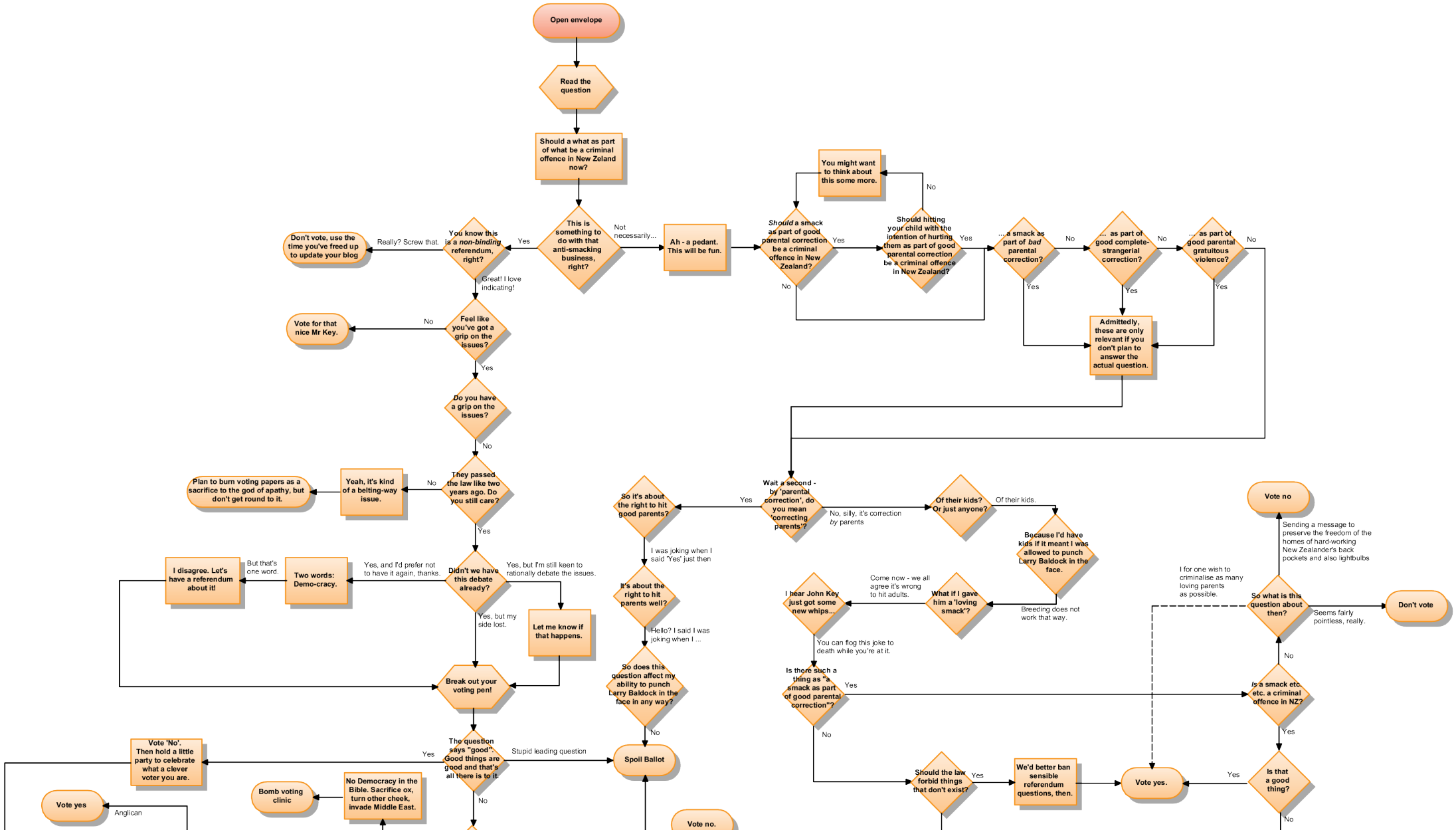
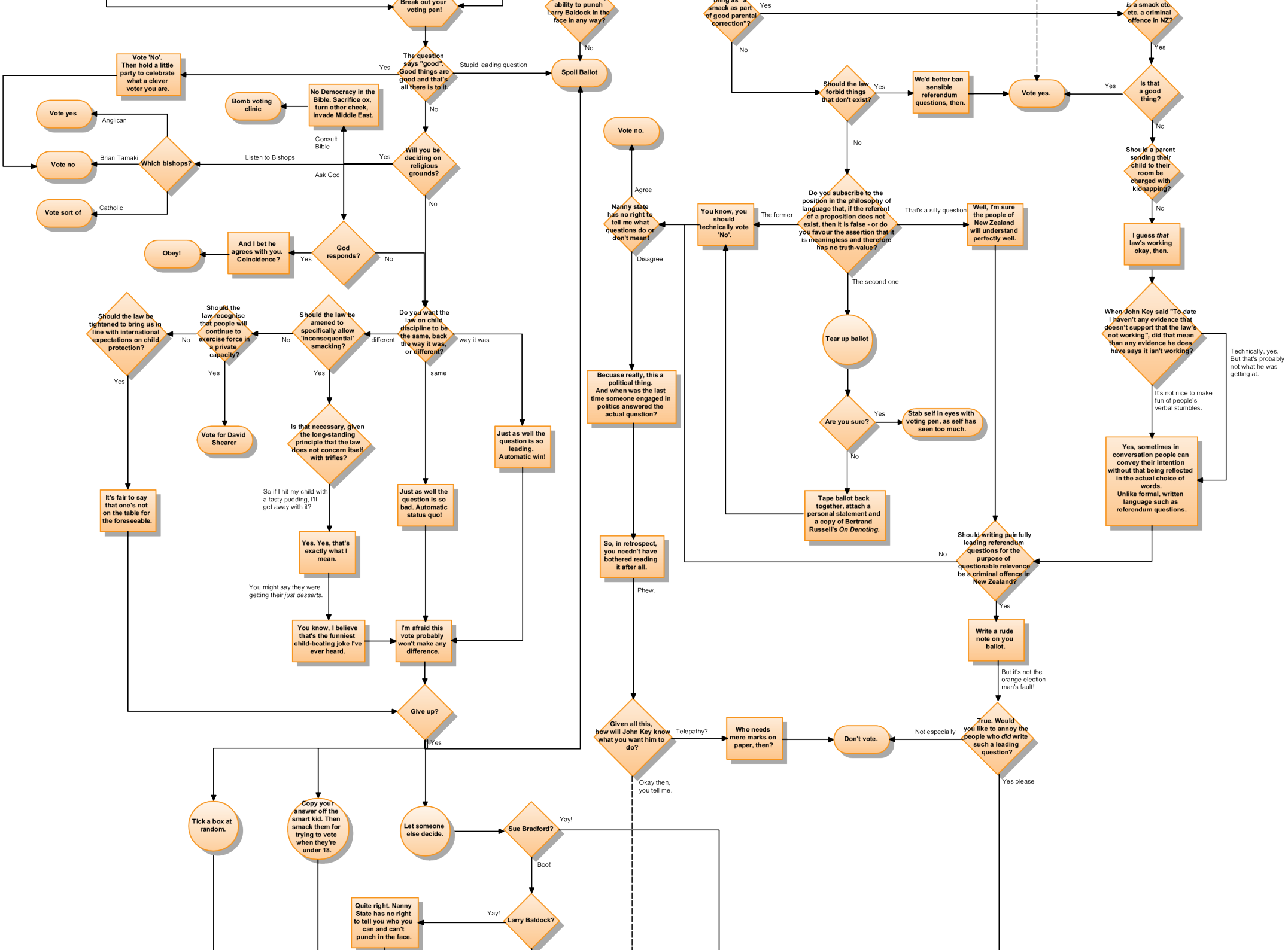
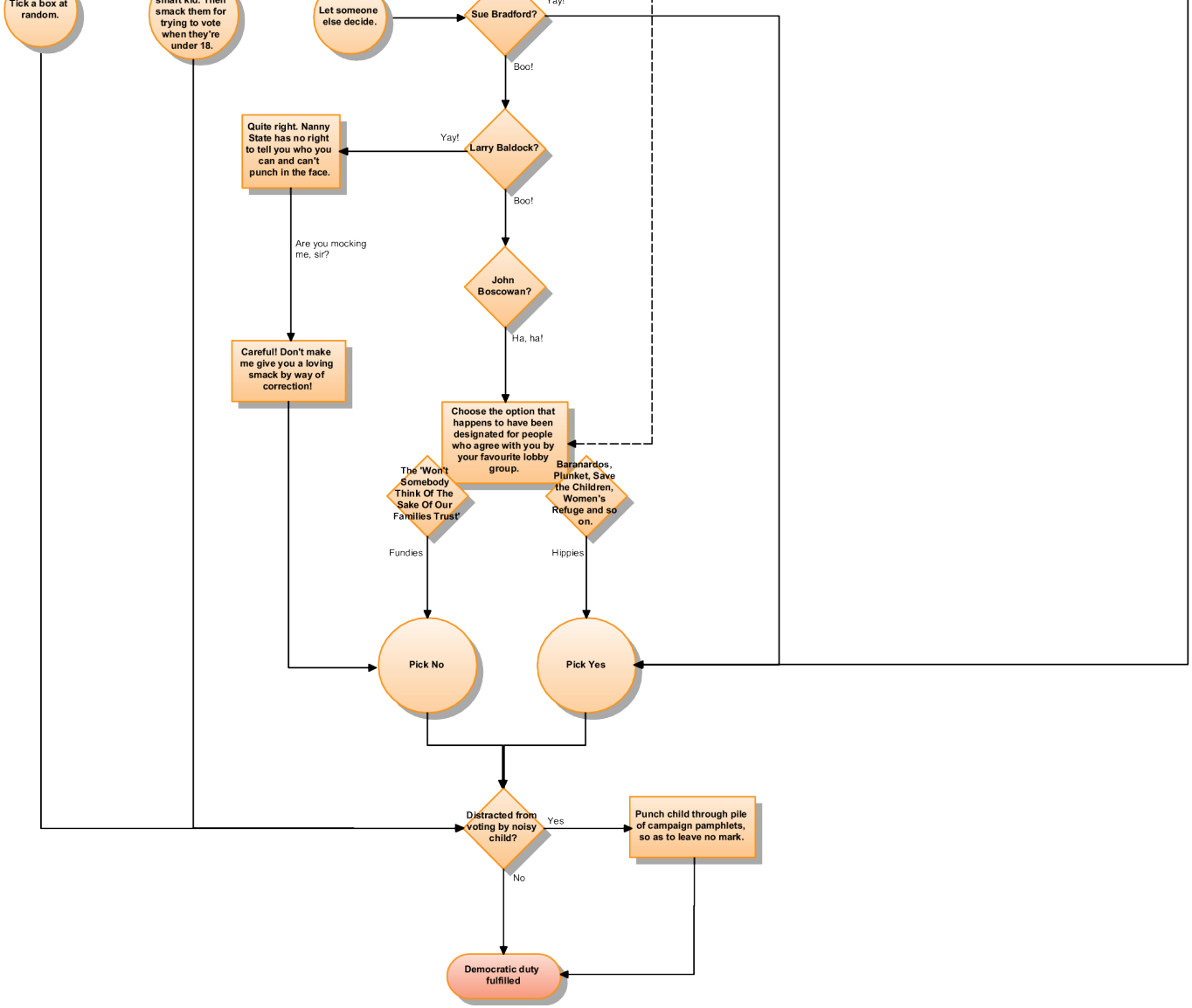

Open envelope
Read the question
Should a what as part of what be a criminal offence in New Zeland now?
This is something to do with that anti-smacking business, right?
Not necessarily...
Ah - a pedant. This will be fun.
Should a smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand?
Yes
No
You might want to think about this some more.
No
Should hitting your child with the intention of hurting them as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand?
Yes
... a smack as part of *bad* parental correction?
No
... as part of good complete-strangerial correction?
No
... as part of good parental gratuitous violence?
No
Yes
Yes
Yes
Admittedly, these are only relevant if you don't plan to answer the actual question.
Yes
You know this is a *non-binding* referendum, right?
Yes
Really? Screw that.
Don't vote, use the time you've freed up to update your blog
