

## Is This Abuse?

In each of the following situations mark whether you think it is abuse or not. Explain why or why not.

1. A girl is slapped for screaming at her mother; the slap stings, but leaves no lasting mark or pain.

Yes – physical abuse.

2. A boy is punished in a way that requires stitches.

Yes – physical abuse.

3. A father burns his daughter's palms with a lighted cigarette when he finds her smoking.

Yes – physical abuse.

4. A mother is careless and spills scalding coffee on her daughter, who is seriously burned.

No, it is an accident.

5. A boy's arm is broken after wrestling with his father for sport.

No, it is an accident.

6. A girl is spanked so hard she is badly bruised, but the father says he did not mean to hurt her.

Yes – physical abuse.

7. A boy is grounded for a week for a minor offense.

No, there is no abuse.

8. A father takes away his son's driver's license for getting a parking ticket.

No, there is no abuse.