



News release

For immediate release:

Fair Play booklet on talking to children about prejudice and discrimination reprinted to coincide with BBC Northern Ireland's State of Mind series

A booklet that gives parents advice on talking to children about prejudice and discrimination, jointly produced by children's charities Barnardo's Northern Ireland and Save the Children, has been reprinted with the support of BBC Northern Ireland.

First launched in Derry in 2002 thousands of copies of the free booklet, written by Professor Paul Connolly from Queen's University, have been distributed to eager community groups, parents' groups and schools. With the screening of the innovative BBC Northern Ireland two-part series – State of Minds – that examines the attitudes and tolerances of people here – last night's (Monday, June 18) programme focusing on children's attitudes and the second programme on Wednesday (June 20) looking at the attitudes of adults – all three organisations believe that there will be a heightened demand from parents for the practical advice the booklet offers.

'It's clear from the reaction to the **Fair Play** booklet that parents do welcome the chance to talk to their children about issues such as disability, racism and sectarianism. **Fair Play** suggests ways for parents to broach the subject of discrimination and give them the confidence and skills to handle difficult subjects with their children', said Sheri Chamberlain from Save the Children.

'As parents ourselves the staff at Barnardo's Parenting Matters know how difficult it can be when children put you on the spot or say cruel things about people they see as different. But we also know that prejudice can destroy lives and seriously limit a child's development. We wanted to make a point about different forms of discrimination while at the same time offering parents support without judging or lecturing them', said Helen Dunn, children's services manager with Parenting Matters.

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Save the Children

Fair Play Booklet

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Gemma Cunningham, producer of State of Minds series for BBC Northern Ireland said:

“The results of the attitudinal surveys that are at the centre of the two-part series are very revealing. Addressing some of the issues raised could certainly be difficult for parents to discuss with their children and the Fair Play booklet offers a great source of information for them.”

Many parents who have worked with both charities have said that it is often difficult to deal with subjects like discrimination with their children but that the booklet gave them good ‘pointers’. As one parent said: ‘The more I say ‘don’t do it’ the more they go on about it to get at me. It has been good to listen to what they say and just quietly challenge it. *Fair Play* had good short pointers like that.’

Copies are available **free** from all Barnardo’s and Save the Children shops (see attached list). A PDF of the booklet can be downloaded from <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/northernireland.htm> or www.savethechildren.org.uk/northernireland or BBC Northern Ireland’s State of Minds website – www.bbc.co.uk/ni/stateofminds. Bulk copies are free but postage will be charged. Contact the Information Co-ordinator at Save the Children on 028 9043 1123 or Nicola Darnbrook at Barnardo’s Northern Ireland on 028 9067 2366.

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For further information please contact Christine King, Save the Children on 02890 431123 or 0775 3638256, Fiona MacMillan, Barnardo’s Northern Ireland on 028 9067 2366 (work) or 07767 250173 (mobile). Or for information on **State of Minds** please contact Kevin McCauley in the BBC Northern Ireland Press Office, 02890 338000

Notes to Editors

- 1 Save the Children is the UK’s leading international children’s charity working in the UK and over 70 countries overseas to make the reality of every child’s right to a healthy, happy and secure childhood.
- 2 Barnardo’s Northern Ireland works with nearly 11,000 children, young people and their families here in over 40 projects. Parenting Matters runs community based courses in parenting dealing with issues from babies to teenagers. Tel: 9049 1081 for details of courses in your area.
- 3 The second part of the State of Minds series looking at the results of the adult survey is on BBC ONE Northern Ireland at 9.00 pm on Wednesday, June 20. The live interactive studio programme offers viewers at home the chance to take part and measure their own attitudes.
- 4 The booklet is available from Save the Children and Barnardo’s shops as detailed below.



Save the Children

SAVE THE CHILDREN NORTHERN IRELAND SHOPS

Ballymena	39-41 Mill Street
Ballymena	85 Lisboy Road
Bangor	8 High Street
Belfast	12 Botanic Avenue
Coleraine	44 New Row
Cookstown	16–18 Molesworth Street
Portadown	3 Woodhouse Street

BARNARDO'S NORTHERN IRELAND SHOPS

ARMAGH	38 Scotch Street
BALLYCLARE	42 Main Street
BALLYMENA	87 Church Street
BALLYMONEY	19/21 Main Street
BELFAST	7 Bridge Street
BELFAST	447 Lisburn Road
BELFAST	301 Shankhill Road
CARRICKFERGUS	31 High Street
CARRICKFERGUS	20 High Street
COLERAINE	16 Stone Row
DUNMURRY	191 Kingsway
LIMAVADY	4 Market Street
L'DERRY	8 Bishop Street



Save the Children

LURGAN	2 High Street
NEWRY	4 Hill Street
OMAGH	15 Scraffes Entry
PORTADOWN	16 Thomas Street
STRABANE	3 Bridge Street

Registered Office: Save the Children UK, 1 St. John's Lane, London, EC1M 4AR. A company registered in London no. 178159 and limited by guarantee, Registered charity no. 213890, VAT registered no. 239 5393 33. Patron: Her Majesty the Queen, President:: Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, Chief Executive: Jasmine Whitbread, Save the Children is a member of the International Save the Children Alliance.