



Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019

2019 CHAPTER 2

An Act to make certain acts of voyeurism an offence, and for connected purposes. [12th February 2019]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Voyeurism: additional offences

- (1) The Sexual Offences Act 2003 is amended as set out in subsections (2) to (4).
- (2) After section 67 (voyeurism) insert—

“67A Voyeurism: additional offences

- (1) A person (A) commits an offence if—
 - (a) A operates equipment beneath the clothing of another person (B),
 - (b) A does so with the intention of enabling A or another person (C), for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), to observe—
 - (i) B's genitals or buttocks (whether exposed or covered with underwear), or
 - (ii) the underwear covering B's genitals or buttocks,in circumstances where the genitals, buttocks or underwear would not otherwise be visible, and
 - (c) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.
- (2) A person (A) commits an offence if—
 - (a) A records an image beneath the clothing of another person (B),
 - (b) the image is of—

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019. (See end of Document for details)

- (i) B's genitals or buttocks (whether exposed or covered with underwear), or
 - (ii) the underwear covering B's genitals or buttocks,

in circumstances where the genitals, buttocks or underwear would not otherwise be visible,
 - (c) A does so with the intention that A or another person (C) will look at the image for a purpose mentioned in subsection (3), and
 - (d) A does so—
 - (i) without B's consent, and
 - (ii) without reasonably believing that B consents.
- (3) The purposes referred to in subsections (1) and (2) are—
- (a) obtaining sexual gratification (whether for A or C);
 - (b) humiliating, alarming or distressing B.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or to a fine, or to both;
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.
- (5) In relation to an offence committed before the coming into force of section 154(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (increase in maximum term that may be imposed on summary conviction of offence triable either way), the reference in subsection (4)(a) to 12 months is to be read as a reference to 6 months.”
- (3) In section 68 (voyeurism: interpretation), after subsection (1) insert—
- “(1A) For the purposes of sections 67 and 67A, operating equipment includes enabling or securing its activation by another person without that person's knowledge.”
- (4) In Schedule 3 (sexual offences for purposes of notification requirements), after paragraph 34 insert—
- “34A (1) An offence under section 67A of this Act (voyeurism: additional offences), if—
- (a) the offence was committed for the purpose mentioned in section 67A(3)(a) (sexual gratification), and
 - (b) the relevant condition is met.
- (2) Where the offender was under 18, the relevant condition is that the offender is or has been sentenced in respect of the offence to imprisonment for a term of at least 12 months.
- (3) In any other case, the relevant condition is that—
- (a) the victim was under 18, or
 - (b) the offender, in respect of the offence or finding, is or has been—
 - (i) sentenced to a term of imprisonment,
 - (ii) detained in a hospital, or