

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE  
NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006-2010)**

**REPORT OF  
THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE  
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON THE**

**SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL  
(BILL NO. 30 OF 2009)**

**PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**BY**

**THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE**

**ON**

**22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL, 2010**

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE OF  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE  
SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009**

**Publication**

1. AN ACT to reform and consolidate the laws relating to sexual offences and to provide for related matters. The Bill was published on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

**Introduction and First Reading.**

2. The Bill was introduced in the National Assembly and read for the first time on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

**Committal to Select Committee**

3. Following its first reading the Bill was committed by the National Assembly for consideration by a Special Select Committee.

**Members of the Special Select Committee**

4. At a meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 the Committee of Selection nominated the following Members to comprise the Special Select Committee to consider the Sexual Offences Bill 2009 - Bill No. 30 of 2009.

**REPORT OF THE DELEGATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SECTORAL  
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES (PSCSS) WHICH VISITED THE  
GEORGETOWN PUBLIC HOSPITAL CORPORATION (GPHC) ON FRIDAY,  
24th APRIL, 2009**

**Introduction**

On Friday, 24th April, 2009 a delegation of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services visited the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation.

The visiting delegation of the Committee comprised:

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, MP. (P.P.P.C)	-Member
Mrs. Shirley Edwards, M.P. (P.P.P.C)	-Member
Mr. Albert Atkinson, M.P. (P.P.P.C)	-Member
Mrs. Amna Ally, M.P. (P.N.C.R-1G)	-Chairperson
Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. (P.N.C.R-1G)	-Member
Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (P.N.C.R-1G)	-Member
Mrs. Latchmin Budhan-Punalall, M.P. (A.F.C)	-Member
Mr. Oscar Moore	- Clerk of the Committee
Mrs.Savitah Samwaroo	-Assistant Clerk of the Committee
Mr. Michael Munroe	-Research & Documentation Officer

The purpose of the visit was to observe the operational procedures of the Admission Centre, and to obtain an idea of the average time spent by a patient before he/she could be seen by a doctor.

## **Arrival at the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation**

The delegation arrived at the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation at 10:15 am and was received by Mrs. Audrey Corry, Director of Nursing Services, Mrs. Denize Marks, Mrs. Kunti Bacchus; both Junior Departmental Supervisors and Mrs. Salome Boyce, Human Resource Officer.

After reciprocal introductions of the Members of the Committee's delegation and the staff of the (GPHC), Ms. Ally explained the origin and purpose for the establishment of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services and the specific purpose of the delegation's visit.

Ms. Ally said that the Committee's visit came about, as a result of complaints filed by patients, about the long waiting hours before they could access medical care at the hospital. The delegation visited the Admissions, Pharmaceutical and Out Patient facilities.

### **The Admissions Unit**

The Delegation first met the patients and then the Director of Nursing, Mrs. Audrey Corry and Junior Departmental Supervisor Mrs. Denise Marks. Mrs. Mark told the Delegation that there were usually two nurses working in the Admissions Unit on each shift. She further said that the shift ran daily from 7 am to 3 pm; 1 pm to 9 pm and 8.30 pm to 7.15 am. The overlapping time was occupied in change of shift procedures. The authorized strength should be four (4) nurses per shift, but the Unit was short of staff. Mrs. Marks also told the Delegation that there were two Registered Nurses in the Unit who screen the condition of incoming patients by their general disposition. The Registered Nurses would prioritize a patient's assess to the doctor on the bases of experiencing breathing difficulty, bleeding and serious injuries.



**Members of the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.,  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.,  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**Members of the People's National Congress Reform - 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**Member of the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **First Meeting of the Committee – Election of Chairperson**

5. At its first meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the Committee elected the Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security as Chairperson of the Special Select Committee.

## **Other Meetings of the Committee**

6. The Committee met on eleven other occasions as follows:

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2010

## **Consideration of the Bill**

7. The Committee commenced consideration of the Bill on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009.

8. The details of the amendments made to the Bill by the Committee are attached at Appendix III.

### **Report of the Special Select Committee**

9. At its meeting held on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 the Special Select Committee on the Sexual Offences Bill – Bill No. 30 of 2009 agreed that this Report, on its consideration of the Bill, should be presented to the National Assembly.

### **Recommittal of the Report**

10. In light of a letter captioned “Report of the Special Select Committee on Sexual Offences Bill No 30/2009” received from Mr. Basil Williams, the Report of the Committee was recommitted on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

### **Presentation of the Report**

11. At its meeting held on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010 the Special Select Committee on the Sexual Offences Bill – Bill No. 30 of 2009 agreed that this Report, on its consideration of the Bill, should be presented to the National Assembly.

12. The Report is accordingly hereby submitted.

### **Amended Bill**

13. Appendix IV is the amended Bill which reflects the changes detailed and outlined in Appendix III.

the point that he is a public servant and cannot be available during working hours.

**ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

**3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:**

- Notice of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2010;
- Corrected Report of the Special Select Committee of the National Assembly on the Sexual Offences Bill – Bill 30/2009;
- Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2009; and
- Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2009.**

- 4.1 The Minutes were confirmed, without corrections, on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. and the Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING.**

- 5.1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes

**ITEM 6: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2010.**

**6.1 Item 5: Heading**

- 6.1.1 Substitution of the word “*offences*” for the word “*offnces*” in line 2.

**6.2 Item 5.1**

- 6.2.1 Insertion of the words “*all amendments proposed by the Parliamentary Council were accepted by the Committee*” after the words “*Counsel*” in line 2.

**6.3 Item 5.6.1**

- 6.3.1 Insertion of a new item 5.6.1

*“Mr. Williams had first argued that the Clause should not be included in the Bill.”*

6.3.2 All other items to be renumbered accordingly.

**ITEM 7: MATTERS ARISING.**

7.1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes

**ITEM 8: CONCLUSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE CORRECTED VERSION OF THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL.**

8.1 At the invitation of the Chairperson asked the Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee of the Changes made to the above Bill.

8.2 **Clause 13, Subsection (1), paragraph (3)**

8.2.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was not accepted.

8.3 **Clause 16**

8.3.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.

8.4 **Clause 30**

8.4.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was not accepted.

8.5 **Clause 33, Subsection (1), paragraph (a)**

8.5.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was not accepted.

8.6 **Clause 35**

8.6.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the redraft proposed by the Attorney General was accepted.

8.7 **Clause 56**

8.7.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was not accepted.

8.8 **Clause 83, Subsection (1), paragraph (e)**

8.8.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.

8.9 **Clause 85, paragraph (b)**

## **Attendance Records**

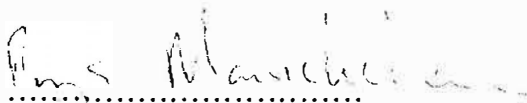
14 The Attendance Record of the Special Select Committee on the Sexual Offences Bill 2009 – Bill No. 30 of 2009 can be found at Appendix I.

## **Minutes**

15. The Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee are at Appendix II.

## **Verbatim Records**

16. Verbatim Records of the Proceedings of the Committee have been prepared and are available at the Parliament Office.



***The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.,  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson***

*Committees Division  
Parliament Office  
Public Buildings  
Brickdam, Stabroek  
Georgetown*

*9<sup>th</sup> April, 2010*

## **APPENDIX II**

### **Minutes of Meetings of the Committee**

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2010

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL No. 30 OF 2009  
HELD ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2009  
IN THE SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker  
(As Presiding Officer for the election of the Chairman)

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Absent)  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P. (Absent)  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- I Guyana (PNC-IG) (3)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P. (Absent)



## Officers

Ms. Debra H. Cadogan  
Mr. Nickalaj Pryce

- Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Speaker as Presiding Officer for the election of a Chairman for the Committee called the meeting to order at 4.07 p.m.

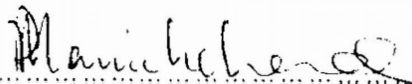
### **ITEM 2: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL No. 30 OF 2009**

- 2.1 The Speaker called for nominations of a Chairman for the Committee.
- 2.1.1 Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. proposed and The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P. seconded the nomination of the Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P.
- 2.1.2 There being no other nomination, the Speaker declared the Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P as Chairman of the Committee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.08 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

Confirmed this <sup>20<sup>th</sup></sup>..... day of October, 2009



.....  
The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLLAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD ON TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2009  
IN COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## Officers

Ms. Sonia Maxwell - Clerk of Committees Division (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## In Attendance

Mr. K.R. Saji Kumar, ILS - Legal Expert  
Ms. Abina Solomon - Senior Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

2.2 The following documents were circulated at the meeting:-

- (i) Document on 'Strengthening protection against sexual violence and reforming the law on sexual offences, consultation paper dated September, 2007; and
- (ii) Report on the Consultation Meetings, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 to April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

### **ITEM 3: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2009**

3:1 The Minutes were confirmed, without corrections, on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., and Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. respectively.

### **ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING**

4:1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**ITEM 6: TO DETERMINE THE METHODOLOGY, TIME AND DATE OF THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS**

**6.1 Preliminary Remarks**

6.1.1 Before considering the above item the Chairperson emphasized to the Members that in light of the public's interest, it was imperative that the Committee peruse the Bill carefully and conclude considerations speedily.

