Q: It is important for children to learn the difference between right and wrong at an early age. Punishment is necessary to help them learn this distinction.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

What sort of punishment should parents and teachers be allowed to use to teach good behavior to children?

There is a widespread belief that punishing the children as early as possible is essential for teaching them to distinguish right from wrong. While I strongly disagree with the physical and verbal types of punishment, I believe that constructive forms of punishment could be an effective useful method if applied correctly. There are two main reasons why I strongly believe that physical and verbal punishments are not a solution for long-term results.

Firstly, corporal punishment, such as slapping or spanking, fails to have a long-lasting effect on children's misbehavior. The mentioned subject occurs because they will not become self-conscious about their mistakes; Although, although they will stop their wrong behavior just to avoid punishment. For example, those children who are afraid of getting caught are more cautious about behaving well only in their parents' presence. Secondly, verbal punishment, such as shaming or using cruel words, could seriously harm the children's inner motivation, making it almost impossible for them to find the right way of behaving when their parents are not around to guide them.

On the other hand, I consider that using forms of punishment that are positive and constructive could be an effective method for children's discipline. One constructive punishment could be letting the children choose their own actions while teaching them to take full responsibility for their actions through penalties. Children tend to act according to their ideas of what is right or wrong when encouraged to make decisions and face the resulting consequences. For instance, if a little boy causes serious damage to the TV screen when playing football indoor, the best method to teach him to distinguish between right and wrong is to require him to pay for the damage with money from his pocket money.

In conclusion, while I strongly disagree with corporal and verbal punishment, I believe that punishment/retribution, if applied correctly, could be <u>more</u> effective in teaching children to distinguish between right and wrong.