

Sexual Offences Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 42

PART 1

SEXUAL OFFENCES

Other offences

[F167A Voyeurism: additional offences

- (1) A person (A) commits an offence if—
 - (a) A operates equipment beneath the clothing of another person (B),
 - (b) A does so with the intention of enabling A or another person (C), for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), to observe—
 - (i) B's genitals or buttocks (whether exposed or covered with underwear), or
 - (ii) the underwear covering B's genitals or buttocks,

in circumstances where the genitals, buttocks or underwear would not otherwise be visible, and

- (c) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.
- (2) A person (A) commits an offence if—
 - (a) A records an image beneath the clothing of another person (B),
 - (b) the image is of—
 - (i) B's genitals or buttocks (whether exposed or covered with underwear), or
 - (ii) the underwear covering B's genitals or buttocks,

in circumstances where the genitals, buttocks or underwear would not otherwise be visible,

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- (c) A does so with the intention that A or another person (C) will look at the image for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), and
- (d) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.

[A person (A) commits an offence if—

- ^{F2}(2A) (a) A operates equipment,
 - (b) A does so with the intention of enabling A or another person (C), for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), to observe another (B) while B is breast-feeding a child, and
 - (c) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.
 - (2B) A person (A) commits an offence if—
 - (a) A records an image of another (B) while B is breast-feeding a child,
 - (b) A does so with the intention that A or another person (C) will look at the image for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), and
 - (c) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.]
 - (3) The purposes referred to in subsections (1) [F3 to (2B)] are—
 - (a) obtaining sexual gratification (whether for A or C);
 - (b) humiliating, alarming or distressing B.

[In this section a reference to B breast-feeding a child includes B re-arranging B's $^{\text{F4}}(3A)$ clothing—

- (a) in the course of preparing to breast-feed the child, or
- (b) having just finished breast-feeding the child.
- (3B) It is irrelevant for the purposes of subsections (2A) and (2B)—
 - (a) whether or not B is in a public place while B is breast-feeding the child,
 - (b) whether or not B's breasts are exposed while B is breast-feeding the child, and
 - (c) what part of B's body—
 - (i) is, or is intended by A to be, visible in the recorded image, or
 - (ii) is intended by A to be observed.]
 - (4) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding [F5the general limit in a magistrates' court], or to a fine, or to both;
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.
 - (5) In relation to an offence committed before [F62 May 2022], the reference in subsection (4)(a) to [F7the general limit in a magistrates' court] is to be read as a reference to 6 months.]

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Textual Amendments

- F1 S. 67A inserted (12.4.2019) by Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019 (c. 2), ss. 1(2), 2(2)
- F2 S. 67A(2A)(2B) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), ss. 48(2), 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(e)
- **F3** Words in s. 67A(3) substituted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), ss. 48(3), 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(e)
- F4 S. 67A(3A)(3B) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), ss. 48(4), 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(e)
- F5 Words in s. 67A(4)(a) 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
- **F6** Words in s. 67A(5) substituted (28.4.2022) by The Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Commencement No. 33) and Sentencing Act 2020 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/500), regs. 1(2), 5(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**
- F7 Words in s. 67A(5) 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

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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. 60B(5)(i) substituted for s. 60B(5)(i)(ii) by 2015 c. 9 (N.I.) Sch. 1 para. 123(1)Sch. 9 Pt. 1 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 60B already repealed (N.I.) (14.1.2015) by 2015 c. 2 (N.I.), s. 28(2), Sch. 5; and omitted (E.W.) (31.7.2015) by virtue of 2015 c. 30, Sch. 5 para. 5(2); S.I. 2015/1476, reg. 2(j))
- s. 103C(4B) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(7)(b)
- s. 103E(5C)(5D) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(8)
- s. 103F(3B) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(9)(a)
- s. 103FA103FB inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(10)
- s. 108(9) inserted by 2011 c. 18 s. 17(2)
- s. 122A(8A) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(11)(a)
- s. 122A(9B) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(11)(b)
- s. 122D(4C)(4D) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(12)
- s. 122E(3B) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(13)(a)
- s. 122EA122EB inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(14)
- s. 136ZA(3) inserted by 2022 c. 32 s. 178(15)