



Sexual Offences Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 42

PART 1

SEXUAL OFFENCES

[^{F1}Sexual exploitation of children]

49 Controlling a child [^{F1}in relation to sexual exploitation]

^{F2}(1) A person (A) commits an offence if—

- (a) he intentionally controls any of the activities of another person (B) relating to B's [^{F3}sexual exploitation] in any part of the world, and
- (b) either—
 - (i) B is under 18, and A does not reasonably believe that B is 18 or over, or
 - (ii) B is under 13.

(2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum or both;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 14 years.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 49 heading substituted (3.5.2015) by [Serious Crime Act 2015 \(c. 9\)](#), **ss. 68(4)(a)**, 88(1); [S.I. 2015/820](#), **reg. 2(1)**
- F2** Ss. 47-51 repealed (N.I.) (2.2.2009) by [The Sexual Offences \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1769 \(N.I. 2\)\)](#), **arts. 1, 78(c)**, **Sch. 3** (with [Sch. 2 para. 1](#)); [S.R. 2008/510](#), **art. 2**
- F3** Words in s. 49(1)(a) substituted (3.5.2015) by [Serious Crime Act 2015 \(c. 9\)](#), **ss. 68(4)(b)**, 88(1); [S.I. 2015/820](#), **reg. 2(1)**

Changes to legislation:

Sexual Offences Act 2003, Section 49 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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 S. 60B already repealed (N.I.) (14.1.2015) by [2015 c. 2 \(N.I.\), s. 28\(2\), Sch. 5](#); and omitted (E.W.) (31.7.2015) by virtue of [2015 c. 30, Sch. 5 para. 5\(2\)](#); S.I.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\(15\)](#)