**6.2 Methodology, Date and Time**

6.2.1 The Committee agreed to meet as follows to conclude consideration of the Bill:

- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 2009 from 4.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. to consider Parts 1 and 2.
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>, October 2009 from 4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. to consider Parts 3 and 4.
- Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>, October 2009 from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. to consider the remaining sections.

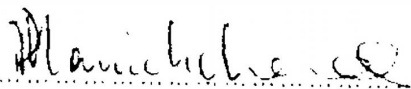
6.2.2 The Chairperson advised Members to peruse Parts 1 & 2 of the Bill, to facilitate consideration of the Clauses at the next Meeting.

6.2.3 The Committee decided to invite the Guyana Association of Women's Lawyers to attend its Meetings, to provide if necessary, any clarifications it may need.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.45 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of October, 2009*



*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD ON FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sonia Maxwell - Clerk of Committees  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall - G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 4.40 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting dated 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.

### **ITEM 3: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2009**

#### **3.1 Page 3, Paragraph 6.1.1 – Preliminary Remarks**

3.1.1 Insertion of the words “in the interest of the public and” after the word “that” in line 2.

**3:2** Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P. and Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., respectively.

### **ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

### **ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL (Parts 1&2)**

5.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

**PART 1 – PRELIMINARY**

**5:2 CLAUSE 1**

5.2.1 Clause 1 was *accepted as presented*.

**5:3 CLAUSE 2**

5.3.1 Paragraphs (a) and (b) were *accepted as presented*.

**5.3.2 Paragraph (c):**

5.3.2.1 The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the above paragraph to the next Meeting.

**5.3.3** Paragraphs (d) to (f) were *accepted as presented*.

**5.3.4 Paragraph (g):**

5.3.4.1 Insertion of the words “*and for however short a time*” after the word “slight” in line 4.

**5.3.4.2** Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted as amended*.

**5.3.5 Paragraph (h), subparagraph (v):**

5.3.5.1 Deletion of the word “*other*” after the word “any”.

5.3.5.2 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted as amended*.

5.3.6 Paragraphs (i) to (l) were *accepted as presented*.

**PART 11 - OFFENCES**

**5.4 CLAUSE 3**

5.4.1 Clause 3 was *accepted as presented*.

**5.5.1 CLAUSE 4**

5.5.2 Subsections 1 & 2 were *accepted as presented*.

**5.5.3 Subsection 3:**

The following amendments were made:

(i) Substitution of “,” for “.” after the word “years” at the end of the paragraph.

(ii) Merge subsection (4) and subsection (3) by substituting “and” for “And” in subsection (4).

5.5.3.1 Thereafter, subsection 3 was *accepted as amended*.

**5.6 CLAUSES 5 to 11** were *accepted as presented*.

**5.7 CLAUSE 12**

5.7.1 **Subsection 1** was amended as follows:

- Insertion of the words “*the accused or*” after the word “watch” in the penultimate line.

5.7.1.1 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

**5.7.2** Subsections (2) and (3) were *accepted as presented*.

**5.8 CLAUSES 13 to 16** were *accepted as presented*.

**5.9 CLAUSE 17**

5.9.1 **Subsection 1** was *accepted as presented*.

5.9.2 **Subsection (2), paragraphs (a) and (b)** were accepted as *presented*.

5.9.3 **Paragraph (c):**

The following amendments were made:

- Insertion of the word “*deed,*” after the word “law”, and
- Insertion of the words “*arrangement and*” after the word “agreement”.

5.9.3.1 Thereafter, paragraph (c) was *accepted as amended*.

5.9.4 Paragraph (d) was *accepted as presented*.

**5.10 CLAUSE 18**

5.10.1 **Subsection 1:**

5.10.1.1 The Committee agreed to accept the above clause in principle, but requested the Attorney General’s Chambers to provide Members with



clarifications to be considered by Members as to whether or not "eighteen years" should be deleted from the subsection.

**5.10.2 Paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) were *accepted* as *presented*.**

**5.10.3 Subsections (2) to (6) were *accepted* as *presented*.**

**5.11 CLAUSE 19**

**5.11.1 Subsection 1, paragraphs (a) to (f) were *accepted* as *presented*.**

**5.11.2 Subsection (g):**

5.11.2.1 The following amendment was made:

- Deletion of the word "*another*" before the word "*welfare*" in line 2.

5.11.3 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.11.4 Paragraph (b) was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.12 CLAUSES 20 to 34 were *accepted* as *presented*.**

**5.13 CLAUSE 35**

5.13.1 The Committee requested the Attorney General's Chambers to provide Members with a written interpretation on the above Clause for its consideration.

**5:14 CLAUSES 36 to 39 were *accepted* as *presented*.**


**5.15 CLAUSE 40**

5.15.1 Insertion of the words "*or discharge*" after the word "*rescind*" in last line.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6.20 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of October, 2009*

  
The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 2, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P. (Excused)  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P. (Excused)

## **Officers**

Ms. Claudia Daniels - Greennidge - Clerk of Committees  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall - G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 4.05 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009.

### **ITEM 3: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2009**

#### **3.1 Page 4, Paragraph 5.5.3**

3.1.1 Insertion of the following sub-paragraph:

*“(iii) Deletion of the numerical subsection “(4)”.”*

#### **3.2 Page 4, Paragraph 5.9.3**

3.2.1 Deletion of the word *“and”* after the word *“arrangement”* in bullet 2.

3.4 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., and Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING**

**RECOMMITTED CLAUSES**

**4.1 Page 4, Paragraph 5.9.3 – CLAUSE 17 (2)(c)**

4.1.1 The following paragraph was further amended to read:

*“a person is a child’s foster parent if so deemed under any law or court order or if provided for under any deed, agreement or arrangement;”*

4.1.2 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted as amended*.

**4.2 Page 5, Paragraph 5.11.2.1 – CLAUSE 19(1)(g)**

4.2.1 Insertion of “**a**” before the word “*welfare*” in line 2.

4.2.1.1 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted as amended*.

**4.3 Page 5, Paragraph 5.13.1 – CLAUSE 35**

4.3.1 The Parliamentary Counsel indicated to the Committee that presently, she was only capable of providing a verbal submission and requested additional time to provide the Committee with a written response.

4.3.2 The Committee agreed to grant her an extension of one week to present her written submission.

4.3.3 The Committee further indicated that the written response should seek to:-

- provide a literal interpretation of the Clause.
- clarify what ‘mischief’ the Clause was directed to, and
- explain the efficacy of the law in the Clause.

**ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL (PARTS III, IV & V)**

5.1 The Committee continued consideration of the Bill Clause by Clause.

**PART III – INVESTIGATION**

**5:2 CLAUSE 41**

5.2.1 Subsections (1) & (2) were *accepted as presented*.

**Subsection (3)**

5.2.2 The following amendments were proposed for the above mentioned Subsection:

- Substitution of the words "*subordinate officer in charge of the division*" for the words "*commander of the division of the Guyana Police Force*".

5.2.3 The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the above subsection to the next meeting.

**5.3 CLAUSE 42**

**Subsection (1)**

5.3.1 Substitution of the words "*of it*" for the word "*thereof*" in line 3.

5.3.2 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

**5.3.3 Subsection (2) was *accepted as presented*.**

**PART IV – PROCEDURE AT COURT**

**5.4 CLAUSE 43**

5.4.1 Substitution of the word "*person*" for the word "*offence*" in line 1.

5.4.2 Thereafter, the clause was *accepted as amended*.

**5.5 CLAUSES 45 & 46 were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.6 CLAUSE 47**

5.6.1 The following amendments were made:

(i) Substitution of the word "*any*" for the word "*and*" in line 1.

(ii) Substitution of the words "*person and*" for "*person/s,*" in line 1. and

(iii) Removal of the *brackets* before the word "*and*" and after the word "*person/s*" in line 1.

5.6.2 Thereafter, the Clause was *accepted as amended*.

**5.7 CLAUSE 48 was *accepted as presented*.**

**5.8 CLAUSE 49**

5.8.1 Substitution of the words "*the complainant*" for the words "*he/she*" in line 3.

5.8.2 The Attorney General's Chambers was requested to peruse the Bill with a view of substituting the words "*the complainant*" for the words "*he/she*", wherever applicable.

5.8.3 Thereafter, the Clause was *accepted as amended*.

**5.9 CLAUSES 50 to 53 were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.10 CLAUSE 54**

5.10.1 **Subsection 1** was amended as follows:

- Deletion of the *brackets* before the word "*by*" and after the word "*otherwise*" in paragraph (a).

5.10.2 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

**5.10.3 Subsections (2) & (3) were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.10.3 Subsections (4) & (5)**

5.10.3.1 The Committee requested that the Attorney General's Chamber *redraft* the above subsections and provide a written submission for its consideration at the next meeting.

**5.11 CLAUSE 55**

**5.11.1 Subsections (1) & (3) were *accepted as presented*.**

**Subsection 2, paragraph (a)**

5.11.2 Paragraph (a) was amended to read as follows:

*"the judge and the jury or the magistrate (if there is one);"*

5.11.3 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

**5.12 CLAUSE 56**

5.12.1 **Subsection 1** was *accepted as presented*.

