



Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008

2008 CHAPTER 4

PART 5

CRIMINAL LAW

Blasphemy

79 Abolition of common law offences of blasphemy and blasphemous libel

- (1) The offences of blasphemy and blasphemous libel under the common law of England and Wales are abolished.
- (2) In section 1 of the Criminal Libel Act 1819 (60 Geo. 3 & 1 Geo. 4 c. 8) (orders for seizure of copies of blasphemous or seditious libel) the words “any blasphemous libel, or” are omitted.
- (3) In sections 3 and 4 of the Law of Libel Amendment Act 1888 (c. 64) (privileged matters) the words “blasphemous or” are omitted.
- (4) Subsections (2) and (3) (and the related repeals in Schedule 28) extend to England and Wales only.