Great! I love indicating!
Feel like you've got a grip on the issues?
No
Vote for that nice Mr Key.
Yes
Do you have a grip on the issues?
No
They passed the law like two years ago. Do you still care?
No
Yeah, it's kind of a belting-way issue.
Plan to burn voting papers as a sacrifice to the god of apathy, but don't get round to it.
Yes
Didn't we have this debate already?
Yes, but I'm still keen to rationally debate the issues.
Let me know if that happens.
Yes, and I'd prefer not to have it again, thanks.
Two words: Demo-cracy.
But that's one word.
I disagree. Let's have a referendum about it!
Yes, but my side lost.
Break out your voting pen!
The question says "good". Good things are good and that's all there is to it.
Yes
Vote 'No'. Then hold a little party to celebrate what a clever voter you are.
Stupid leading question
Spoil Ballot
No
No Democracy in the Bible. Sacrifice ox, turn other cheek, invade Middle East.
Bomb voting clinic
Vote yes
Anglican
Vote no.
Wait a second - by 'parental correction', do you mean 'correcting parents'?
Yes
So it's about the right to hit good parents?
I was joking when I said 'Yes' just then
It's about the right to hit parents well?
Hello? I said I was joking when I ...
So does this question affect my ability to punch Larry Baldock in the face in any way?
No
No, silly, it's correction *by* parents
Of their kids? Or just anyone?
Of their kids.
Because I'd have kids if it meant I was allowed to punch Larry Baldock in the face.
What if I gave him a 'loving smack'?
Breeding does not work that way.
Come now - we all agree it's wrong to hit adults.
I hear John Key just got some new whips...
You can flog this joke to death while you're at it.
Is there such a thing as "a smack as part of good parental correction"?
Yes
No
Should the law forbid things that don't exist?
Yes
We'd better ban sensible referendum questions, then.
Vote yes.
Yes
Is that a good thing?
No
Is a smack etc. etc. a criminal offence in NZ?
