



# THE YES VOTE

## FOR A LAW THAT'S WORKING

### A "yes" vote in referendum 2009

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In late July 2009 you will receive a form in the post asking you to vote in a public poll and to send back your **yes** or no answer on the following question:

Should a smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand?

**This question is aimed at trying to have New Zealand bring back a law that makes hitting children legal.**

The question is misleading.

- A smack is not part of good parental correction.
- Under the 2007 child discipline law use of "a smack" is not leading to parents becoming criminals.

The public have been misled to believe that parents would be criminalised if they occasionally smacked their children. Parents who occasionally smack lightly are not being prosecuted.

The 2007 law has been in place for two years. The law has encouraged more and more parents to find ways to help children behave well without using physical punishment.

New Zealand parents want to raise their families in ways that make children feel good about themselves, behave well and to be safe and secure. The present law supports this. Over time, parenting without physical punishment will become part of our way of life in New Zealand.

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A **yes** vote supports parents to use positive ways of helping children behave well.

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A **yes** vote will protect children.

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A **yes** vote supports a law that is working well.

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For more information visit [YesVote.org.nz](http://YesVote.org.nz) or contact us on [info@YesVote.org.nz](mailto:info@YesVote.org.nz)  
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