Changes to legislation: *There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Age of Marriage Act (Northern Ireland) 1951. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*



Age of Marriage Act (Northern Ireland) 1951

1951 CHAPTER 25

An Act to make void marriages between persons either of whom is under the age of sixteen. [20th December 1951]

1 Avoidance of marriages where either party is under sixteen.

(1) A marriage between persons either of whom is under the age of sixteen shall be void:

Provided that in any proceedings against a person charged under sub-section (1) of section five of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1885 , or charged with indecent assault, it shall be a sufficient defence to prove that at the time when the offence is alleged to have been committed he had reasonable cause to believe that the girl in respect of whom it is alleged to have been committed was his wife.

(2) [F1] . . . . . .

F1 S. 1(2) repealed (2.2.2009) by Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/1769 (N.I. 2)), arts. 1(3), 81, 83, Sch. 1 para. 9, **Sch. 3**; S.R. 2008/510, **art. 2**

S. 2 rep. by 1995 NI 2

3 Short title.

This Act may be cited as the Age of Marriage Act (Northern Ireland), 1951.