

*These notes refer to the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c.42)
which received Royal Assent on 20 November 2003*

SEXUAL OFFENCES ACT 2003

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1: Sexual Offences

Section 79: General interpretation

148. **Section 79** gives a number of definitions relevant to offences in this Part. *Subsection (2)* is needed so that where, for example, a person consents at the time of entry to penetration, but then withdraws his consent and the penetration continues, the person penetrating may be guilty of rape or assault by penetration.