Sexual Offences Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 42

PART 1

SEXUAL OFFENCES

Rape

1 Rape

(1) A person (A) commits an offence if—
   (a) he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis,
   (b) B does not consent to the penetration, and
   (c) A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

(2) Whether a belief is reasonable is to be determined having regard to all the circumstances, including any steps A has taken to ascertain whether B consents.

(3) Sections 75 and 76 apply to an offence under this section.

(4) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life.
Changes to legislation:
Sexual Offences Act 2003, Cross Heading: Rape is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 July 2019. 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
- s. 89(1A) inserted by 2016 asp 22 Sch. 2 para. 3(3)
- s. 108(9) inserted by 2011 c. 18 s. 17(2)
- Sch. 5 para. 171C-171G inserted by 2018 c. 5 Sch. 12 para. 23