

# **JASA**

## **Justice Alliance of South Africa**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **IS PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY BEGINNING TO WORK AT LAST? JASA DELIGHTED WITH PARLIAMENT AND ANC'S RESPONSE TO PUBLIC PRESSURE IN RESPECT OF CHILDREN'S DISCIPLINE**

**Yesterday the National Assembly Portfolio Health Committee decided to withdraw the controversial clause banning parental chastisement from the Children's Amendment bill.**

**In August JASA wrote to the Speaker of the National Assembly and Chairperson of the NCOP, with copy to the ANC Chairperson of the Social Development Portfolio Committee, asking that this clause should be taken out of the otherwise excellent Bill, and considered separately. We are grateful for this response. It is a victory for common sense and for the many members of the public who made representations to the Committee.**

**JASA was also pleased to hear yesterday that the Portfolio Committee on Health had responded to our letter of last week to the Speaker and agreed to hold further public hearings on the Choice of Termination of Pregnancy Amendment Bill after the NCOP had refused to permit the Provinces to put forward new proposals in the wake of their public hearings. The action by the NCOP in rejecting all proposals by the Provinces was clearly unconstitutional, and will mean the battle has to be resumed in the Constitutional court next year unless the National assembly rectifies the matter.**

**Jasa is a coalition committed to the highest moral values in South African society. Wherever possible JASA is determined to assist Parliament by suggesting carefully drafted alternative or additional clauses rather than merely criticising the Bills. For copies of submissions and letters email above address.**

#### **Executive Board**

**Tim Makamu (Chairman), Stephen van Rhyn (Vice-Chairman), Tendai Musikavanu,  
Nigel Desmond, Roger Gifford, John Smyth**