



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Time Out Targeted as Next Taboo of Parenting**

Family First NZ says that 'time out' is now being labeled as harmful to children based on flawed ideology and without any research to back up the claims, as was the case with the smacking debate.

"Last week, an Australian parenting expert labeled time out as shameful and humiliating, joining other so-called parenting experts who claim that time out creates hurt, anger and defiance in a child ultimately harming them. They also claim that nervous habits can result, and that children should not be told they are naughty," says Bob McCoskrie, National Director of Family First NZ.

"Once again, these unsubstantiated and ideologically flawed claims and latest fads in parenting by academics simply undermine the confidence of parents to raise their children in a positive and common sense way. Where does it stop? Will it soon be unacceptable to withdraw privileges or 'ground' a child – perhaps it will soon be even unacceptable to frown at a child who is misbehaving!"

"Great and law-abiding kiwi parents are being forced to change their parenting techniques based on flawed and unproven ideology. Yet all these techniques have been proven throughout the generations to be beneficial to raising law-abiding and positive members of society."

"The discipline, training and correction of children, and techniques being used to achieve this, are being demonized with no justification."

"For example, research earlier this month has shown that light smacking is not harmful and can even be beneficial to children."

"Parents should be given the freedom and respect to raise their own children in a common sense and non-abusive way rather than being harassed with the latest theories of child rearing from so-called experts," says Mr McCoskrie.

"It's time the government listened to thorough and balanced research, and to the experience of parents and grandparents on smacking, time out and other issues related to raising responsible and law abiding citizens, rather than the flawed ideology and scaremongering of academics and state agencies who have misdefined positive parenting and child abuse."

**ENDS**

***For More Information and Media Interviews, contact Family First:***

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