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## STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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# 1996 No. 3160

## The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

### PART V

#### MISCELLANEOUS

##### *Certain knives and other dangerous weapons*

#### **Manufacture or sale, etc., of certain knives**

**53.** Any person who manufactures, sells or hires or offers for sale or hire, exposes or has in his possession for the purpose of sale or hire, or lends or gives to any other person—

- (a) any knife which has a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in or attached to the handle of the knife, sometimes known as a “flick knife” or “flick gun”; or
- (b) any knife which has a blade which is released from the handle or sheath thereof by the force of gravity or the application of centrifugal force and which, when released, is locked in place by means of a button, spring, lever, or other device, sometimes known as a “gravity knife”,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable

- [<sup>F1</sup>(a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or to both;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 4 years, or to a fine, or to both.]

**F1** Words in [art. 53](#) substituted (16.7.2008) by [Criminal Justice \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1216 \(N.I. 1\)\)](#), arts. 1(4), [90\(6\)](#); S.R. 2008/293, [art. 2](#), Sch.

#### **Sale of knives and certain articles with blade or point to persons under 16**

**54.—(1)** Any person who sells to a person under the age of [<sup>F2</sup>18] years an article to which this Article applies shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable

- [<sup>F3</sup>(a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or to both;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 4 years, or to a fine, or to both.]
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3), this Article applies to—
- (a) any knife, knife blade or razor blade,
  - (b) any axe, and

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**Changes to legislation:** *The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading: Certain knives and other dangerous weapons is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 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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- (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 Article does not apply to any article described in—
  - (a) Article 53,
  - (b) an order made under section 141(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (offensive weapons), or
  - (c) an order made by the Secretary of State under this Article.
- (4) It shall be a defence for a person charged under paragraph (1) to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.

<b>F2</b>	Word in art. 54(1) substituted (1.10.2007) by <a href="#">Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 (c. 38)</a> , ss. 51, 66(2), <a href="#">Sch. 2 para. 10</a> ; S.I. 2007/2180, <a href="#">art. 4(c)(d)</a>
<b>F3</b>	Words in art. 54(1) substituted (16.7.2008) by <a href="#">Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/1216 (N.I. 1))</a> , arts. 1(4), <a href="#">90(7)</a> ; S.R. 2008/293, <a href="#">art. 2</a> , Sch.

**Arrest without warrant for offence of having certain weapons on school premises**

**55.** <sup>F4</sup> .....

<b>F4</b>	<a href="#">Art. 55</a> repealed (1.3.2007) by <a href="#">Police and Criminal Evidence (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/288 (N.I. 2))</a> , arts. 1(2), 41(2), <a href="#">Sch. 2</a>
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**Changes to legislation:**

The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading: Certain knives and other dangerous weapons is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 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.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- [Instrument rev. in pt. by 1998 c. 40 s.9\(1\)\(2\)Sch.1 Pt.II para.10Sch.2 Pt.II](#)

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

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

- [Sch. 2 para. 9\(1\)\(a\)\(i\) words repealed by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 112\(5\)\(e\)Sch. 9 Pt. 1](#)
- [art. 44A\(4\) words substituted by S.I. 2008/1216 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 para. 7\(9\) \(This amendment not applied to \[legislation.gov.uk\]\(#\). It is thought that the correct affected document should be S.I. 1998/1504 \(N.I. 9\), art. 44A\(4\). The correction will be made as soon as we get the approved amended document from the relevant office\)](#)
- [art. 53\(1\) art. 53 renumbered as art. 53\(1\) by 2019 c. 17 s. 44\(6\)](#)
- [art. 53\(1\)\(a\) substituted by 2019 c. 17 s. 43\(2\)](#)
- [art. 53\(2\)-\(9\) inserted by 2019 c. 17 s. 44\(7\)](#)
- [art. 54A inserted by 2019 c. 17 s. 37\(3\)](#)