidence-based advocacy and action.

The End Violence Partnership ended 2020 with more unity, more champions, and more clarity on how to end violence against children and the resources needed to deliver success. As the world navigates its way out of the COVID-19 pandemic, our task is to turn the Partnership's momentum into lasting change that keeps children safe at home, at school, online and within their communities.

~ 550 partners had joined the End Violence Partnership by the end of 2020, bringing diverse perspectives and experience from every region of the world.

~ Launched Together to #ENDviolence, a partnership-wide campaign and Solutions Summit series to catalyze political and financial commitments.

~ Ending corporal punishment found a new home when the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children merged with End Violence.

~ \$18.8 Million invested in 24 partners in 2020, for a total of almost \$57 Million with impact in over 70 countries since 2016.

~ 32 countries are now Pathfinders, up from 29 in 2019.

~ 14 global partners uniting to embed violence prevention in education systems and \$8 Million invested in 5 countries to keep children safe in and through schools via the Safe to Learn Initiative.

~ \$10 Million invested in tech solutions to protect children from online sexual exploitation and abuse via the Safe Online Initiative.

To see a copy of the complete Annual Report 2020, click [here](#).

6. No Hit Zones

We encourage all family homes, schools, hospitals, religious institutions, communities, -- anyone who is committed to no non-violent discipline to become a No-Hit Zone. This means no adult shall hit a child, no child shall hit another child, no adult shall hit another adult, and no child shall hit an adult. For more information and steps to take, visit the No Hit Zone website: <https://nohitzone.com/>



You can also become a No-Hit Zone Advocate as an individual or organization and display this gold seal on your email and website <https://nohitzone.com/become-a-certified-advocate/>

7. Senator Davis pledges royalty donations to U.S. Alliance

Senator Stephen Davis (32nd Arizona Legislature) has pledged to give the US Alliance all royalty proceeds in excess of \$1 per book on the sale of his novella, *#NeverAgain*.

#NeverAgain is a short novel (108 pages) – “a thoughtful and intriguing look at the school shootings which are a sad reality in the United States today. This novella takes us inside the world of a mother attempting to come to terms with the death of her daughter; and as she tries to deal with her own grief, she finds herself coping in ways she never expected.” (Amazon.com)

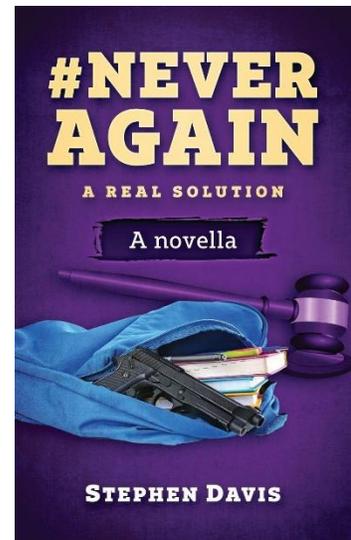
When TV news-anchor Sarah Hathaway's teenage daughter is killed in a mass school shooting, she is determined to find out the deeper reasons why a 16-year-old boy would take an assault rifle and murder his friends and classmates.

In a surprising move, the District Attorney charges the shooter’s parents with criminal negligence – for allowing their son unfettered access to the M16 – and as accomplices to the murders. Sarah finds the answers she is looking for during the parents' trial as Dr. Christian Pfeiffer testifies with irrefutable proof that suffering corporal punishment as a child is the common denominator in the upbringing of violent criminals. Pfeiffer explains why Sixty-two countries around the world have outlawed corporal punishment by parents in the home, but sadly the United States is not one of them. This novella is a “must-read” for anyone who wants to find a solution to our unrelenting, catastrophic school shootings.

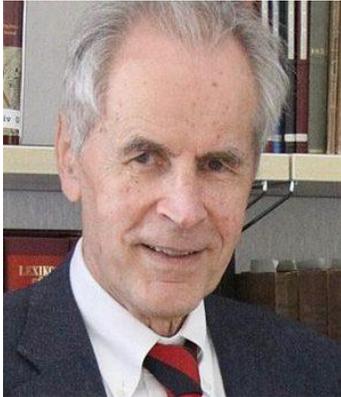
“I was impressed with your book! Great job at making the problem and implications of corporal punishment real, in an engaging and realistic way. I found it to be a real page-turner.”

