



Family Law Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 27

[^{F1} PART 4A

FORCED MARRIAGE

Forced marriage protection orders

[^{F1}63A Forced marriage protection orders

- (1) The court may make an order for the purposes of protecting—
 - (a) a person from being forced into a marriage or from any attempt to be forced into a marriage; or
 - (b) a person who has been forced into a marriage.
- (2) In deciding whether to exercise its powers under this section and, if so, in what manner, the court must have regard to all the circumstances including the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of the person to be protected.
- (3) In ascertaining that person's well-being, the court must, in particular, have such regard to the person's wishes and feelings (so far as they are reasonably ascertainable) as the court considers appropriate in the light of the person's age and understanding.
- (4) For the purposes of this Part a person (“A”) is forced into a marriage if another person (“B”) forces A to enter into a marriage (whether with B or another person) without A's free and full consent.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4) it does not matter whether the conduct of B which forces A to enter into a marriage is directed against A, B or another person.
- (6) In this Part—

“force” includes coerce by threats or other psychological means (and related expressions are to be read accordingly); and

“forced marriage protection order” means an order under this section.]

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Section 63A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 13 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 4A inserted (25.11.2008 except in regard to the insertion of s. 63N) by [Forced Marriage \(Civil Protection\) Act 2007 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 1**, 4(2); S.I. 2008/2779, **art. 2(a)** (as amended (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 11 para. 210** Table; S.I. 2014/954, art. 2(e) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11))

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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. 63(2)(k) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 52\(2\)](#)