**Subsection (2), paragraphs (a) and (b)**

5.12.2 The Committee requested that the Attorney General's Chamber *redraft* the above subsections and submit a proposed amendment in writing for its consideration at the next meeting.

**5.13 CLAUSE 58**

5.13.1 **Subsections (1) (2), (3), (4) & (6) were *accepted as presented*.**

**Subsections (5)**

The Committee requested that the Attorney General's Chamber *redraft* the above subsections taking cognizance of similar language utilized in the Evidence Act. The proposed amendment should be submitted in writing for its consideration at the next meeting.

**5.14 CLAUSES 59 to 61 were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.15 CLAUSES 62 to 65 were deferred for consideration at the next meeting.**

**5.16 CLAUSE 66 was *accepted as presented*.**

**5.17 CLAUSE 67**

5.17.1 The Committee requested the Guyana Association of Women's Lawyers to redraft the above Clause for consideration by Members at the next meeting.

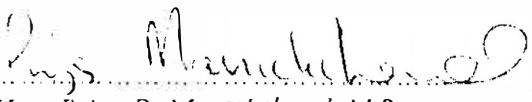
**PART V - EVIDENCE**

**5.17** Consideration of the above Section was deferred to the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6.20 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

*Confirmed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009*

  
*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.*  
*Minister of Human Services and Social Security*  
*Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 4.05 PM ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.





## Officers

Ms. Debra H Cadogan - Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## In Attendance

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall - G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 4.05 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.

### **ITEM 3: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2009**

3.1 **Page 4, Paragraph 5.2.2**

3.1.1 The above paragraph was amended to read as follows:-

*“Failure to comply with section 1(2) constitutes neglect of duty by the Subordinate Officer in charge of the police station of the Guyana Police Force to which the report was made and the said Subordinate Officer shall be liable to answer disciplinary charges.”*

**3.2 Page 4, Paragraph 5.4**

3.2.1 The above paragraph was amended to read as follows:-

*“Where a person is charged with an offence under this Act, there shall be no oral preliminary inquiry and instead a paper committal shall be held in accordance with the procedure set out in the First Schedule.”*

**3.3 Page 4, Paragraph 5.5**

3.3.1 Insert “44,” after the word “Clauses” in the above paragraph.

**3.4 Page 5, Paragraph 5.10.1**

3.4.1 Insertion of the following as a new bullet to read as follows:-

- Deletion of the word “or” in paragraph (a)
- Deletion of Paragraph (b)

**3.5 Page 5, Paragraph 5.11.2**

3.5.1 Deletion of the words “*(if there is one)*” in line 2.

**3.6 Page 6, Paragraph 5.12**

3.6.1 Insertion of the following as the new paragraph 5.13:-

- **CLAUSE 57** was *accepted as presented.*

3.7 Renumber paragraphs 5.13 to 5.17 as 5.14 to 5.19.

3.8 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., and the Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING**

**4.1 Page 3, Paragraph 4.3 to 4.3.3 – Clause 35**

4.1.1 The Committee noted that:-

- The Attorney General’s Chambers had circulated a document on Clause 35 of the Bill; and

- The comments by the representatives of the G.A.W.L that they were unable to complete the assignment.

4.1.2 The Chairperson urged Members to study the document on Clause 35 for discussion at the next meeting.

**4.2 Page 5, Paragraph 5.10.3.1 – Clause 54 (4) and (5)**

4.2.1 The Committee noted the comments of the Attorney General's Chambers that there was no need for the above subsections to be redrafted.

4.2.2 Thereafter, **Subsections (4) and (5)** were *agreed* to as *presented*.

**4.3 Page 6, Paragraph 5.12.2 – Clause 56 (2) (a) and (b)**

4.3.1 The Committee noted the comments of the Attorney General's Chambers that there was no need for the above paragraphs to be redrafted.

4.3.2 Thereafter, **Clause 56 (2) (a) and (b)** were *accepted* as *presented*.

**4.4 Page 6, Paragraph 5.13.1 – Clause 58 (5)**

4.4.1 The Committee noted the comments of the Attorney General's Chambers that there was no need for the above subsections to be redrafted.

- Thereafter, **Clause 58 (5)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**4.5 Page 6, Paragraph 5.15 – Clause 62 to 65**

4.5.1 The Chairperson informed the Committee that she was of the view that the above Clauses were unconstitutional and as such should be deleted.

4.5.2 The Chairperson undertook to provide the Committee with a written opinion and also that of an independent person on the above Clauses.

4.5.3 **Subsection (5)** was further deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

**4.6 Page 6, Paragraph 5.17 – Clause 67**

4.6.1 The above Clause was *accepted* as *presented*.

**4.7 Memorandum from Mr. Scott Doucet dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2009.**

4.7.1 Members were urged to study the above memorandum for discussions at the next meeting.

**ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL (Parts 5, 6, 7 & 8)**

5.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

**PART V – EVIDENCE**

**5:2 CLAUSES 68 to 71** were *accepted* as *presented*.

**5:3 CLAUSE 72**

5.3.1 **Subsection (1)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

5.3.2 **Subsection (2)** was amended as follows:

- Substitution of the words “*seven years*” for the words “*imprisonment for life*” in paragraph (a).
- Substitution of the words “*five*” for the word “*seven*” in paragraph (b).

5.3.3 Thereafter, the **subsection** was *accepted* as *amended*.

**5.4 CLAUSE 73**

5.4.1 **Subsection (1)** was amended to read as follows:-

- Substitution of the word “*direct*” for the word “*instruct*” after the word “*not*” in line 3.
- Insertion of the word “*the*” before the word “*absence*” in line 4.

5.4.2 Thereafter, the **subsection** was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.4.3 **Subsection (2)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.5 CLAUSE 74**

5.5.1 The Committee agreed to accept the clause in principle with the following amendments at the end of the Clause:-

- Insertion of the words “*of the Evidence Act shall not apply to this Act*”

5.5.2 However, the Committee requested the Attorney General’s Chamber to research and insert the relevant section(s) at the beginning of the insertion.

**5.6 CLAUSE 75**

5.6.1 The Clause was amended as follows:

- Deletion of the word "*or magistrate*" after the word "*judge*" in line 5.

5.6.2 Thereafter, the Clause was *accepted as amended*.

**5.7 CLAUSE 76 was *accepted as presented*.**

**5.8 CLAUSE 77**

5.8.1 The Committee deferred consideration of this Clause.

5.8.2 The Attorney General's Chambers was requested to seek clarification as to whether "*evidence of a statement*" or "*contents of a statement*" should be used at the beginning of subsection (1)

5.8.3 *Subsections (2) and (3) were accepted as presented.*

**5.9 CLAUSE 78**

5.9.1 *Subsections (1) to (3) were accepted as presented.*

5.9.2 **Subsection (4)** was amended as follows:-

- Substitution of the words "*the accused*" for the words "*any other party*" in line 1.
- Substitution of the words "*seven days*" for the word "*reasonably*" in line 2.

5.9.3 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

5.9.4 *Subsections (5) and (6) were accepted as presented.*

**5.10 CLAUSE 79**

5.10.1 *Subsections (1) and (2) were accepted as presented.*

5.10.2 **Subsection (3)** was amended as follows:

- Insertion of the word "*the*" before the word "*statement*" in line 1.

5.10.3 Thereafter, the Subsection was *accepted as amended*.

5.10.4 **Subsection (4)** was *accepted as presented*.

5.10.5 **Subsection (5)** was amended as follows:

- Deletion of the word “*short*” before the word “*hearing*” in line 2.

5.10.5.1 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted* as *amended*.

**5.11 CLAUSE 80** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.12 CLAUSES 81**

5.12.1 **Subsection (1)** was amended as follows:

- Substitution of the word “*activity*” for the words “*abuse*” at the end of paragraph (a).

5.12.1.1 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.12.2 **Subsection (2)**

5.12.2.1 The Committee deferred consideration of this subsection to allow the Attorney General’s Chambers to consider whether a redraft was necessary taking into account the use of the words “*Any evidence or questioning*” at the beginning of the subsection.

**5.13 CLAUSE 82**

5.13.1 **Subsection (1)** was amended as follows:

- Insertion of the word “*or*” after the word “*activity*” in line 2.

5.13.2 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.13.3 **Subsection (2)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.14 CLAUSE 83**

5.14.1 **Subsection (1) (b) (iii)**

5.14.1.1 The Committee deferred consideration of this subsection to allow the Attorney General’s Chambers to seek clarification as to the use of the word “*evident*” in sub-paragraph (iii).

5.14.2 **Subsection (2)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.15 CLAUSE 84**

5.15.1 **Subsection (1)** was amended as follows:

- Insertion of the word “*that*” after the word “*suggesting*” in line 2.

5.15.1.1 Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

5.15.2 **Subsection (2)** was *accepted as presented*.

#### **PART VI – BAIL**

5.16 **CLAUSES 85 and 86** were *accepted as presented*.

5.16.1 **CLAUSE 87**

5.16.2 **Subsections (1) and (2)** was *accepted as presented*.

