
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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 on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to both.

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 16 years an article to which this Article applies shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to both.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), this Article 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 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.

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

55. In Article 26(2) of the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (arrestable offences), after sub-paragraph (f) there shall be inserted—

“(g) an offence under section 139A(1) or (2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (offence of having article with blade or point (or offensive weapon) on school premises).”.