



Sexual Offences Act 1956

1956 CHAPTER 69 4 and 5 Eliz 2

PART I

OFFENCES, AND THE PROSECUTION AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES

Unnatural offences

12 Buggery.

(1) It is felony for a person to commit buggery with another person [^{F1}otherwise than in the circumstances described in subsection (1A) [^{F2}or (1AA)] below] or with an animal.

[^{F3F4}(1A) The circumstances [^{F5}first] referred to in subsection (1) are that the act of buggery takes place in private and both parties have attained the age of [^{F6}sixteen].

[The other circumstances so referred to are that the person is under the age of sixteen ^{F3}(1AA) and the other person has attained that age.]

(1B) An act of buggery by one man with another shall not be treated as taking place in private if it takes place—

- (a) when more than two persons take part or are present; or
- (b) in a lavatory to which the public have or are permitted to have access, whether on payment or otherwise.

(1C) In any proceedings against a person for buggery with another person it shall be for the prosecutor to prove that the act of buggery took place otherwise than in private or that one of the parties to it had not attained the age of [^{F6}sixteen].]

(2) ^{F7}

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 12(1) inserted (3.11.1994) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 143(2), 172(4)
- F2** Words in s. 12(1) inserted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, s. 2(1)(a); S.I. 2000/3303, art. 2
- F3** S. 12(1AA) inserted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, s. 2(1)(e); S.I. 2000/3303, art. 2

Status: Point in time view as at 08/01/2001.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sexual Offences Act 1956, Cross Heading: Unnatural offences. (See end of Document for details)

- F4** S. 12(1A)-(1C) inserted (3.11.1994) by 1994 c. 33, **ss. 143(3)**, 172(4)
F5 Word in s. 12(1A) inserted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, **s. 2(1)(b)**; S.I. 2000/3303, **art. 2**
F6 Words in s. 12(1A)(1C) substituted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, **s. 1(1)(a)**; S.I. 2000/3303, **art. 2**
F7 Ss. 12(2)(3), 15(4)(5), 16(2)(3), 39, repealed by Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (c. 60, SIF 95), s. 119(2), **Sch. 7 Pt. V**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** s. 12 amended by Sexual Offences Act 1967 (c. 60), **ss. 1, 2, 7**

13 Indecency between men.

It is an offence for a man to commit an act of gross indecency with another man [^{F8}otherwise than in the circumstances described below], whether in public or private, or to be a party to the commission by a man of an act of gross indecency with another man, or to procure the commission by a man of an act of gross indecency with another man.

[^{F9}The circumstances referred to above are that the man is under the age of sixteen and the other man has attained that age.]

Textual Amendments

- F8** Words in s. 13 inserted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, **s. 2(2)(a)**; S.I. 2000/3303, **art. 2**
F9 S. 13: paragraph inserted (8.1.2001) by 2000 c. 44, **s. 2(2)(b)**; S.I. 2000/3303, **art. 2**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C2** S. 13 amended as to mode of trial by Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (c. 43, SIF 82), **Sch. 1 para. 23(b)**
C3 s. 13 amended by Sexual Offences Act 1967 (c. 60), **ss. 1, 2, 4 (3), 7, 9 (2)**

Status:

Point in time view as at 08/01/2001.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sexual Offences Act 1956, Cross
Heading: Unnatural offences.