5.16.3 **Subsection (3)**

5.16.3.1 The Committee deferred consideration of this subsection to allow the Attorney General’s Chambers to redraft the subsection with the aim of providing for some authority to forfeit the bail.

5.17 **CLAUSE 88** was amended as follows:-

- Substitution of the word “*complainant*” for the word “*victim*” in line 2.
- Substitution of the word “*complainant*” for the word “*victim*” in the marginal notes.

5.17.1 Thereafter, the Clause was *accepted as amended*.

#### **PART VII - SENTENCING**

5.18 **CLAUSE 89**

5.18.1 The Committee requested that the Attorney General’s Chambers review the Clause with the aim of including provisions for second offenders on convictions of sexual offences with penetration, to be chemically castrated.

#### **PART VIII – MEDICAL CARE AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIM**

5.19 **CLAUSE 90** was *accepted as presented*.

#### **PART IX – PREVENTION**

- 5.20 CLAUSE 91 was *accepted as presented*.
- 5.21 CLAUSE 92
- 5.21.1 Subsection (1) was amended as follows:
- Substitution of the words “*sexual violence unit*” for the words “*Sexual Violence Unit*” in the marginal notes.
- 5.21.1.1 Thereafter, the Subsection was *accepted as amended*.
- 5.21.2 Subsection (2) was *accepted as presented*.
- 5.22 CLAUSES 93 and 94 were *accepted as presented*.
- 5.23 CLAUSE 95
- 5.23.1 Subsection (1) was *accepted as presented*.
- 5.23.2 Subsection (2) was amended as follows:
- Deletion of the word “*and*” after the word “*to*” in paragraph (c).
- 5.23.2.1 Thereafter, the Subsection was *accepted as amended*.
- 5.23.3 The Chairperson, at this point, reminded Members of the suggestion of whether a provision should be made to cater for a person who commits rape and in doing so intentionally infects another person with the HIV or AIDS.
- 5.23.3 Subsections (3) to (6) were *accepted as presented*.
- 5.24 CLAUSE 96 was *accepted as presented*.

#### **PART X – MISCELLANEOUS**

- 5.25 CLAUSES 97 and 100 were *accepted as presented*.

#### **ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

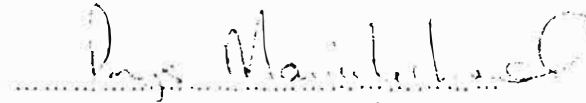
- 6.2 The Chairperson undertook to circulate a schedule of all the offences under the Act at the next meeting.



**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6.10 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of November, 2009*



*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 4.25 PM ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Debra H Cadogan - Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall- G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 4.25 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2.1 The Chairperson informed the Committee that Mrs. Dhurjon would be late. She also indicated that the following Members were presently attending another Parliamentary Committee meeting and would be late:

- (i) The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,
- (ii) Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip., and
- (iii) Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

#### **2.2 Excuses:**

2.2.1 The following Members had asked to be excused from the meeting:

- (i) The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,
- (ii) Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

- 4.1 Correction and confirmation of the Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

**ITEM 5: TO COMMENCE CONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULES 1, 2 AND 3.**

- 5.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Schedules, paragraph by paragraph.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

- 5.2 **Paragraph 1** was *accepted as presented*.

- 5.3 **Paragraph 2** was amended as follows:

- Deletion of the word “*single*” before the word “*magistrate*”.

- 5.3.1 Thereafter, paragraph 2 was *accepted as amended*.

- 5.4 **Paragraphs 3 to 5** were *accepted as presented*.

- 5.5 Paragraph 6**

- 5.5.1 **Subparagraphs (1) and (2)** were *accepted as presented*.

- 5.5.2 **Subparagraph (3) (b) and (c)** were amended as follows:

- Substitution of the words “*the statement*” for the word “*it*” after the word “*if*” in line 1.
- Substitution of the words “*the statement*” for the word “*it*” in line 1.

- 5.5.2.1 Thereafter, subparagraph (3) was *accepted as amended*.

- 5.5.3 **Subparagraphs (4) and (5)** were *accepted as presented*.

**5.6 Paragraph 7**

**5.6.1 Subparagraph (1)**

The following amendments were proposed:

- Substitution of the words “*clerk of court*” for the words “*clerk to the magistrate*” in lines 1 and 2 of subparagraph (1)(a).

5.6.1.1 The Chairperson volunteered to research the procedure for the filing of a deposition and to report to the Committee at the next meeting. This would facilitate a redraft of subparagraph (1)(a).

**5.6.2 Subparagraph (2) was amended to read as follows:**

- Substitution of the word “*on*” for the word “*to*” after the word “*served*” in line 3.

5.6.2.1 Thereafter, subparagraph (3) was *accepted as amended*.

5.6.3 Sub-paragraphs (3) to (5) were *accepted as presented*.

**5.7 Paragraphs 8 and 9 were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.8 Paragraph 10**

**5.8.1 Sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) were *accepted as presented*.**

**5.8.2 Sub-paragraph (3)**

5.8.2.1 The Attorney General’s Chamber was requested to redraft the subparagraph with the aim of replacing the word “*removes*”.

**5.9 Paragraph 11**

5.9.1 Subparagraph (1)(a) was *accepted as presented*.

**5.9.2 Subparagraph (1)(b) was amended as follows:**

- Insertion of a full stop (.) after the word “*opinion*” and deletion of the words thereafter.

5.9.2.1 Thereafter, sub-paragraph (1)(b) was *accepted as amended*.

5.9.3 Sub-paragraph (2) was *accepted as presented*.

**5.10 Paragraph 12 was *accepted as presented*.**

- 5.11 Paragraph 13**
- 5.11.1 The Attorney General's Chamber was requested to consider the above paragraph to determine:
- (i) whether the Clause existed in any other legislation: in the event it was, the paragraph should be deleted.
  - (ii) whether the Clause captured what was intended.
- 5.11.2 The Attorney General's Chamber was requested to research how such provisions were made in other jurisdictions.
- 5.11.3 **Subparagraph 8** was amended as follows:
- Substitution of the word "**magistrate**" for the word "**judge**" before the word "**concerned**" in line 2.
- 5.12 Paragraph 14** was *accepted as presented*.
- 5.13 Paragraph 15**
- 5.13.1 The Chairperson volunteered to confirm whether an oral charge might be read in court, and as such consideration of the above paragraph was thus deferred to the next meeting.
- 5.14 Paragraph 16**
- 5.14.1 Subparagraph (1) was *accepted as presented*.
- 5.14.2 Subparagraph (2) (a) and (b) were amended as follows:
- Deletion of the words "**accused**" before the word "**attorney-at-law**" in line 1; and
  - Insertion of the words "**representing the accused**" after the word "**attorney-at-law**" in line 1.
- 5.14.3 Sub-paragraphs (3) and (4)** were *accepted as presented*.
- 5.14.4 Sub-paragraph (5) was amended as follows:
- Insertion of the words "**under this acts**" after the word "**offence**" in line 3.
- 5.14.4.1 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted as amended*.
- 5.14.5 Sub-paragraphs (6) and (7) were *accepted as presented*.

**5.15 Paragraph 17**

5.15.1 Sub-paragraph (1) was amended as follows:

- Substitution of the word “*case*” for the word “*cause*” in line 4.

5.15.1.1 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.15.2 **Sub-paragraph (2)** was amended as follows:

- Substitution of the word “*case*” for the word “*ease*” after the word “*facie*” in line 3.

5.15.2.1 Thereafter, sub-paragraph (2) was *accepted* as *amended*.

**5.15.3 Sub-paragraph (3)**

5.15.3.1 The Attorney General’s Chamber was requested to reword the clause using passive language and to present the Committee with a draft at the next meeting.

**5.15.3.2 Sub-paragraph (4)** was *accepted* as *presented*.

5.16 **Paragraph 18** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

5.17 **Paragraphs 1 to 4** were *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.18 Paragraph 5** was amended as follows:

- Substitution of the word “*Courts*” for the word “*Judge*” in the marginal note.

5.18.1 Thereafter, paragraph 4 was *accepted* as *amended*.

**5.19 Paragraph 5** was *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.20 Paragraph 6(a)** was amended as follows:

- Insertion of the word “*is*” before the word “*relevant*” in line 2.

5.20.1 Thereafter, paragraph 6(a) was *accepted* as *amended*.

5.20.2 Paragraphs (b) to (c) were *accepted* as *presented*.

**5.21 Paragraphs 7 to 10** were *accepted* as *amended*.

5.22 Paragraph 13 was renumbered as Paragraph 11 and all other paragraphs, accordingly.

**PART II – PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING TO ADMIT EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY WHERE COMPLAINANTS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 YRS OF AGE.**

5.23 The new paragraph 12 was amended as follows:

- Substitution of “11” for “13” in line 1.
- Substitution of the word “court” for the word “judge” in paragraph 12(a).

5.23.1 Thereafter, paragraph 12 was *accepted as amended*.

5.23.2 Subparagraph 12 (b) (i) to (iii) were *accepted as presented*.

**THIRD SCHEDULE - LAWS REPEALED**

5.24 The Attorney General’s Chamber was requested to peruse the Bill to ensure all the sections of the law that were repealed in this Schedule were provided for in this Bill.

**Re-committal of Clause 89**

5.29 The Committee agreed to the re-committal of the above Clause. From the discussions which ensued, further consideration of this Clause was once again deferred to the next meeting.

5.29.1 Members were, however, urged to consider what assistance could be provided to the complainant who was, through rape, infected with HIV/AIDS and whether such assistance could be legislated.

**ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**6.1 Business of the Next Meeting**

6.1.1 The Committee agreed to consider the deferred Clauses at the next meeting of the Committee.

6.1.2 The Clerk of the Committee was requested to update the Matrix with the deferred Clauses and paragraphs in the Schedules.

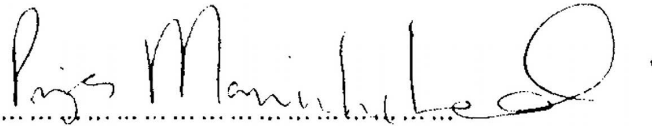


- 6.1.3 The Attorney General's Chamber was requested to ensure that all changes made were reflected in the "*Contents*" and "*Explanatory Memorandum*"
- 6.2 The Committee also agreed to consider the Matrix with the amendments approved by the Committee and the Committee's Draft Report at the meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 6.10 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of November, 2009*



*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson*

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009 - BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 4.10 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Absent)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## Officers

Ms. Debra H Cadogan	-	Head of Committees Division (Ag)
Ms. Darlene Marshall	-	Assistant Clerk of Committees

## In Attendance

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon	-	Parliamentary Counsel
Ms. Emily Dodson	-	G.A.W.L Representative
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall-		G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 4.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **2.1 Excuses:**

- 2.1. The following Members had asked to be excused from the meeting:
- (i) The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., and
  - (ii) Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:
- (i) Notice of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2009; and
  - (ii) Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

### **ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

- 4.1 **Page 2, paragraph 3.1.1 – Clause 41 (3)**
- 4.1.2 The following amendment was made:-

***“Failure to comply with subsection (2) constitutes neglect of duty by the subordinate officer in charge of the police station in which the report was made and the officer shall be liable to answer disciplinary charges.”***

**4.2 Page 5, paragraph 5.3.2 - Clause 72 (2)**

4.2.1 The following amendment was made to the above mentioned subsection:

- Add the word ***“imprisonment”*** after the word ***“years”*** in bullet 1.

**4.3 Page 5, paragraph 5.5.1 - Clause 74**

4.3.1 The following amendments were made to the above mentioned Clause:

- Deletion of the words ***“not withstanding any other law”*** after the word ***“called”*** in the last line.
- Insertion of the words ***“Sections...of the Evidence Act shall not apply to this Act.”***

**4.4 Page 6, paragraph 5.9.2 – Clause 78 (4)**

4.4.1 The following amendment was made to the above mentioned subsection:

- Add the words ***“to the proceedings reasonably”*** after the word ***“party”*** in bullet 1.

**4.5 Page 6, paragraph 5.10.2 – Clause 79 (3)**

4.5.1 Add ***“(a)”*** after the words ***“subsection (3)”*** in line 1.

**4.6 Clause 85**

4.6.1 The Committee agreed that paragraph (f) should be brought in line with paragraph (e).

**4.7 Page 9, paragraph 5.12.1 – Clause 91 (1)**

4.7.1 Add of the words ***“and subsections (1) and (2)”*** for the word ***“marginal notes”***.

- 4.8 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by the Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., and Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**

**5.1 Page 5, paragraph 5.5.1 – Clause 74**

- 5.1.1 The Committee agreed that Clause 74 should be retained as printed, and would not be amended as previously stated.

**5.2 Page 6, paragraph 5.8.2 – Clause 77 (1)**

- 5.2.1 The following amendments were made:

- Deletion of the words “*Evidence of*” at the beginning of the subsection.
- Commence the subsection with the words “*A statement*”.
- Insertion of the words “*as evidence*” after the word “*admissible*” in line 2.

Thereafter, the subsection was *accepted as amended*.

**5.3 Page 7. Paragraph 5.12.1 – Clause 81 (1)**

- 5.3.1 The Committee agreed to further amend paragraph (a) as follows:

- Add the words “*criminal sexual*” to the word “*activity*” to the word “*activity*” at the end of the paragraph.

- 5.3.2 The Committee also accepted the following amendment:

- Deletion of the words “*or questioning*” after the word “*evidence*” in line 1 of subsection (2).

- 5.5.3 Clause 81 was then *accepted as amended*.

**5.4 Page 7, paragraph 14.1.1 – Clause 83  
Subsection (1) (b) (iii)**

- 5.4.1 The following amendment was accepted:

- Deletion of the word “*evident*” after the word “*is*” in line 1.

**5.5 Page 8, Paragraph 5.16 – Recommittal of Clause 85**

5.5.1 The Committee agreed to the following amendment:

- Deletion of “(1)” after the Clause.

**5.6 Page 8, paragraph 5.16.3.1 – Clause 87 (3)**

5.6.1 The Committee accepted the following amendment:

- Insertion of the words “*shall be*” after the word “*bail*”.

**5.7 Page 8, paragraph 5.18**

5.7.1 The Committee accepted the following amendment:

- Insertion of the word “*drug*” before the word “*testing*”.

**5.8 Page 9, paragraph 5.21.1 – Recommittal of Clause 91**

5.8.1 The Committee accepted the following amendments:

- Subsection (3) : Substitution of the word “*Task Force*” for the word “*task force*” after the word “*The*” in line 1.
- Subsection (3) (a): Substitution of the word “*a*” for the word “*the*” before the words “*National Plan*” in line 2.

5.8.2 Thereafter, Clause 91 was *accepted as amended*.

**5.9 Page 9, paragraph 5.21.1 – Clause 92 (1) and (2)**

5.9.1 The Committee accepted the following amendment:

- Substitution of the “*Sexual Violence Unit*” for “*sexual violence unit*”

**ITEM 6: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

**6.1 Page 5, paragraph 5.14.4**

6.1.2 Substitution of the word “*Act*” for the word “*acts*” in bullet 1.

**6.2 Page 6, paragraph 5.18**

6.2.1 The Committee agreed to the following amendment:

- Substitution of the word “*Court’s*” for the word “*Court*”.

- 6.3 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. and Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 7: MATTERS ARISING**

**7.1 Page 4, paragraph 5.8.2.1 – Paragraph 10 (3)**

7.1.1 The Committee noted that the Attorney General’s Chamber had submitted a redrafted proposal of the First Schedule of the Bill.

7.1.2 The Committee agreed to defer its consideration of the redrafted proposal until the next meeting.

**7.2 Page 5, paragraph 5.11 – Paragraph 13**

7.2.1 The Committee agreed to delete the above mentioned paragraph since it was already covered in the legislation.

7.2.2 Paragraph 14 would be renumbered as paragraph 13 and all other paragraphs, accordingly.

**7.3 Page 5, paragraph 5.13.1 – Paragraph 15 (2)**

7.3.1 The Committee agreed to accept the following amendment:

- Deletion of the words *“written down, if this has not already been done, and”* after the words *“to be”* in line 2.
- Substitution of the word *“read”* for the word *“written down”* in line 2.

**7.4 Page 6, paragraph 5.15.1 – Paragraph 17 (3)**

7.4.1 The Committee accepted the advice from the Attorney General’s Chamber that the following sub-paragraph should remain as amended:

*“Any directions given by the Director of Public Prosecutions under this paragraph shall be in writing and signed by the Director of Public Prosecutions, and shall be followed by the Magistrate, and the Magistrate shall have all necessary power for that purpose.”*

**7.5 Page 7, paragraph 5.24 – Third Schedule**

**Laws Repealed**

- 7.5.1 The Chairperson informed Members that a document titled *“Comparison of existing and proposed offences and related penalties”* was circulated at the meeting. She indicated that she was satisfied that the sections to be repealed were addressed, with the of exception Clause 88 which dealt with *“committing defilement of a girl on your premises”*.
- 7.5.2 A discussion ensued. Thereafter, the Committee agreed to defer further consideration of the above mentioned cause to the next meeting.

**ITEM 8: CONSIDERATION OF THE DEFERRED CLAUSES AND SCHEDULES OF THE BILL**

- 8.1 Clause 2, Paragraph (c): Definition of “consent”**
- 8.1.1 The Committee agreed that paragraph (c) should be retained in the Bill.
- 8.2 Clause 3, subsection (1) (a) : Use of the word “Intentionally”**
- 8.2.1 The Committee agreed that the word *“intentionally”* should be deleted where ever it appeared in the Bill.
- 8.3 Clause 18, subsection (1) : Whether of “eighteen years” should be deleted.**
- 8.3.1 The Committee agreed to retain the age of eighteen years.
- 8.4 Clause 18, Subsection (3):**
- 8.4.1 The Attorney General’s Chamber was required to provide a redraft of the above subsection.
- 8.5 Clause 35, subsection (1) Paragraphs (a) and (b): A person being tried twice (overseas and in Guyana) for the same offence.**
- 8.5.1 The Attorney General’s Chamber was required to provide a redraft of the above mentioned subsection.
- 8.6 Clause 41, subsection (3)**
- 8.6.1 The Committee noted that the above-mentioned subsection was previously amended. However, in light of a query raised, the G.A.W.L was requested to research the procedure for disciplining police officers.



