

Singapore

National Child Protection Legislation

National Legislation

[Singapore Penal Code \(Cap. 224\) 2009](#)

- S 82 and 83: The age of criminal responsibility in Singapore is 7 years. However, for a child “who has not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequence” of his or her offence, the age of criminal responsibility is 12 years.
- S 376A: Any person who engages in sexual intercourse with a minor under age 16 shall be punished with imprisonment up to 10 years, or with fine, or with both. If the minor is under age 14, the offender shall be punished with imprisonment up to 20 years, and shall also be liable to fine or to caning.
- S 376B: Any person who obtains commercial sexual services of a person who is under age 18 shall be punished with imprisonment up to 7 years, or with fine, or with both.
- S 376C: Any person who obtains commercial sexual services of a person who is under age 18 outside Singapore shall be similarly punished with imprisonment up to 7 years, or with fine, or with both.
- S 376D: Any person who organizes or facilitates a tour outside Singapore for commercial sex with minor under age 18 shall be punished with imprisonment to 10 years, or with fine, or with both.
- S 376E: Any person above age 21, having met or communicated with a minor below age 16 with the intention of committing a sexual offence (sexual grooming) shall be punished with imprisonment up to 3 years, or with fine, or with both.
- S 384: Any person who commits extortion shall be punished with imprisonment for at least 2 years and not more than 7 years and with caning.
- S 292: Any person sells, distributes, or produces pornography shall be punished with imprisonment up to 3 months, or with fine, or with both.
- S 509: Any person who intended to insult the modesty of a woman shall be punished with imprisonment for a term up to one year, or with fine, or with both.

[Women Charter \(Cap. 353\) 2008](#)

- S 140: The age of consent in Singapore is 16 for all sexual activity. Any person who engages in a sexual activity with any girl below age 16 shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and punished with up to 5 years imprisonment.
- S 17(2)(c): The minimum age of marriage in Singapore is age 18.

- S 145: Any person who causes or encourages the prostitution of, or the commission of unlawful sexual penetration of or an indecent assault on, a girl below the age of 16 years shall be punished with a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or both.
- S 159: Any girl below the age of 21 who is reasonably believed to be trained or used for immoral purposes or lives in or frequents any brothel can be ordered to be removed to a place of safety and temporarily detained for an inquiry.

Children and Young Persons Act (Cap. 38) 2001

- S 7: Any person who sexually exploit a child shall be punished with imprisonment up to 7 years or with fine not exceeding \$20,000, or with both.

Prevention of Human Trafficking Act 2014 (Act 45)

- S 4: Any person who commits a child trafficking offence for the purpose of exploitation shall be punished with a fine not exceeding \$150,000, with imprisonment for a term up to 15 years and with caning not exceeding 9 strokes.
- S 18: Child victims of sex trafficking shall be protected and their identity kept anonymous.
- S 19: Trafficked victims shall be provided with temporary shelter and counselling services.

Films Act (Cap. 107) 1998

- S 29 addressed the production, importing, distribution, exhibition, and possession of obscene films.
- S 32: Any person who causes a child to commit an offence in S 29 shall be punished with a fine of not less than \$20,000 but not more than \$100,000 or with imprisonment up to 2 years or with both.

Undesirable Publications Act (Cap. 338) 1998

- S 6: Any person imports, publishes, sells, offers for sale, supplies, offers to supply, exhibits, distributes or reproduces any prohibited publication shall be punished with a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or with imprisonment up to 3 years or with both.

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act (Cap. 190A) 2001

- S 26: The appropriate authority of a prescribed foreign country may request the Singapore authority to assist in arranging the attendance, in that country, of a person in Singapore to assist in a criminal matter in that country.
- Assistance can be rendered for trafficking in persons offences in response to foreign requests for mutual legal assistance.