



Offensive Weapons Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 26

6 Sale of knives and certain articles with blade or point to persons under sixteen

- (1) After section 141 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (offensive weapons) there is inserted—

“141A. Sale of knives and certain articles with blade or point to persons under sixteen

- (1) Any person who sells to a person under the age of sixteen years an article to which this section applies shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale, or both.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, this section applies to—
- (a) any knife, knife blade or razor blade,
 - (b) any axe, and
 - (c) any other article which has a blade or which is sharply pointed and which is made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person.
- (3) This section does not apply to any article described in—
- (a) section 1 of the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959,
 - (b) an order made under section 141(2) of this Act, or
 - (c) an order made by the Secretary of State under this section.
- (4) It shall be a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1) above to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.
- (5) The power to make an order under this section shall be exercisable by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”
- (2) In section 172 of that Act (extent) in subsection (2), for “and 142” there is substituted “141A and 142”.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) above shall come into force on such day as the Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument appoint.