

When Baylor students were asked about the moral complications of spanking children, their responses were divided. Some shared personal experiences, while others shared how they would want to raise their children.

Aledo senior Eva Milam described the moments her parents found acceptable to spank her. “My parents spanked me on three occasions: when I lied, when I did something dangerous, and when I was disrespectful,” Milam said. When she was spanked, she said her parents waited until they were in a private setting. Milam said she intends to spank her future children, but she voiced guidelines for when spanking is appropriate. If she spans her child, she said she is going to be aware of their pain threshold. “They need to understand why they are being spanked,” she said. “They also need reassurance that I do not love themless.”

Sacramento, California junior Lauren Simin was spanked occasionally as a child. Spanking a child teaches them what inappropriate behavior looks like, Simin said. “By the age of 10 they should know right from wrong,” she said. At around that age, parents should stop spanking their children, Simin said.

Allen junior Joelle Bondoc disagreed. “I do not think physical violence is the answer to learning correct behavior,” Bondoc said. “Children respond better when you verbally communicate with them rather than resort to violence.” When adults do something wrong, people verbally communicate for them to change their approach. Similarly, it is illogical to train

a child using physical discipline, Bondoc said. It is “more nurturing and better in the long run” when they are disciplined with compassionate words.