# THE STRIKING OUTLIER

The Persistent, Painful and Problematic Practice of Corporal Punishment in Schools

Foreword by Derrick Johnson



#### About the Southern Poverty Law Center

The Southern Poverty Law Center, based in Montgomery, Alabama, is a nonprofit civil rights organization founded in 1971 and dedicated to fighting hate and bigotry, and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of society.

## F . a $ab_{a}$ THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

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## About The Center for Civil Rights Remedies

The Center for Civil Rights Remedies, an initiative of the UCLA Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles (CRP), is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for children who have been historically subjected to discrimination, and has issued numerous descriptive reports and studies about the use of disciplinary exclusion and alternatives. CRP is co-directed by Gary Orfield and Patricia Gándara, research professors at UCLA. Its mission is to create a new generation of research in social science and law on the critical issues of civil rights and equal opportunity for racial and ethnic groups in the United St (en-n *k*L3.9 (or )**Td** S)70I.9 (ARS1 (w on the critic)1.1 (al 3)

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## FORE ORD

**BY DERRICK JOHNSON** 

President and CEO N, II, AIII, III A, JI a II CII, PI (NAACP

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## A new look at an old punishment

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### A look at the states

STATE	CORPORAL PUNISHMENT RATE IN 2013-14	TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SCHOOLS PRACTICING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT
Mississippi	9.3%	271,987
Arkansas	7.5%	196,941
Missouri	6.1%	53,644
Alabama	5.9%	315,721
Oklahoma	5.6%	124,341
Georgia	5.0%	165,851
Texas	4.6%	418,332
Tennessee	3.9%	185,405
Florida	3.5%	57,540
Louisiana	2.8%	120,696
North Carolina	2.0%	3,903
Kentucky	1.7%	5,115
Indiana	1.6%	15,392
South Carolina	1.4%	6,529

#### A look at school districts

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Students from **preschool to high school** are still being subjected to corporal punishment.

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#### WHERE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

# THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE C

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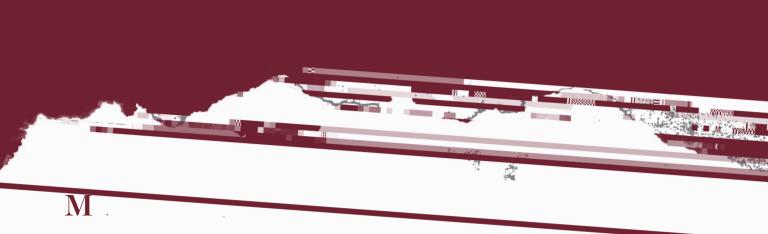
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1 Pee, Linda. Written testimony before the U.S. House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, hearing on "Corporal Punishment in Schools and its E ect on Academic Success," April 15, 2010, bit.ly/2vmg0A8, (Last accessed Dec. 10, 2018).

2 Id.

3 Id.

4 Pee, Linda. Oral testimony before the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, hearing on "Corporal Punishment in Schools and its E ect on Academic Success," April 15, 2010, bit.ly/2v22UN4, (Last accessed Dec. 10, 2018).

5 Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wyoming (Center for E ective Discipline, 2015, and a Southern Poverty Law Center review of the 19 states' statutes). Some of the data used for this report showed use of corporal punishment in states where the practice is banned, potentially a sign of reporting errors by local o cials.

6 Gersho , E. T., Purtell, K. M., & Holas, I. (2015). "Corporal Punishment in U.S. public schools: legal precedents, current practices, and future policy." Springer Briefs in Psychology Series, Advances in Child and Family Policy and Practice Subseries. doi: 1-.1007/978-3-319-14818-2

7 These organizations include the American Bar Association, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of School Nurses, and the American Medical Association, among others. See Gagnon, Joseph Calvin, et al., "Corporal Punishment in Florida Schools: Trends in Reactive, Punitive, and Ine ective Approaches to Youth Behavior," (2012). University of Florida

and Southern Poverty Law Center, p. 6-7 bit.ly/2GBOect (Lastpan ALang (en-US)/MCID 3093 BDC BT7 0 2b. 6-erty La622od(tic)13 ishmenertal punish

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