

Progress towards prohibiting all corporal punishment in CARICOM members

Prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (www.endcorporalpunishment.org), July 2016



Global Initiative to
End All Corporal Punishment
of Children

The following table summarises the legal status of corporal punishment of children – and progress towards achieving prohibition – in all settings in all CARICOM members and associate members. As at July 2016 no member has achieved prohibition in all settings, including the home. Three members have prohibited corporal punishment in all alternative care settings, two in day care, four in schools, 10 in penal institutions and 14 as a sentence for crime.

State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in alternative care settings	Prohibited in day care	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal institutions	Prohibited as sentence for crime
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Bahamas	NO	SOME ¹	NO	NO	[YES] ²	[NO] ³
Barbados	NO	NO	SOME ⁴	NO	NO	NO
Belize ⁵	NO	SOME ⁶	SOME ⁷	YES	SOME ⁸	YES
Dominica	NO	NO	SOME ⁹	NO	NO	NO
Grenada	NO	SOME ¹⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹¹
Guyana	NO	SOME ¹²	SOME ¹³	NO	SOME ¹⁴	SOME ¹⁵
Haiti	NO ¹⁶	[YES] ¹⁷	[YES] ¹⁸	YES	YES	YES
Jamaica	NO	YES	SOME ¹⁹	NO ²⁰	YES	YES
Montserrat	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²¹	YES
St Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²²
St Lucia ²³	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
St Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Suriname	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁴	YES	YES

¹ Prohibited in residential institutions

² But some legislation possibly still to be repealed

³ Prohibited in 1984 but reintroduced in 1991

⁴ Prohibited in day nurseries

⁵ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2009)

⁶ Prohibited in residential care facilities

⁷ Prohibited in day care centres

⁸ Prohibited in “Youth Hostel” detention centre

⁹ Prohibited in early childhood education facilities

¹⁰ Prohibited in childcare homes

¹¹ Prohibited in Juvenile Justice Act 2012, not yet in force

¹² Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

¹³ Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

¹⁴ Prohibited for persons under 17

¹⁵ Prohibited for persons under 17

¹⁶ Bill which would prohibit under discussion (2015)

¹⁷ Prohibition in foster care unconfirmed

¹⁸ Prohibition in crèches and childminding unconfirmed

¹⁹ Prohibited in early childhood centres (“basic schools”)

²⁰ Prohibition under discussion (2015); see also note on day care

²¹ Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

²² But some legislation still to be formally repealed

²³ Government accepted some but not all UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in alternative care settings	Prohibited in day care	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal institutions	Prohibited as sentence for crime
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Associate members						
Anguilla	NO	NO	SOME ²⁵	YES	YES	YES
Bermuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
British Virgin Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Cayman Islands	NO	SOME ²⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES
Turks and Caicos Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁷	YES

Note

The above information is based wherever possible on examination of national legislation; additional information is gathered from many sources, including reports to and by the United Nations human rights treaty bodies.

Information in square brackets is unconfirmed. We are very grateful to government officials, UNICEF and other UN agencies, NGOs and human rights institutions, and many individuals who have assisted us in our research. We welcome corrections and updates: email info@endcorporalpunishment.org. For further details on all states see the individual state reports at www.endcorporalpunishment.org.

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www.endcorporalpunishment.org; info@endcorporalpunishment.org
 July 2016

²⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in schools (2011)

²⁵ Prohibited in early childhood education centres

²⁶ Prohibited in community homes, registered children's homes and state-organised foster care

²⁷ Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed