

**NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA
FIRST SESSION (2006-2007)
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

RESOLUTION NO. 31

WHEREAS in 1991 Guyana signed and ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

AND WHEREAS Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that "Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child";

AND WHEREAS the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child has consistently proposed the abolition of corporal punishment when the reporting process under the convention has revealed the continued existence of school corporal punishment;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana's report to the Committee of the Convention of the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 states: "Enhanced legislation is an integral element in this country's efforts to give tangible effect to the provisions of the Constitution Reform Commission";

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana's report to the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 further states "The Constitutional Reform Commission acknowledged that the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child should inform constitutional provisions to protect children's rights. The Oversight Select Committee of the Revised Guyana Constitution subsequently accepted the above recommendations and in 2001 these rights were accorded the status of fundamental and human rights in the amended Constitution";


AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has established a Task Force to hold the broadest possible consultations for the comprehensive reform of the Education Act;

AND WHEREAS the Task Force had held and continues to hold consultations with all stake holders including Political Parties on all issues concerning education reform including the issue of Corporal Punishment;

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly calls upon the Task Force to solicit the views of the various stakeholders in Guyana on the issue of Corporal Punishment and to make specific recommendations on the issue of corporal punishment in submitting proposals for the reform of the Education Act.

Passed by the National Assembly on 7th June, 2007.


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S. E. ISAACS
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Clerk of the National Assembly