

# El Salvador

## National Child Protection Legislation

**a) Age of Consent**

- 18 years

**b) Age of Criminal Responsibility**

- 18 years, although children can be subject to penalties including deprivation of liberty from the age of 12 (Juvenile Penal Code)

**c) Age of Marriage**

- Women: 18 years; Men: 18 years

**Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador 1983 (as amended 2003)**

Source: <http://confinder.richmond.edu/admin/docs/ElSalvador1983English.pdf>

**Family Code**

- Article 18 states that minors under the age of 18 can get married with the express consent of their parents
- Source: [http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Codigo\\_de\\_Familia\\_El\\_Salvador.pdf](http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Codigo_de_Familia_El_Salvador.pdf)

**Penal Code**

- Article 166 states that having sex with a minor under the age of 16, regardless of consent, is punishable with a prison sentence of 8-12 years
- Article 172 states that whoever by any direct means, including through electronic means, manufactures, transfers, broadcasts, distributes, rents, sells, offers, produces, performs, exhibits or shows movies, magazines or any other pornographic material involving minors under 18 years of age or any person who is mentally retarded, shall be punished with imprisonment of 3-5 years
- Source: [http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Codigo\\_Penal\\_El\\_Salvador.pdf](http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Codigo_Penal_El_Salvador.pdf)

**Civil Code**

Source: [http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.jsp?file\\_id=339740](http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.jsp?file_id=339740)

**Labor Code**

Source: [http://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1742/Cod\\_Trab\\_ElSalv%5B1%5D.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1742/Cod_Trab_ElSalv%5B1%5D.pdf)

**Special Law Against Trafficking in Persons 2014 (Ley No. 824 of 2014)**

Source: <http://www.asamblea.gob.sv/eparlamento/indice-legislativo/buscador-de-documentos-legislativos/ley-especial-contrala-trata-de-personas>

**Law Against Intrafamily violence**

Source: [https://www.oas.org/dil/esp/ley\\_contra\\_la\\_violencia\\_intrafamiliar\\_el\\_salvador.pdf](https://www.oas.org/dil/esp/ley_contra_la_violencia_intrafamiliar_el_salvador.pdf)

**Law on Juvenile Criminal Law**

Source: [https://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Ley\\_Penal\\_Juvenil\\_El\\_Salvador.pdf](https://www.oas.org/dil/esp/Ley_Penal_Juvenil_El_Salvador.pdf)

International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children  
*Updated August 2017*

**Special Law on Adoptions of El Salvador 2016**

Source: <http://www.elsalvadornoticias.net/2016/02/19/ley-especial-de-adopciones-de-el-salvador-completa/>

**Law on the protection of Children and Adolescents (Decree No. 839 of 2009 as modified 2016)**

Source: <http://www.asamblea.gob.sv/eparlamento/indice-legislativo/buscador-de-documentos-legislativos/ley-de-proteccion-integral-de-la-ninez-y-adolescencia>