Cameron Gray

Ms. Cynthia D. Johnson

English IV

22 March 2019

How Does Corporal Punishment Affect a Child?

There are a lot of reasons behind the way people act the way that they do. They sometimes have traumatic experiences and sometimes it is completely based on their upbringing. Doctors say that when people are born they already have a personality that they will keep, but others argue that our environments and social climate are reasons of the way we act. Corporal punishment is looked at as being one of the leading factors in behavior and actions of people (Anderson 1). When children are born, they are like "sponges", so when they are taught good and bad at a young age, it plays a major factor on decisions when they get older.

Corporal punishment is punishment that is intended to cause physical pain on a person or individual. There has been debates for many years rather this form of punishment is acceptable. As of 2013, 81 percent of Americans privately support public spanking (Morin 3). The other 19 percent feel that it is unacceptable and could lead to trauma. This will forever be an ongoing debate and as of now, 39 countries have banned the practice of it (Holinger 5). Although it is a fast form of punishment for wrongdoings, it may not be the best for the future of the individual.

Corporal punishment can introduce a child to violence at too young of an age.

Researchers created a study and came up with the conclusion that the majority of people in prison for violence, received physical punishment as a child (Anderson 2). Some adults don't fully understand what corporal punishment is and they go overboard until it turns into abuse.

Corporal punishment should not be so intense that it leaves whip marks and signs of beating. It is not violence, it is a part of parenting that is used when rules are broken and a lesson needs to be taught.

Corporal punishment can potentially lead to trauma and anxiety. Trauma can come in, because whippings can make people become essentially afraid of their parents. Post traumatic stress disorder could come in the play and the slightest things could bring someone back to the moment that they are receiving the whipping (O'Donnell 4). When they do something wrong or make a mistake, anxiety comes into play. They began thinking about the whipping they are sure to receive and it puts them in a depressed state about what is going to happen. A woman named, Kathy Darbyshire, opened up about her being beaten everyday when she was younger. She talks about how she is now 42 years old and still has nightmares about it and how traumatic experiences of the present does not hardly affect her due to that still being a bothering manner (O'Donnell 6). This is a personal account of how physical punishment can take a toll on your life for the rest of your life.

Corporal punishment seems like the most logical way in order to see results in a child, but there are many others forms of punishment. Society is at an age where young people are "glued" to technology, taking this away or a simple talk could lead to some behavioral improvements. A researcher name, Elizabeth Gershoff, came up with the point that some children become "immune" to physical punishment (Augustyn 3). What this means is that they receive so many whippings, it becomes a regular thing that they are now used to. When this occurs, it is no longer looked at as being punishment and an alternate solution should be created

by the parent/guardian. A study was conducted on people who are considered to be successful in the world. Out of those people, only about 17 percent received regular physical punishment.

Everyone has different opinions on what they feel acceptable punishment is. Whether or not corporal punishment is acceptable, will be argued until the end of time. Everyone has different parenting skills and ways of raising their children. Everything done in life has an effect, whether good or bad. In this case, it means that your child's upbringing and the way they were disciplined could affect their future.

Works Cited

- Anderson, M. (2015, December 15). Where teachers are still allowed to spank students.

 Retrieved March 20, 2019, from

 https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2015/12/corporal-punishment/420420/
- Augustyn, A. (2016, February 22). Corporal punishment. Retrieved March 18, 2019, from https://www.britannica.com/topic/corporal-punishment
- Holinger, P. (2014, April 28). Why physical punishment does not work? Retrieved March 19, 2019, from https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/great-kids-great-parents/201404/why-physical-punishment-does-not-work
- Morin, A. (2018, August 25). Facts about corporal punishment. Retrieved March 18, 2019, from https://www.verywellfamily.com/facts-about-corporal-punishment-1094806
- O'Donnell, L. (2018, June). Disciplining your child. Retrieved March 20, 2019, from https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/discipline.html