National Laws

Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offences against children

Oman - Oman - Omán

Muscat

The information on this page is up to date as of spring 2006

I. Ages for legal purposes

Age of simple majority

The legal age of majority (legal age), is eighteen (18) years.

Everyone who has not reached this age is considered a minor.

Age of consent for sexual activity

Sexual activities or acts are not allowed, except in Legal Marriage.

Age of consent for marriage

There are no limits for the age of marriage, but conventionally and traditionally, it is advisable to marry at eighteen (18) and above.

II. Rape

Article 218 of the Penal Code

'The penalty of imprisonment from five years to fifteen years shall be applied to any person who:

has sexual intercourse with a female outside marriage without her consent, whether by coercion, threat or deception;

abducts another person by the same means with intent to commit the carnal act on him;

commits the carnal act on a person who is below the age of fifteen or is physically or mentally defective, even if the act takes place without coercion, threat, or deception, or if the culprit is an ancestor of the victim or a person charged with his care, or a person having authority on the victim or any servant of such person.'

III. Child prostitution

Article 220 of the Penal Code

'The penalty of imprisonment from three to five years shall be applied to any person who incites another to carnality or prostitution by the use of coercion, threat or deception. The penalty shall not be less than five years if the victim was below the age of eighteen.'

V. Child pornography

'Public offences' Article 34 of the Penal Code

'Offences publicized by any of the following means shall be deemed public offences:

... 3. Writings, paintings, drawings, photographs, films and signs of all kinds, if exhibited in a public place exposed to sight or accessible to the public.'

'Public scandals' Article 224 of the Penal Code

'The penalty of imprisonment from ten days to one year and a fine from two to fifty Riyals shall be applied to any person who commits a sexual scandal by any of the means stated in article 34 hereof.

The same penalty shall be applied to any person who produces, keeps, distributes or exposes pornographic letters or pictures or other indecent matter. Scientific or technical production shall not be deemed indecent unless exposed for the purposes other than scientific, to a person of less than eighteen years.'

Child pornography is not directly involved in Article 224.