– George Holden, President, U.S. Alliance to End the Hitting of Children

You can purchase *#NeverAgain* as a paperback (\$5.99) or for your Kindle (\$2.99) at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), or at [Smashwords](https://www.smashwords.com) in other ebook formats – pdf, epub, etc. (\$2.99).



8. FEATURE: How Germany passed its law prohibiting corporal punishment



Dr. Christian Pfeiffer, former Director of the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (Kriminologisches Forschungsinstitut Niedersachsen, KFN) in Germany presented a lecture at the “Chicago Symposium: Creating a Non-Violent Future” at Loyola University in Chicago, sponsored by The U.S. Alliance, where he explains the history of how Germany outlawed corporal punishment and asks whether this could be a model for the United States and other democratic countries....

“The Commission on Violence, of which I was a member, [was] appointed by the German Federal Government in 1987.... Over the course of three years, we were to develop political recommendations for the prevention and combating of violent criminality.... According to everyone’s findings, beating children negatively influences the development of their personality and promotes their aggressiveness and violence. Based on the model of its parents, the child learns to use violence to solve conflicts and assert its own wishes. Therefore, an important contribution toward breaking this ‘cycle of violence’ would be to abolish the parental right to corporal punishment.

“Effective January 1, 2000, Germany did just that, the fourth of 21 European Union countries to do so (30 Council of Europe member states in total as of 2018). This was primarily the result of two factors: Clear research findings regarding the negative effects that arise when children are beaten, and a powerful media campaign spreading these insights across the nation via newspapers, television and radio. In addition, a law was passed in 2002 allowing the police to banish from the home a member of the family who was beating his/her child, initially for 14 days and, with the approval of the court, for as long as half a year.

“Today, based on two victim surveys representative for Germany, we can show that between 1992 and 2011 the percentage of people raised entirely non-violently increased from 26 percent to 52 percent. (For those surveyed between the ages of 16 and 20, the percentage is as high as 63 percent.) There are only two groups who continue to stubbornly resist the legal appeal for raising children non-violently: very devout evangelical parents from so-called Free Church congregations, and fundamentalist Muslim parents.

“This overall positive development is accompanied by a strong decline (59%, as of 2017) in youth violence and suicide by children and teens. This lecture will also show a strong correlation between suffering under one’s parents’ tough corporal punishment as a helpless child, and then later committing mass shootings in schools and elsewhere. For example, from January 2013 (13 years after the ban on corporal punishment was passed in Germany) to February 2018, there were a total of four (4) school shootings in Europe compared to 291 school shootings in the United States. So far in 2018, there has been one school shooting in the U.S. every 60 hours.

NOTE: To read the rest of Dr. Pfeiffer’s lecture, click [here](#).

✚ 9. Become an Alliance Ambassador for Children



AN ALLIANCE AMBASSADOR...

- defends the right of children to be free from all forms of violence, especially in their home
- encourages adults to defend a child's right to equal protection under the law from assault
- encourages community leaders to end the practice of corporal punishment

Join us....

The U.S. Alliance is committed to ending all hitting of children and youth in all places (i.e., schools and homes). By joining, you are indicating your support to this cause. When you join, you become a lifetime ambassador for the organization and the movement. You do not need to rejoin the organization each year, though we will gladly accept new donations! We will keep you informed through periodic (quarterly is our plan) newsletters.

For more information, watch this [1-minute YouTube video](#) and then go [here](#).

✚ 10. How to have Amazon.com donate to the U.S. Alliance to End the Hitting of Children

Did you know that Amazon.com will donate .5% of every purchase you make to the U.S. Alliance? All you have to do is ask them to (instructions below) and then make sure you shop at SMILE.amazon.com from now on. (smile.amazon.com is the same catalog of products and services at the same price as amazon.com)

That's right. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, Amazon may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. And so far they have donated \$262 MILLION to U.S. charitable organizations since October 2013. For more details, click [here](#).

To start Amazon supporting the U.S. Alliance, all you have to do is:

A. Instead of going to amazon.com to make purchases, go to smile.amazon.com.

B. Choose the charity you want to support. (Be sure to choose the U.S. Alliance to End the Hitting of Children.)

C. You're all set. From now on, every purchase you make that qualifies will generate a donation that AmazonSmile Foundation will automatically send to us – AS LONG AS YOU PURCHASE USING SMILE.AMAZON.COM.

11. Letters to the Editor

As the new editor of this newsletter, I want to encourage all readers to send me their comments, questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. and I will post the appropriate ones in this space in future editions of the newsletter. You can email them to me at s.davis@mail.com.

