

Who Are We?

Family Integrity is an informal association of families and individuals from all walks of life who are opposed to unjustifiable government interference in family matters.

Family Integrity is a completely independent association and is not a part of, aligned with or committed to any political party, Church denomination or lobby group.

Family Integrity is facilitated by Craig Smith and his eldest daughter, Genevieve Smith.



**Our Home-
Our Castle**

Resources (as at June 2004)

Other brochures available:

Spanking vs. Child Abuse & Violence

Spanking and the Law in New Zealand

Why the Anti-Spanking Lobby Have It Wrong

A Working Definition of Spanking

Spanking Questions and Answers

The Christian Foundation of the Institution of Corporal Correction

Family Integrity

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Family Integrity

An Introduction to Family Integrity

Our Home...Our Castle



Our Message

Family Integrity is opposed to unjustifiable government interference in family matters. It is a great concern that minority special interest lobby groups have a few people in Parliament who are actually spending millions of dollars of tax-payers' money to finance a propaganda campaign and manipulate the law-making apparatus in order to force others to think and act according to their particular ideology. At present people such as the Prime Minister, Helen Clark, and MP Steve Maharey, are constantly flying kites to see if the social and political climate is right for a push to repeal Section 59 of the Crimes Act, which would effectively ban spanking in the home and make criminals out of thousands of New Zealand's best parents. **Family Integrity's objective is to keep the government out of where it does not belong in order to preserve and protect each family's personal integrity.** The proposed ban on spanking is our organisation's focus at present.

We are all naturally opposed to child abuse and violence toward children. There are already laws on the books against these terrible acts. Yet the activists want to deny all parents one of the key tools in child rearing, one as old and as respected as parenting



Parents should hold the key to their home, their castle... their integrity.

itself: the spank. They claim it is an act of violence. Spanking and acts of violence are not at all related. They are not even on the same continuum, one grading into the other ("discipline that

gets out of control"), as some like to claim. See our brochure titled *Spanking vs. Child Abuse & Violence*.

The activists want to deny this tool even though they know filling the statute books with more laws won't stop the incompetent, the undisciplined, the violent and the drugged – the offenders they are after – from exploding



Equipping parents to do battle to protect the integrity of their family.

into violence against children. They know it will make criminals out of the most committed and responsible parents in the land. They know it is against the will of the vast majority of voters: polls show 80% of New Zealanders oppose making it a crime for parents to spank their own children. They know they are not dealing effectively or even at all with the obvious sources of violence in our society – the 18,500-murders-a-year abortion

industry, school bullying, gratuitously violent TV shows, violent and gory videos and video games and family structures that lead to domestic violence – but choose instead to have a go at the heart of traditional family upbringing.

The activists also know it will affect Christian parents in particular, for these parents have a clear doctrine and theology defining the institution of spanking as a commended tool of loving and responsible parenting. For many Christians the redefinition of spanking as a criminal offence would force them either to allow a secular government to overrule in an area of religious faith and practice or to disobey the secular government in order to obey God's higher authority. Clearly it does not help build a cohesive society to do such violence to the religious feelings of a large segment of society or to put them into such a difficult situation between the proverbial rock and hard place. On a pragmatic political basis alone, the alienation of so many voters is a foolish thing to do.

The government must not be allowed to set this kind of precedent, that of the government directly interfering into and dictating how a family will rear its own children. Such a move, purportedly to reduce violence, would itself commit violence to the family's integrity. It would be the worst form of home invasion, imposing the state between the child and his/her parents, setting one against the other. We must stop this intervention, regardless of what anyone personally thinks about the spanking issue.

How Can I Be Involved?

Firstly, by keeping informed. Family Integrity operates an email loop designed to inform members of political maneuverings which will impact our families and homes. To join the group send an email to the address listed on the back with the words 'Count Me In!' in the subject line.

Secondly, by spreading the message of Family Integrity. Our brochures have been written for your benefit and use. These outline many of the issues which are of concern to us in Family Integrity. We are happy to supply you with numerous brochures should you want to make them available from your Church, place of business, school, or give them away to friends and family.

Thirdly, through supporting the work of Family Integrity through prayer, donations and taking action on matters as they are brought to your attention through the email loop.

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