8.7 **Clause 62-65:** Protection of witness from cross examination by the accused in person.

8.7.1 The Committee agreed that Clauses 62 to 65 should be deleted.

8.8 **Clause 89: Chemical Castration**

8.8.1 The Committee noted that the Attorney General's Chambers had circulated a document containing a provision for the above mentioned subject.

8.8.2 From the discussion which ensued, the Committee agreed to further defer consideration of the above Clause to the next meeting.

8.9 **Provision to cater for a person who commits a rape and in so doing infects another person with the HIV/AIDS.**

8.9.1 The Committee noted that the Attorney General's Chamber had circulated another draft to provide for the above subject. The Committee agreed in principle, to adopt the draft circulated. The Attorney General's Chamber was requested to insert the provision into appropriate section of the Bill for discussion at the next meeting.

8.10 **Schedules**

8.10.1 In light of the Attorney General's Chamber circulating a redraft of the Schedules, consideration of the schedules was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

## ADJOURNMENT

At 6.10 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of November, 2009*

  
.....  
*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.*  
*Minister of Human Services and Social Security*  
*Chairperson*

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 3.20 PM ON MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO I, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs (Excused)

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Absent)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sonia Maxwell - Clerk of Committees  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall - G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 3.20 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2.1 The Chairperson apologized for her late arrival at the meeting and explained that she was preparing some documents for the meeting.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

### **ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

4.1 The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the Minutes to the next meeting.

### **ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REPORT**

5.1 Members agreed that the Chairperson, the Attorney General's Chambers, the Committee Clerks and G.A.W.L representatives should collaborate with a view to ensuring that the amendments

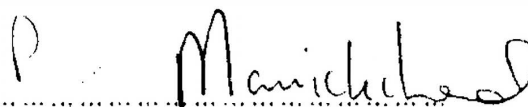
agreed to by the Committee were reflected in the matrix of the draft report.

5.2 Thereafter, the Committee would consider the draft report.

## ADJOURNMENT

At 3.45 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

*Confirmed this ..... day of December, 2009*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Manickchand', written over a dotted line.

*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 3.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P. (Excused)  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Excused)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sonia Maxwell - Head of Committees (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel  
Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall- G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 3.20 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2.1 The following Members had asked to be excused from the meeting:

- (i) The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,
- (ii) Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.,
- (iii) Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.,
- (iv) Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated at the meeting:

- (i) Notice of 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009;
- (ii) Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009;
- (iii) Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2009;
- (iv) Draft Report of the Committee; and
- (v) Corrected copy of the Bill.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

4.1 The Minutes were confirmed, without corrections, on a motion moved and seconded by the Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., and Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P., respectively.

**4.2 MATTERS ARISING**

4.2.1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**ITEM 5: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009**

**5.1 Page 2, paragraph 5.1**

5.1.2 Insertion of the following as a new paragraph:

*“the Sub-committee was also tasked with making the necessary amendments, deletions, changes, additions that would make the Bill a more grammatically correct, properly punctuated and reader-friendly one”.*

5.2 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by the Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., and Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P., respectively.

**5.3 MATTERS ARISING**

5.3.1 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REPORT.**

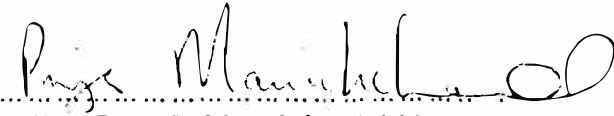
6.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Draft Report, paragraph by paragraph.

6.2 The Committee noted that the changes agreed to were reflected in the report, but deferred further consideration to allow Members to carefully peruse the report since they had only received it at the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.30 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 11.30 a.m. on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>, December, 2009

Confirmed this <sup>11<sup>th</sup></sup>..... day of December, 2009

  
.....  
*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.*  
*Minister of Human Services and Social Security*  
*Chairperson*



**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 11:30 PM ON FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2009  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services (Absent)

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport (Excused)

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip (Excused)

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Excused)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Excused)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P. (Excused)

## **Officers**

Ms. Sonia Maxwell - Clerk of Committees  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Emily Dodson - G.A.W.L Representative  
Mrs. Simone Morriss Ramlall- G.A.W.L Representative

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 11.40 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **2.1 Excuses**

2.1.1 The following Members had asked to be excused from the meeting:

- (i) The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,
- (ii) Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip
- (iii) Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.,
- (iv) Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.,
- (v) Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

#### **2.2 Expression of Sympathy**

2.2.1 The Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee expressed sympathy to the families and friends of the late Hon. Dr. Desiree Fox, Minister within the Ministry of Education on her passing.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (i) Notice of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009,

- (ii) Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009, and
- (iii) Amended pages 61 and 5 of the Draft Report of the Committee.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> MINUTES HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2009.**

- 4.1 The Minutes were confirmed, without corrections, on a motion moved and seconded by and Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P. and the Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT.**

- 5.1 Based on the advice from the G.A.W.L. representatives, the Committee agreed to further amend the First Schedule – Paper Committals for Sexual Offences.
  - 5.1.1 The Committee agreed that Paragraph 5 of the Schedule should be amended as follows:
    - Insertion of the following as subparagraph (2):

*“The prosecutor or a person on behalf of the prosecutor shall file in the registry of the court all evidence for the prosecution for the purposes of a paper committal not later than forty-five days after the date on which the accused first appears in court in relation to the complainant”.*
    - Subparagraph (2) renumbered as subparagraph (3).
  - 5.1.2 Thereafter, the paragraph was *accepted* as *amended*.
  - 5.1.3 The Report was adopted as amended on a motion moved and seconded by the Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., and Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P., respectively.
  - 5.1.4 The Committee agreed that the report should be tabled in the National Assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

**CONCLUSION**

At 12:00 p.m. the Meeting concluded.

Confirmed this <sup>9<sup>th</sup></sup> ..... day of April 2010.



*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security  
Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 3.30 P.M ON WEDNESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2010  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.,  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P. ,  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Excused)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Debra H. Cadogan - Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 11.35 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **2.1 Excuse**

2.1.1 The Chairperson informed the Committee that Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. had asked to be excused from the meeting.

2.2 The Chairperson informed Members that the meeting was called to address a Letter sent to her, in late December of the previous year, by Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

#### **3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:**

- Notice of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.
- Report of the Special Select Committee of the National Assembly on the Sexual Offences Bill – Bill 30/2009.
- Letter captioned re: Report of the Special Select Committee on the Sexual Offences Bill No 30/2009 received from Mr. Basil Williams.

#### **3.2 The following documents were circulated at the meeting:**

- Record of Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the Special Select Committee on Sexual Offences Bill – Bill No 30/2009 held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 and 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, respectively.

**ITEM 4:**

**DISCUSSION ON LETTER RECEIVED FROM MR. BASIL WILLIAMS.**

- 4.1 The Chairperson noted that the letter received from Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. sought to reopen the Bill for consideration, and indicated that she was inclined to so do.
- 4.2 She refuted allegations that the Committee adopted the draft report without a quorum pointing out that, as stated in the Standing Orders, there were three persons at the meeting including a representative of the main Opposition Party.
- 4.2.1 The Chairperson noted Mr. William's concern that the final meeting was scheduled for Friday which was an inconvenient date for him. However, she argued that it was the Committee's decision to meet that day and had not designed to exclude any Member from the Meeting.
- 4.3 Mr. Williams expressed disagreement with the inclusion of the HIV Clause, which he argued was not included in the original Bill and was not addressed in the *Stamp out consultations*.
- 4.3.1 The Chairperson, in response, stated that that HIV Clause was discussed in detail at two or three meetings of the Committee. She also stated that, due to discussions, the Committee requested both the AG's Chamber and the Representatives from GAWL to research and submit proposals at the subsequent meeting. This was done and both proposals were circulated to Members.
- 4.3.2 Mr. Williams argued that the Clause should not be included because:
  - Guyana's economy is not sufficient to deal with such an offence;
  - There was no methodology to determine how the accused ought to know; and
  - Guyana did not have DNA testing to facilitate criminal prevention and detection.
- 4.3.3 Dr. Anthony stated that he specifically advocated for the inclusion of the Clause because he wanted the Bill to target people who specifically participated in "*revenge behavior*". He argued that, even though it might not have been raised in the *Stamp it out* consultations, the Clause should be included in the Bill in order to make this a comprehensive piece of legislation.
- 4.3.4 Mrs. Punalall stated that even though the issue was not raised in the Consultations it was raised in the Committee and as such, it was

discussed and accepted. She reflected that, in other Committees, Members requested that this Committee consider the issue.

6.3.5 After much discussion, the Chairperson requested that the Parliamentary Counsel redraft the Clause to specifically target people who conduct *revenge behavior* and to submit a proposal to the Committees Division for circulation to Members for discussion at the next Meeting.

