



# Theft Act 1968

## 1968 CHAPTER 60

### *Fraud and blackmail*

#### **20      Suppression, etc. of documents.**

(1) A person who dishonestly, with a view to gain for himself or another or with intent to cause loss to another, destroys, defaces or conceals any valuable security, any will or other testamentary document or any original document of or belonging to, or filed or deposited in, any court of justice or any government department shall on conviction on indictment be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years.

<sup>F1</sup>(2) .....

(3) For the purposes of this section <sup>F2</sup>... “valuable security” means any document creating, transferring, surrendering or releasing any right to, in or over property, or authorising the payment of money or delivery of any property, or evidencing the creation, transfer, surrender or release of any such right, or the payment of money or delivery of any property, or the satisfaction of any obligation.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F1** S. 20(2) repealed (15.1.2007) by [Fraud Act 2006 \(c. 35\)](#), ss. 14(1)(3), 15(1), Sch. 1 para. 1(a)(iv), [Sch. 3](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 3](#)); [S.I. 2006/3200](#), [art. 2](#)

**F2** Words in s. 20(3) repealed (15.1.2007) by [Fraud Act 2006 \(c. 35\)](#), ss. 14(1)(3), 15(1), Sch. 1 para. 5, [Sch. 3](#); [S.I. 2006/3200](#), [art. 2](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Theft Act 1968, Section 20.