Petition for the Passage of the Positive Discipline of Children Act

Petition summary and background	The **2015 Philippine National Baseline Study on Violence Against Children (NBS-VAC)** revealed that **most Filipino children experience and are vulnerable to physical, psychosocial and sexual violence in any setting**, **but it is significantly high in the home**. An alarming 3 in 5 children suffer one or two forms of violence at home, while parents and other members of the family (brothers, cousins and sisters) are often the perpetrators of abuse. Parenting practices that include the use of coercion, threats, insults, and a frightening tone increase the risk of child maltreatment and set the state for similar patterns of behavior in parent/child and other relationship (Systematic Literature Review of the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children in the Philippines, 2016). The damage of violence in childhood goes far beyond immediate trauma and fear, extending through many aspects of child's life, affecting her/his health and education, and restricting future opportunities. Violence can lead to depression and behavioral problems, post-traumatic stress, anxiety and eating disorders. These impacts on mental health can make young people more vulnerable to substance abuse, and poor reproductive and sexual health (Global Report 2017 on Ending Violence in Children).
Action petitioned for	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to pass the Positive Discipline of Children Act, to promote the creation of a safe, nurturing and protective environment for children through positive parenting among parents, guardians, caregivers and teachers. Let us all work towards realizing children's rights to a violence-free childhood.

Printed Name	Age	Signature	Address	Date

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