



# Family Law Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 27

### [<sup>F1</sup> PART 4A

#### FORCED MARRIAGE

##### *Forced marriage protection orders*

#### [<sup>F1</sup> **Offence of breaching order**

[<sup>F2</sup> 63CA

- (1) A person who without reasonable excuse does anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a forced marriage protection order is guilty of an offence.
- (2) In the case of a forced marriage protection order made by virtue of section 63D(1), a person can be guilty of an offence under this section only in respect of conduct engaged in at a time when the person was aware of the existence of the order.
- (3) Where a person is convicted of an offence under this section in respect of any conduct, that conduct is not punishable as a contempt of court.
- (4) A person cannot be convicted of an offence under this section in respect of any conduct which has been punished as a contempt of court.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
  - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or a fine, or both;
  - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding [<sup>F3</sup>the general limit in a magistrates' court], or a fine, or both.
- (6) A reference in any enactment to proceedings under this Part, or to an order under this Part, does not include a reference to proceedings for an offence under this section or to an order made in proceedings for such an offence.
- (7) “Enactment” includes an enactment contained in subordinate legislation within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978.]]

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*Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Section 63CA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 13 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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### Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 4A inserted (25.11.2008 except in regard to the insertion of s. 63N) by [Forced Marriage \(Civil Protection\) Act 2007 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 1**, 4(2); S.I. 2008/2779, **art. 2(a)** (as amended (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 11 para. 210** Table; S.I. 2014/954, art. 2(e) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11))
- F2** S. 63CA inserted (16.6.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), **ss. 120(2)**, 185(1) (with ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93, 120(6)(7)); S.I. 2014/949, art. 5(a) (with art. 10)
- F3** Words in s. 63CA(5)(b) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by [The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 \(Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/149\)](#), regs. 1(2), 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 63(2)(k) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 52\(2\)](#)