

ANTI-SMACKING LAW POLL February 2013

CLIENT:	Family First New Zealand
POLL DATES:	Evenings of Thu 14, Sun 17, Thu 21, Sun 24 Feb 2013
SAMPLE SIZE:	1,000 respondents agreed to participate.
SAMPLE SELECTION:	A random selection of 10,000 nationwide phone numbers.
WEIGHTING:	The results are weighted to reflect the overall adult population in terms of gender, age, area and deprivation decile.
SAMPLE ERROR:	Based on this sample of 1,000 respondents, the maximum sampling error (for a result of 50%) is +/- 3.2%, at the 95% confidence level.

ANTI-SMACKING LAW

In 2007 Parliament passed a law that removes a defence of reasonable force for parents who smack a child to correct their behaviour, but states the Police have discretion not to prosecute if they consider the offence was inconsequential.

Do you think the anti-smacking law should be changed to state explicitly that parents who give their children a smack that is reasonable and for the purpose of correction are not breaking the law?

Should law change to allow correctional smacking?

		Count	Col %
Should law change to allow correctional smacking?	Yes	764	77%
	No	181	18%
	Unsure/Refuse	45	5%
	Total	991	100%

77% of respondents back a law change to allow correctional smacking.

Should law change to allow correctional smacking? BY Gender + Age

		Gender		Age			Total
		Female	Male	18 - 40	41 - 60	61+	
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	
Should law change to allow correctional smacking?	Yes	74%	81%	76%	78%	78%	77%
	No	23%	13%	22%	17%	15%	18%
	Unsure/Refuse	4%	5%	2%	5%	7%	5%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Support for a law change is stronger amongst men, but fairly even by age.

Should law change to allow correctional smacking? BY Area

		Area			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Should law change to allow correctional smacking?	Yes	72%	84%	81%	77%
	No	22%	12%	16%	18%
	Unsure/Refuse	6%	4%	3%	5%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Should law change to allow correctional smacking? BY Deprivation

		Deprivation			
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Should law change to allow correctional smacking?	Yes	76%	78%	77%	77%
	No	21%	19%	14%	18%
	Unsure/Refuse	3%	3%	8%	5%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Should law change to allow correctional smacking? BY 2011 Party Vote

		2011 Party Vote											Unsure/Ref use	Total
		National	Labour	Maori	ACT	NZ First	United	Cons	Green	Mana	Not Vote			
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %			
Should law change to allow correctional smacking?	Yes	86%	74%	83%	100%	95%	100%	100%	56%	0%	68%	68%	77%	
	No	11%	24%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	37%	100%	28%	22%	18%	
	Unsure/Refuse	3%	3%	9%	0%	5%	0%	0%	7%	0%	5%	10%	4%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

ANTI-SMACKING LAW

Do you think the new law has had any effect on the rate of child abuse in New Zealand?

Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?

		Count	Col %
Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?	Yes	115	12%
	No	764	77%
	Unsure/Refuse	107	11%
	Total	986	100%

Only 12% of respondents think the law change has had any effect on the rate of child abuse.

Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse? BY Gender + Age

		Gender		Age			
		Female	Male	18 - 40	41 - 60	61+	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?	Yes	10%	13%	14%	8%	14%	12%
	No	80%	75%	75%	79%	78%	77%
	Unsure/Refuse	10%	12%	11%	13%	8%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse? BY Area

		Area			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?	Yes	9%	14%	15%	12%
	No	79%	78%	73%	77%
	Unsure/Refuse	12%	8%	12%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse? BY Deprivation

		Deprivation			
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?	Yes	12%	10%	13%	12%
	No	78%	78%	77%	77%
	Unsure/Refuse	10%	12%	10%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse? BY 2011 Party Vote

		2011 Party Vote											
		National	Labour	Maori	ACT	NZ First	United	Cons	Green	Mana	Not Vote	Unsure/Refuse	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Has anti-smacking law affected rate of child abuse?	Yes	11%	11%	17%	0%	12%	0%	0%	9%	100%	2%	20%	11%
	No	84%	80%	34%	68%	86%	100%	100%	71%	0%	70%	63%	78%
	Unsure/Refuse	6%	9%	49%	32%	2%	0%	0%	20%	0%	28%	17%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

ANTI-SMACKING LAW VOTING IMPACT

If a political party promised that amending the law to allow light correctional smacking was a non-negotiable policy at the next general election, would that make you more likely to vote for them, or less likely, or make no difference to your likely vote?

Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking

		Count	Col %
Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking	Less likely	221	22%
	More likely	293	30%
	No difference	36	4%
	Unsure/refuse	438	44%
	Total	987	100%

30% of respondents say they are more likely to vote for a party that promises to change the law, and 22% less likely.

Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking BY Gender + Age

		Gender		Age			Total
		Female	Male	18 - 40	41 - 60	61+	
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	
Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking	Less likely	18%	27%	20%	24%	23%	22%
	More likely	31%	28%	30%	30%	28%	30%
	No difference	5%	2%	3%	4%	3%	4%
	Unsure/refuse	47%	42%	47%	41%	45%	44%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking BY Area

		Area			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking	Less likely	20%	21%	30%	22%
	More likely	33%	27%	25%	30%
	No difference	4%	4%	2%	4%
	Unsure/refuse	44%	47%	43%	44%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking BY Deprivation

		Deprivation			
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking	Less likely	19%	26%	22%	22%
	More likely	28%	28%	33%	30%
	No difference	5%	5%	1%	4%
	Unsure/refuse	49%	41%	44%	44%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking BY 2011 Party Vote

		2011 Party Vote											
		National	Labour	Maori	ACT	NZ First	United	Cons	Green	Mana	Not Vote	Unsure/Refuse	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Vote support if party promises to allow correctional smacking	Less likely	21%	27%	0%	0%	13%	0%	0%	23%	100%	17%	22%	22%
	More likely	38%	23%	68%	11%	40%	0%	49%	20%	0%	19%	32%	29%
	No difference	3%	5%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	5%	4%
	Unsure/refuse	46%	36%	20%	89%	47%	100%	51%	54%	0%	63%	41%	44%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

SMACKING BEHAVIOUR

Despite the new law, would you smack your child to correct their behaviour, if you believed it was reasonable to do so?

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?

		Count	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	670	68%
	No	262	27%
	Unsure/Refuse	55	6%
	Total	987	100%

68% of respondents said they would smack their child to correct their behaviour if they thought it was reasonable to do so.

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable? BY Gender + Age

		Gender		Age			
		Female	Male	18 - 40	41 - 60	61+	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	66%	70%	56%	74%	77%	68%
	No	29%	23%	38%	23%	15%	27%
	Unsure/Refuse	4%	7%	6%	3%	8%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable? BY Area

		Area			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	62%	71%	77%	68%
	No	31%	24%	19%	27%
	Unsure/Refuse	7%	5%	4%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable? BY Deprivation

		Deprivation			
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	67%	75%	59%	68%
	No	28%	19%	35%	27%
	Unsure/Refuse	5%	6%	5%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable? BY Parental Status

		Parental Status			
		Parent of under 12	Not parent of under 12	Unsure/Refuse	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	61%	71%	0%	68%
	No	36%	23%	0%	27%
	Unsure/Refuse	3%	6%	0%	6%

Will do correctional smacking if reasonable? BY 2011 Party Vote

		2011 Party Vote											
		National	Labour	Maori	ACT	NZ First	United	Cons	Green	Mana	Not Vote	Unsure/Refuse	Total
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Will do correctional smacking if reasonable?	Yes	74%	67%	66%	61%	82%	100%	50%	47%	0%	81%	62%	68%
	No	21%	29%	25%	39%	11%	0%	12%	46%	100%	16%	29%	26%
	Unsure/Refuse	5%	4%	9%	0%	7%	0%	38%	7%	0%	4%	9%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

WEIGHTED DEMOGRAPHICS

The results have been weighted to reflect the adult gender, age, area and deprivation distribution.

Gender

		Count	Col %
Gender	Female	548	55%
	Male	453	45%
	Total	1001	100%

Age

	Count	Col %
Age 18 - 40	375	37%
41 - 60	368	37%
61+	259	26%
Total	1001	100%

Area

	Count	Col %
Area Metro	515	51%
Provincial	273	27%
Rural	213	21%
Total	1001	100%

Metro is defined as Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Provincial is all other cities in New Zealand. Rural areas are all areas not Metro or Provincial.

Deprivation

	Count	Col %
Deprivation Deciles 1 - 3	307	31%
Deciles 4 - 7	395	39%
Deciles 8 - 10	299	30%
Total	1001	100%

Party Vote 2011		Count	Col %
2011 Party Vote	National	400	41%
	Labour	266	27%
	Maori	13	1%
	ACT	7	1%
	NZ First	35	4%
	United	5	0%
	Cons	4	0%
	Green	102	10%
	Mana	1	0%
	Others	0	0%
	Not Vote	31	3%
	Unsure/Refuse	118	12%
	Total	983	100%

Parental Status

		Count	Col %
Parental Status	Parent of under 12	278	28%
	Not parent of under 12	723	72%
	Total	1001	100%

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