Spare the Rod: Save the Child

Corporal punishment kills thousands of children a year, injures many more and is the direct cause of many children’s impairments. It has a detrimental impact on the developing child; both their physical and mental health are severely damaged. If a child insists on doing something that is not safe, the parent should teach the child to do it in a safe way. The parent should not use physical punishment to achieve the desired behavior.

As your children grow, the methods of discipline will change. For instance, if a toddler is tripping a toy with a block-shaped object, the parent should take away and exchange the toy for another safe object, or replace the child’s attention to a more appropriate activity. As children grow, violations may be minor behaviors, like spilling a drink, or major ones, like breaking a window. If the damage is on the wall, instead of the parent taking the broken glass away, the child should be taught that holding the broken glass with the help of an adult will teach accountability.

Discipline provides guidance to your child while spot-checking the consequences of their actions. If they do not obey, here are the steps:

• Clearly, calmly tell your child what to do.
• If your child does not respond to your request, simply repeat your calm, firm statement. For instance, “You may be in time for dinner if you do your homework.”
• If your child continues to balk, explain that the consequence will be applied. “If you do not do your homework, you will not be able to play outside.”
• If your child continues to refuse, take away the privilege until the situation passes. “If you do not get your homework done, you will not be able to watch TV.”

You can help your child learn about their behavior and why they do it. Make sure the understanding is the behavior they don’t like. For instance, “You may be in time for dinner if you do your homework.”

Make sure that the child is not able to continue the behavior. “If you do not do your homework, you will not be able to play outside.”

Be sure that the child receives the feedback that their behavior is not appropriate. “If you do not do your homework, you will not be able to watch TV.”

Finally, have an emergency support plan. If you think your child is about to cut their own, don’t do it. Ask for help. Your support, patience, financial resources to take care of them. If you think your child is about to cut their own, don’t do it. Ask for help. The parent has to be there for the child.

For more information about how to keep your child’s safety and visit www.nyspcc.org.

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Special Thanks

We are grateful to the following sponsors who have made Annual Fund gifts of $500 or more from March through October 2016, to help support our work with NYC’s children:

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Newsletter | Winter 2016

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Thanks to you—our dedicated supporters—our programs continue to flourish in 2016, providing hope and healing to thousands of vulnerable children and families. I am pleased to share with you some of the good work The NYSPCC has been doing to help children and educate parents, professionals and companies on the importance of protecting the safety and well-being of children.

A focus this year has been on helping child protection workers and clinicians to manage secondary traumatic stress (STS). Professionals that regularly work with trauma survivors when developing STS, which can compromise their health and capacity to help others. In response, The NYSPCC provides crisis debriefing counseling sessions following critical incidents. The NYSPCC also trains child protective workers nationwide on the management of STS.

In April 2016, with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, The NYSPCC trained ELIZA staff on how to implement the NYSPCC’s Family Protection Program and facilitate Safe Touches workshops. ELIZA launched Safe Touches in April 2016.

We also continue to work with the ELIZA-Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to replicate Safe Touches in Greece.

On behalf of everyone at The NYSPCC, I wish you and your families a happy holiday season. We request new toys for children ranging from six months to 18 years old. We receive a gift this holiday season. You can help us bring smiles to each and every one of their beautiful faces. We are asking for toys, especially for teens, approximately 250 toys.

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A focus this year has been on helping child protective workers and managers to minimize secondary traumatic stress (STS). Professionals who regularly work with trauma survivors often experience STS, which can compromise their health and capacity to help clients. In response, The NYSPCC provides training and counseling sessions following critical incidents. The NYSPCC is the sole provider of crisis debriefing for the NYC Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) and offers these services to other organizations as required. The NYSPCC also trains child protective workers nationwide on the management of STS.

In April 2016, with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, The NYSPCC trained ELIZA staff on how to implement the STS training curriculum, which was launched in Greece in 2014. The curriculum of STS training was developed in collaboration with Dr. Mary Pulido, who is also the Executive Director of the Safe Touches Foundation, a non-profit organization based in California. The NYSPCC works with Safe Touches to translate and implement their curriculum for child welfare and child protection professionals in Greece.

We also continue to work with the ILZGA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to replicate Safe Touches in Greece. ELIZA launched Safe Touches training in Athens in June 2016, and the curriculum will be rolled out to the rest of Greece. In November, we were invited to present the Safe Touches training to educators in Greece. We are proud to expand our child sexual abuse prevention efforts to reach more parents, teachers, and community leaders—because the protection of children is everyone’s responsibility.

In October, I was invited to speak at a New York State Conference on Child Protection and Well-Being, I gave a lecture to approximately 150 teachers, researchers, and child welfare professionals, de- monstrating the effectiveness of the STS training. The training is designed to help professionals and agencies that are also dedicated to protecting the safety and well-being of children.

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The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

A Warm Welcome To Our Newest Board Member

Mr. Coniglio is the Founder of Renaissance Beauty Supply company, a distributor of professional hair and beauty products. He received his B.A in Accounting and also graduated with a joint M.B.A/J.D. from Hofstra University. Mr. Coniglio has a daughter and son and shares his time between West Hampton, New York and Boca Raton, Florida.