6.3.6 In the event that a redraft was not possible or the Committee did not accept the proposals redrafted by the Parliamentary Counsel, Sections would then be removed and held for future amendments to the Bill.

**ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE CORRECTED VERSION OF THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL.**

5.1 The following amendments were proposed by the Chairperson and the Parliamentary Counsel.

5.2 **Clause 13, Subsection (1), paragraph (3)**

5.2.1 The Chairperson requested that the Parliamentary Counsel redraft the above Paragraph.

5.3 **Clause 16**

5.3.1 The Chairperson requested the Parliamentary Counsel to include a penalty, under this Clause, for a person making a false complaint.

5.4 **Clause 30**

5.4.1 The Chairperson requested that the Parliamentary Counsel include an infinite list of all the equipment which could be used to commit voyeurism.

5.5 **Clause 33, Subsection (1), paragraph (a)**

5.5.1 Substitution of the word "*aware*" for the word "*consent*" in the first line.

5.6 **Clause 35**

5.6.1 The Chairperson proposed to include Clause 35 which was deleted. She then stated that the Attorney General redrafted the Clause and advised that the Clause was justiciable and could be enforced in Guyana. She further stated that this issue was raised in the *Stamp it out* consultations and as such she felt it should be reincluded in the Bill.

5.6.12 Mr. Williams and Mrs. Punalall argued that the clause should not be re-included since the Committee had agreed to delete the Clause at previous Meetings.

5.6.3 Dr. Anthony then stated that he had objected to the inclusion of the Clause because he felt that there would have been horrendous cost to be



borne by Guyana. However, he argued that if the costs could be borne by Guyana or another state he has no argument with the inclusion of the Clause.

- 5.6.4 Mr. Williams requested that his dissent with the inclusion of this Clause be recorded in the report of the Committee.
- 5.6.5 The Chairperson stated that the Clause was deleted for two (2) reasons; Dr. Anthony thought it would be too expensive and Mr. Nandlall thought it was not justiciable. She then informed Members that upon advice of the Attorney General, the Legal Advisor of the Government, the Clause was redrafted in such a way that it could be enforced in Guyana. She also stated that it would not be expensive now because of the audio-visual technologies.
- 5.6.6 After much discussion, the Chairperson requested that the Parliamentary Counsel to replace the previously deleted Clause 35 with the redraft provided by the Attorney General.
- 5.7 **Clause 56**
- 5.7.1 Insertion of the words "*in keeping with the Evidence Act*" after the words "*link facilities*" in line 2
- 5.8 **Clause 83, Subsection (1), paragraph (e)**
- 5.8.1 Deletion of the words "*while under the influence of alcohol or a drug*" after the word "*education*" in line 5.
- 5.9 **Clause 85, paragraph (b)**
- 5.9.1 Inclusion of a new sub-paragraph:
- (v) mental and/or psychological illnesses.
- 5.10 **Clause 87, subsection (3) paragraphs (a) and (m)**
- 5.10.1 Substitution of the words "*reasonable time*" for the word "*one year*" in the first line.
- 5.10.2 **Paragraphs (g) and (h)**
- Insertion of the words "*and Protocols*" after the words "*National Policy Guidelines*".
- 5.11 **Clause 89** to be deleted.
- 5.12 **Clause 91**
- 5.12.1 Deletion of the word "*appropriate*" in lines 1 and 2 of subsections (1) and (3).

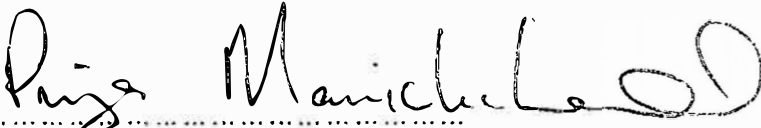
**ITEM 6: RECOMMITTAL OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.**

- 6.1 In light of concerns raised by Members, the Committee agreed to defer consideration of the Report to a subsequent Meeting.
- 6.2 The Parliamentary Counsel was requested to include all the amendments to the Bill and to highlight them in green ink.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.50 p.m. the Meeting was adjourned to 3.30 p.m on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, April, 2010.

Confirmed this .....<sup>9<sup>th</sup></sup> day of April, 2010

  
.....  
*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.*  
*Minister of Human Services and Social Security*  
*Chairperson*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
12<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL  
OFFENCES BILL 2009- BILL NO. 30 OF 2009  
HELD AT 2.32 P.M ON FRIDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2010  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRPERSON (1)**

Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Elected by the Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

*The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.,  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security*

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

*The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Public Services*

*The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., (Excused)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport*

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P. ,  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs*

*Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip*

*Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.*

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

*Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.*

*Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)*

*Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.*

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009)**

*Mrs. Latchmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P. (Excused)*

## **Officers**

Ms. Debra H. Cadogan - Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
Ms. Darlene Marshall - Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In Attendance**

Ms. Ananda Dhurjon - Parliamentary Counsel

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 2.32 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **2.1 Excuse**

2.1.1 The Chairperson informed the Committee that the following Members had asked to be excused from the Meeting:

- The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,
- The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,
- Mrs. Lachmin Budhan- Punalall, M.P .

#### **2.2 Remarks by Mr. Basil Williams.**

2.2.1 Mr. Williams voiced his dissatisfaction on the time the Meeting was set for and argued that he had not been given adequate notice and only found out about the meeting from another Member Mr. Nandall.

2.2.2 The Committee was reminded that notices were given to **all Members of the Committee** at the previous sitting of the National Assembly. Members were also informed that Mr. Williams had received a call from the Clerk of the Committee and he stated that "he would be in Court for a murder Trial".

2.2.3 Mr. Williams was then reminded that the previous Meeting was postponed because of a clash with another Parliamentary Committee at which he had appeared as a Counsel for another Member of Parliament.

2.2.4 Mr. Williams argued that Governments workers should not be utilizing working hours for Parliamentary Meetings, emphasizing

## APPENDIX I

### SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE: SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009 – BILL NO. 30 OF 2009

#### ATTENDANCE RECORD

NAME	Aug	Oct.			Nov.				Dec.	
	4 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R. A. Westford, M.P.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.
The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.
The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.
Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Pr.
Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. Chief Whip	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.
Mr. Mohabir A. Nandalall, M.P.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Abs.	Ex.	Ex.
Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.
Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Ex.	Abs.	Ex.	Ex.	Abs.	Ex.	Ex.
Mrs. Cheryl Sampson, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.
Mrs. Latchmin Punalall, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.

**Pr.** - **Present**  
**Abs.** - **Absent**  
**Ex.** - **Excused**

**Committees Division**  
**Parliament Office**  
**Public Buildings**  
**Georgetown**

- 8.9.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.
- 8.10 **Clause 87, subsection (3) paragraphs (a) and (m)**
- 8.10.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.
- 8.10.2 **Paragraphs (g) and (h)**
- 8.10.2.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.
- 8.11 **Clause 89 to be deleted.**
- 8.12 **Clause 91**
- 8.12.1 The Parliamentary Counsel informed the Committee that the above mentioned amendment was accepted.
- 8.13 Thereafter, the Committee noted that all changes accepted by the Parliamentary Counsel were reflected in the Matrix and the Appended Bill.

**ITEM 9: ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT**

- 9.1 The Chairperson then proceeded to consider the Draft Report page by page.
- 9.1.1 The Report was adopted as amended on a motion moved and seconded by Mr. Basil Williams, M.P., and Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., respectively.
- 9.1.2 Thereafter, the Committee agreed that the Report should be forwarded to the Clerk of the National Assembly for submission to the National Assembly.

**CONCLUSION**

At 3:25 p.m. the Meeting concluded.

*(Unconfirmed)*

## APPENDIX III

### SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009

#### BILL NO. 30 OF 2009

#### Amendments approved by the Committee

CLAUSES OF PRESENT BILL	AMENDMENTS
<p>Intituled</p> <p>ACT to reform and consolidated the law relating to sexual offenses and to provide for related matters.</p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 1</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 2</b> Paragraphs (a) to (c)</p> <p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (e) and (f)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (g)</b> penetration" means any intrusion, however slight and for however short a time, of any part of a person's body or of any object into the vagina or anus of another person, and any contact, however slight, between the mouth of e person and the genitals or anus of another, including but not limited to sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal intercourse and</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p><b>Insertion of new paragraph (d)</b> <i>"HIV" means the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus;</i></p> <p><b>Renumbered (e)</b> and Unaltered</p> <p><b>Renumbered (f)</b> and (g), respectively and Unaltered</p> <p><b>Renumbered (h)</b> penetration" means any intrusion, however slight and for however short a time, of any part of a person's body or of any object into the vagina or anus of another person, and any contact, however slight <i>and for however short a time</i>, between the mouth of one person and the genitals or anus of another, including but not limited to sexual</p>