Yes
No
So what is this question about then?
Seems fairly pointless, really.
Don't vote
I for one wish to criminalise as many loving parents as possible.
Sending a message to preserve the freedom of the homes of hard-working New Zealander's back pockets and also lightbulbs
Vote no


Break out your voting pen!
The question says "good". Good things are good and that's all there is to it.
Yes
Stupid leading question
Vote 'No'. Then hold a little party to celebrate what a clever voter you are.
No
Will you be deciding on religious grounds?
Yes
No
Bomb voting clinic
No Democracy in the Bible. Sacrifice ox, turn other cheek, invade Middle East.
Consult Bible
Ask God
Listen to Bishops
Which bishops?
Anglican
Brian Tamaki
Catholic
Vote yes
Vote no
Vote sort of
God responds?
Yes
No
And I bet he agrees with you. Coincidence?
Obey!
Do you want the law on child discipline to be the same, back the way it was, or different?
different
way it was
same
Should the law be amened to specifically allow 'inconsequential' smacking?
Yes
No
Should the law recognise that people will continue to exercise force in a private capacity?
Yes
No
Vote for David Shearer
Should the law be tightened to bring us in line with international expectations on child protection?
Yes
It's fair to say that one's not on the table for the foreseeable.
Is that necessary, given the long-standing principle that the law does not concern itself with trifles?
So if I hit my child with a tasty pudding, I'll get away with it?
Yes. Yes, that's exactly what I mean.
You might say they were getting their *just desserts*.
You know, I believe that's the funniest child-beating joke I've ever heard.
I'm afraid this vote probably won't make any difference.
Just as well the question is so bad. Automatic status quo!
Just as well the question is so leading. Automatic win!
Give up?
Yes
Tick a box at random.
Copy your answer off the smart kid. Then smack them for trying to vote when they're under 18.
Let someone else decide.
Sue Bradford?
Yay!
Boo!
Larry Baldock?
Yay!
Quite right. Nanny State has no right to tell you who you can and can't punch in the face.
Spoil Ballot
No
ability to punch Larry Baldock in the face in any way?
Vote no.
Agree
Nanny state has no right to tell me what questions do or don't mean!
Disagree
Becuase really, this a political thing. And when was the last time someone engaged in politics answered the actual question?
So, in retrospect, you needn't have bothered reading it after all.
Phew.
Given all this, how will John Key know what you want him to do?
Telepathy?
Who needs mere marks on paper, then?
Don't vote.
Not especially
True. Would you like to annoy the people who *did* write such a leading question?
Yes please
Okay then, you tell me.
Yes
No
Should the law forbid things that don't exist?
Yes
We'd better ban sensible referendum questions, then.
Vote yes.
Yes
Is that a good thing?
No
Should a parent sending their child to their room be charged with kidnapping?
No
I guess *that* law's working okay, then.
When John Key said "To date I haven't any evidence that doesn't support that the law's not working", did that mean than any evidence he does have says it isn't working?
Technically, yes. But that's probably not what he was getting at.
It's not nice to make fun of people's verbal stumbles.
Yes, sometimes in conversation people can convey their intention without that being reflected in the actual choice of words. Unlike formal, written language such as referendum questions.
Should writing painfully leading referendum questions for the purpose of questionable relevence be a criminal offence in New Zealand?
No
Yes
Write a rude note on you ballot.
But it's not the orange election man's fault!
Do you subscribe to the position in the philosophy of language that, if the referent of a proposition does not exist, then it is false - or do you favour the assertion that it is meaningless and therefore has no truth-value?
The former
That's a silly question
Well, I'm sure the people of New Zealand will understand perfectly well.
You know, you should technically vote 'No'.
The second one
Tear up ballot
Are you sure?
Yes
Stab self in eyes with voting pen, as self has seen too much.
No
Tape ballot back together, attach a personal statement and a copy of Bertrand Russell's *On Denoting*.
Yes
No
Is a smack etc. etc. a criminal offence in NZ?
Yes
No
Thing as a smack as part of good parental correction"?
Yes
No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Let someone else decide.
Sue Bradford?
Yay!
Boo!
Quite right. Nanny State has no right to tell you who you can and can't punch in the face.
Yay!
Larry Baldock?
Boo!
Are you mocking me, sir?
John Boscowan?
Ha, ha!
Careful! Don't make me give you a loving smack by way of correction!
Choose the option that happens to have been designated for people who agree with you by your favourite lobby group.
The 'Won't Somebody Think Of The Sake Of Our Families Trust'
Barnardos, Plunket, Save the Children, Women's Refuge and so on.
Fundies
Hippies
Pick No
Pick Yes
Distracted from voting by noisy child?
Yes
Punch child through pile of campaign pamphlets, so as to leave no mark.
No
Democratic duty fulfilled