We are proudly expanding our child sexual abuse prevention efforts to reach more parents, teachers, school administrators and community leaders—because the protection of children is everyone’s responsibility. In October, a Panel of Experts on Child Protection and Well-Being, I gave a presentation to approximately 110 teachers, counselors, and child-welfare professionals, discussing our child sexual abuse prevention program, Safe Touches. I would also like to thank our Board of Directors and everyone else who helped make the afternoon a wonderful success using essential tools for the agency.

Letter from the Executive Director

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We also continue to work with the ELIZA-Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to replicate Safe Touches in Greece. In April 2016, with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, The NYSPCC trained ELIZA staff on how to implement the program and facilitate Safe Touches workshops. ELIZA launched Safe Touches in Greece years, bringing the empowering lessons of Safe Touches to children throughout Greece.

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Spring Luncheon

On April 26, 2016, The NYSPCC hosted its annual Spring Luncheon at The Pierre hotel, benefiting the Trauma Recovery Program. The event featured Actress, Author and Food Dowdy Barrymore spoke and read passages from her bestselling new book, Hollywood, for more than 250 distinguished guests gathered at The Pierre. A special thanks to our Co-Chairs Elizabeth Mayhew, Valerie Guerrand-Hermès, Martha Grace, Joan Granlund, Tania Higgins and Connie Newberry, as well as our Vice-Chairs Peggy Anderson, Russ Coniglio, and Dr. Penny Grant. We would also like to thank our Board of Directors and everyone else who helped make the afternoon a wonderful success using essential tools for the agency.

Junior Committee Event

The NYSPCC’s remarkable Junior Committee hosted their Annual Spring Benefit at Tao Downtown on Thursday, May 12, 2016. The evening featured inspirational speakers and dynamic dinner, along with a silent auction. We are deeply grateful for the Committee’s continuous enthusiasm and dedication. Special thanks to our corporate partners, Golden Door and our 2016 Junior Committee Officers, Alexandra Papanicolaou Shaheen, Chani Churchill, Hudson Bova and Matt Semino.

Support Our Holiday Toy Drive

The NYSPCC is working to ensure that every child in our programs who enters our care during the holiday season receives a gift. You can help by doing your shopping on Amazon at

www.nyspcc.org

Please sign up for our e-mail list at

info@nyspcc.org

to stay informed about NYSPCC activities and upcoming events, please visit our

To make a donation, please visit our

www.nyspcc.org

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Finally, have an emergency support plan. If you think you are going to “lose it” and find yourself getting angry or frustrated with your child, go somewhere quiet, sit down, take a few deep breaths, and talk to someone who can help you think through it."

The NYSPCC encourages the use of effective discipline techniques that can help you create a safe and nurturing environment for your child. Discipline provides guidance to your child while spelling out the consequences of behavior and pain-inducing treatment. There are several important factors to think about in these situations:

The strategy proved effective. The foster mother successfully developed a stronger bond with Nikki, which assisted in her recovery. Nikki’s foster mother learned new strategies to portray the mother, including what to say and do. As the mother lion, the clinician fed her cub, protected her from prey, and assured her of her safety. As the mother tiger, the clinician taught her to be independent and to stand up for herself. This was a turning point in Nikki’s life. Nikki was finally able to express the sadness she felt toward her mother and begin to develop a healthy and strong relationship with her foster mother.

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Foster care is a “time-out” and then let the child help with the clean-up to teach accountability.

Our goal is to provide support to the families of children who are victims of abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse.

Another key finding is that corporal punishment can lead to a child’s increased aggression and that parents who use corporal punishment are more likely to have children who are difficult to control.

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Niki has experienced a long history of neglect. Her mother, who suffered from severe drug abuse, abandoned her when she was just one month old. Her mother left her in a backyard where she was eventually discovered by the police. At two years of age, Niki was placed in a group home where she was neglected and ill-treated. She was so malnourished that she had no hair, could not speak, and was wearing a filthy diaper. Child protective services placed her in foster care. Still in foster care at the time of this article, Niki has experienced a long history of neglect. Her mother, who suffered from severe drug abuse, abandoned her when she was just one month old. Her mother left her in a backyard where she was eventually discovered by the police. At two years of age, Niki was placed in a group home where she was neglected and ill-treated. She was so malnourished that she had no hair, could not speak, and was wearing a filthy diaper. Child protective services placed her in foster care. Still in foster care at the time of this article, Niki had no hair, could not speak, and was wearing a filthy diaper. Child protective services placed her in foster care. Still in foster care at the time of this article, Niki

Help Us Keep Children Safe!

The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

Spare the Rod: Save the Child

Corporal punishment is never an acceptable way to discipline children. It can very easily escalate so that the child is badly harmed. And, if the child should happen to talk of the blow that they are inflicting. The adult is usually very angry. Parents in an angry rage often opt for a “good beating” instead. Corporal punishment is never an acceptable way to discipline children. It can very easily escalate so that the child is badly harmed. And, if the child should happen to talk of the blow that they are inflicting. The adult is usually very angry. Parents in an angry rage often opt for a “good beating” instead.

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\[\text{Continued Page 5}\]