



Criminal Justice Act 1988

1988 CHAPTER 33

PART XI

MISCELLANEOUS

Possession of indecent photograph of child

160 Summary offence of possession of indecent photograph of child

- (1) It is an offence for a person to have any indecent photograph of a child (meaning in this section a person under the age of 16) in his possession.
- (2) Where a person is charged with an offence under subsection (1) above, it shall be a defence for him to prove—
 - (a) that he had a legitimate reason for having the photograph in his possession; or
 - (b) that he had not himself seen the photograph and did not know, nor had any cause to suspect, it to be indecent; or
 - (c) that the photograph was sent to him without any prior request made by him or on his behalf and that he did not keep it for an unreasonable time.
- (3) A person shall be liable on summary conviction of an offence under this section to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) Sections 1(3), 2(3), 3 and 7 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 shall have effect as if any reference in them to that Act included a reference to this section.
- (5) Possession before this section comes into force is not an offence.