

Spankings

Educating children requires discipline.

I was not a bad student, but I was sometimes bored in class. I was occasionally caught passing notes or throwing spitballs. This resulted in an immediate trip to the principal's office.

Part of the principal's job involved administering spankings on such occasions.

Spankings were very effective. Waiting for the spanking was almost worse than the spanking itself. Students would compare notes. Thin paddles were found to be more painful than wide ones and principals had different techniques, which caused varied results.

Our parents were informed and there might be another spanking when we got home.

Children have problems which didn't exist 50 years ago. Is a little corporal punishment a bad thing compared to undisciplined students who may become drug addicts or worse?

A teacher who spanks a child today, might be targeted by agency bureaucrats, who do not understand the difference between discipline and child abuse.

There is a tiny fraction of students with mental or other problems for whom spankings are inappropriate. These students are easy to identify and are getting special help. There are more of these children because of the use of marijuana and other drugs in society, but it is still small.

I suggest we bring back school spankings. We cannot restore school quality without discipline.