











guardian(s) or any other person

1999 General Comment on “The right to education” states: “In the Committee’s view, corporal punishment is inconsistent with the fundamental guiding principle of international human rights law enshrined in the Preambles to the Universal Declaration and both Covenants: the dignity of the individual. Othe





other carers with a defence or justification for using some degree of violence in “disciplining” children. For example, the defence of “lawful”, “reasonable” or “moderate” chastisement or correction has formed part of English common law for centuries, as has a

the Committee, given the traditional acceptance of corporal punishment, it is essential that the applicable sectoral legislation – e.g. family law, education law, law relating to all forms



supportive and degrading, is persistent, rough

ent status and the unique



responsibility of parents, or legal guardians, for the upbringing and development of the



