



## MEDIA RELEASE

23 June 2009

# 82% Will Be Voting NO – 76% Want It Binding

Family First NZ says that the latest online polls regarding the anti-smacking law show continued opposition to the anti-smacking law, and the law should be changed now rather than after a costly Referendum.

“Two polls last week by the *Dominion Post* and *Yahoo* showed huge opposition to the anti-smacking law,” says Bob McCoskrie, National Director of Family First NZ.

“A Stuff online poll today with 4,000 votes shows that 82% will be voting no in the upcoming Referendum, and a *NZ Herald* website poll showed 76% support for the Referendum to be binding (2700 votes).”

Family First is calling on the government to adopt the Chester Borrows amendment (subsequently introduced through a Private Members Bill from ACT MP John Boscawen) and establish a Commission of Enquiry into tackling the real causes of child abuse.

“We owe it to good parents to get this law right,” says Mr McCoskrie. “Let’s target the real causes of child abuse – not real parents.”

### AFTER LAW PASSED

**Dominion Post Online Poll June 09**

76% voting NO 4% voting YES 16% don't think govt will listen

**Yahoo Online Poll June 09**

87% said smacking ok – only 11% opposed (16,000 votes)

**Curia Research Mar 08**

83% want law changed to allow light smacking

**Research International Feb 2008**

74% parents should be able to smack

**Curia Research May 08**

85% want law changed to allow light smacking

**TVNZ June 08**

85% NO - do you think anti-smacking law should stay

**NZ Herald Online Poll 25 June 2008**

Should there be a referendum on the smacking legislation at this year's election?

Yes: 3746 (81%) No: 878 (19%) Total Votes: 4624

**Otago Daily Times 28 June 08**

68% up to parents to decide

(280 votes)

21% children should be legally protected

11% depends on the case

**[www.littlies.co.nz/](http://www.littlies.co.nz/) July 2008** One year on, do you think the anti-smacking Bill has proved to be effective?

Yes (7%)

No (87%)

Unsure (7%)

**NZ Herald Sep 08**

Should smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in NZ

**86% No**

*Online 90% (2800 votes)*

**BEFORE LAW PASSED**

<b>MARAE DigiPoll (1,000 Maori voters)</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Anti-smackingvote.co.nz Apr 2007</b>	<b>70% (43,000 votes!)</b>
<a href="http://www.antismackingvote.co.nz/poll+results">http://www.antismackingvote.co.nz/poll+results</a>	Zenago Internet Solutions
<b>Treasures website Apr 2007</b>	<b>85% (1972 votes)</b>
<b>Waikato Times Apr 4 2007</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>TV3 TNS Mar 29 2007</b>	<b>69% (70% support smacking) **</b>
<b>TVNZ Colmar Brunton Mar 26 2007</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Research NZ Mar 26 2007</b>	<b>73%</b>
<b>Bay of Plenty Times Text Poll Mar 26 2007</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>TV3 Website poll Mar 14 2007</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>NZ News – Yahoo .com Mar 13 2007</b>	<b>92% (7643 votes)</b>
<b>TV3 News Poll Mar 2007</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>NZ Herald Feb 2007</b>	<b>90% (3874 votes)</b>
<b>TVNZ website Feb 2007</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>STUFF website July 2006</b>	<b>82% (6700 votes!)</b>
<b>TVNZ website July 2006</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Bay of Plenty Times May 2006</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Child Abuse Conference Feb 2006</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>STUFF website Feb 2006</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Dominion Post Feb 2006</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>STUFF website March 2005</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>NZ Herald July 2005</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>STUFF website June 2005</b>	<b>82%</b>

**ENDS**

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

**Bob McCoskrie - NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

**Mob. 027 55 555 42**