<p>female to female genital contact; and -</p> <p><b>Paragraph (h)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraphs (i) to (iv)</b></p> <p><b>Subparagraph (v)</b> any other civil action or proceeding in the High Court;</p> <p><b>Subparagraph (vi)</b> trial or hearing of the charge;</p> <p><b>Subparagraph (vii)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (i) to (l)</b></p>	<p>intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal intercourse and female to female genital contact; and -</p> <p><b>Renumbered (i)</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>any civil action or proceeding in the High Court;</p> <p><i>a</i> trial or hearing of the charge;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Renumbered (<i>j</i>) to (<i>m</i>) and Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 3</b></p> <p>(1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of rape if –</p> <p>(a) The accused -</p> <p>(i) <b>intentionally</b> engages in sexual penetration with another person (“the complainant”); or</p> <p>(ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third person;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	<p>A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of rape if –</p> <p>(a) the accused -</p> <p>(i) engages in sexual penetration with another person (“the complainant”); or</p> <p>(ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third person;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>



<p><b>CLAUSE 4</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (1)</b></p> <p>(1) A person ("the accused") commits the offence of sexual assault if -</p> <p>(a) the accused -</p> <p>(i) <b>intentionally</b> touches another person ("the complainant") in a sexual way;</p> <p>(ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to touch <b>him</b> in a sexual way;</p> <p>(iii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to touch a third party in a sexual way; or</p> <p>(iv) otherwise indecently assaults the complainant within the meaning of any other law;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection 2</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p>(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable, on summary conviction, to imprisonment for five years.</p> <p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p> <p>(4) And on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.</p>	<p>(1) A person ("the accused") commits the offence of sexual assault if -</p> <p>(a) the accused -</p> <p>(i) touches another person ("the complainant") in a sexual way;</p> <p>(ii) causes the complainant to touch <b>the accused</b> in a sexual way;</p> <p>(iii) causes the complainant to touch a third party in a sexual way; or</p> <p>(iv) otherwise indecently assaults the complainant within the meaning of any other law;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable, on summary conviction, to imprisonment for five years <b>and on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment of ten years .</b></p> <p>Deleted</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 5</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 6</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (1) and (2)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b> It is not a defence to a charge of rape that the accused reasonably believed that the complainant consented to the sexual activity that forms the subject matter of the charge, where-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) the <b>accused's</b> belief arose from the <b>accused's</b> self-induced intoxication or reckless or wilful blindness; or</p> <p><b>Subsection (3) (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>It is not a defence to a charge of rape that the accused reasonably believed that the complainant consented to the sexual activity that forms the subject matter of the charge, where-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) the belief <i>of the accused</i> arose from self-induced intoxication or reckless or wilful blindness <i>of the accused</i>; or</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 7</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) to (c)</b></p> <p>the complainant is to be taken not to have consented to the sexual activity unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the complainant consented, and the accused is to be taken not to have reasonably believed that the complainant consented unless <b>prima facie</b> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused reasonably believed it.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) to (h) (i)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (h) (ii)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">for the purposes of this subsection, the complainant was</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>the complainant is to be taken not to have consented to the sexual activity unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the complainant consented, and the accused is to be taken not to have reasonably believed that the complainant consented unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused reasonably believed it.</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">for the purposes of this subsection, the complainant was unable to</p>

<p>unable to refuse if <b>he/she</b> lacks the capacity to choose whether to agree to the sexual activity (whether because <b>he/she</b> lacks sufficient understanding of the nature or reasonably foreseeable consequences of what is being done, or for any other reason), or <b>he/she</b> is unable to communicate such a choice to the accused;</p> <p><b>Subsection (i) to (m)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	<p>refuse if <b>the complainant</b> lacks the capacity to choose whether to agree to the sexual activity (whether because <b>the complainant</b> lacks sufficient understanding of the nature or reasonably foreseeable consequences of what is being done, or for any other reason), or <b>the complainant</b> is unable to communicate such a choice to the accused;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 8</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p>The circumstances referred to in subsection (1) are that -</p> <p>(a) the accused <b>intentionally</b> deceived the complainant as to the nature or purpose of the sexual activity;</p> <p>(b) the accused <b>intentionally</b> induced the complainant to consent to the sexual activity by impersonating a person known personally to the complainant.</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>The circumstances referred to in subsection (1) are that -</p> <p>(a) the accused deceived the complainant as to the nature or purpose of the sexual activity;</p> <p>(b) the accused induced the complainant to consent to the sexual activity by impersonating a person known personally to the complainant.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 9</b></p> <p>For offences under sections 10 to 26, unless expressly stated in any of offences, it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the complainant did not consent, and belief in consent (whether reasonable or not) is not a defence.</p>	<p>For offences under sections 10 to 26, unless expressly stated in any of <b>the</b> offences, it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the complainant did not consent, and belief in consent (whether reasonable or not) is not a defence.</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 10</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b>  (b) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third party.</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>(b) causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third party.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 11</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1), paragraph (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b>  <b>intentionally</b> causes or incites the complainant to engage in a sexual activity with a third party; or</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b>  <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to perform a sexual act including causing the complainant to masturbate.</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b>  causes or incites the complainant to engage in a sexual activity with a third party; or</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b>  causes the complainant to perform a sexual act including causing the complainant to masturbate.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 12</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b>  A person ("the accused") commits the offence of causing a child to watch a sexual act if the accused <b>intentionally</b> causes a person, who is under sixteen years of age ("the complainant"), to watch a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of a person engaging in a sexual activity.</p>	<p>A person ("the accused") commits the offence of causing a child to watch a sexual act if the accused causes a person, who is under sixteen years of age ("the complainant"), to watch <b>the accused or</b> a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of a person engaging in a sexual activity.</p>

<b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b>	Unaltered
<p><b>CLAUSE 13</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph(a)</b> <b>Sub-paragraph (i)</b></p> <p>A person eighteen years of age or over ("the accused") commits the offence of meeting a child following sexual grooming if -</p> <p>(a) having met or communicated with another person ("the complainant") on at least two earlier occasions, the accused -</p> <p>(i) <b>intentionally</b> meets the complainant; or</p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (ii)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p>at the time, the accused intends to do anything to or in respect of the complainant, during or after the meeting and in any part of the world, which if done will involve the commission by the accused of an offence under this Act;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>A person eighteen years of age or over ("the accused") commits the offence of meeting a child following sexual grooming if -</p> <p>(a) having met or communicated with another person ("the complainant") on at least two earlier occasions, the accused -</p> <p>(i) meets the complainant; or</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>at the time, the accused intends to do anything to or in respect of the complainant, during or after the meeting and in any part of the world, which if done will involve the commission by the accused of an offence under this Act; <b>and</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<b>CLAUSE 14</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 15</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 16</b> <b>Subsection (1)</b>	

<p><b>Paragraph (a), subparagraph</b> the accused -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <b>intentionally</b> engages in sexual activity with the complainant;</li> <li>(ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or</li> <li>(iii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;</li> </ul> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> the relation of the accused to the complainant is a family relation within section 17 and the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the <b>accused's</b> relation to the complainant was a family relation within that section; and</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (2)</b> Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the relation of the accused to the complainant was a family relation within section 17, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that <b>the accused's</b> relation to the complainant was a family relation unless <b>prima facie</b> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that it was.</p> <p><b>Subsections (3)</b></p>	<p>the accused -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) engages in sexual activity with the complainant;</li> <li>(ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or</li> <li>(iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;</li> </ul> <p>the relation of the accused to the complainant is a family relation within section 17 and the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the relation <i>of the accused</i> to the complainant was a family relation within that section; and</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the relation of the accused to the complainant was a family relation within section 17, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the relation <i>of the accused</i> to the complainant was a family relation unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that it was.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
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<p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (5)</b> Subsection (4)(b) does not apply if at the time referred to in that subsection sexual relationship between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.</p> <p><b>Subsection (6)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Subsection (4)(b) does not apply if at the time referred to in that subsection <i>a</i> sexual relationship between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 17</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1), Paragraph (a)</b> one of them is the other's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, aunt or uncle, or the accused is or has been the complainant's foster parent.</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2), paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b> a person is a child's foster parent if so deemed under any law, agreement or court order;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p>	<p>one of them is the other's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, aunt or uncle, or the accused is or has been the complainant's foster parent;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>a person is a child's foster parent if so deemed under any law, <i>deed</i>, agreement, <i>arrangement</i> or court order;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 18</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1), paragraph (a)(i)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a) subparagraphs (ii) and (iii)</b> (ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>(ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or</p>

<p>party; or</p> <p>(iii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p> <p>the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which <b>he/she</b> is in a position of trust in relation to the complainant.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the accused was in a position of trust in relation to the complainant by virtue of circumstances within section 19 (1) (a), (b) or (c), and it is not proved that <b>he/she</b> was in a position of trust by virtue of other circumstances, it is to be taken that the accused <del>k</del>new or could reasonably have been expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which <b>he/she</b> was in such a position of trust unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether <b>he/she</b> knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of those circumstances.</p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p>A person who commits an offence under this section is liable -</p> <p>(a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p>	<p>(iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which <i>the accused</i> is in a position of trust in relation to the complainant.</p> <p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the accused was in a position of trust in relation to the complainant by virtue of circumstances within section 19 (1) (a), (b) or (c), and it is not proved that <i>the accused</i> was in a position of trust by virtue of other circumstances, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which <i>the accused</i> was in such a position of trust unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether <i>the accused</i> <del>k</del>new or could reasonably have been expected to know of those circumstances.</p> <p>A person who commits an offence under this section is liable -</p> <p>(a) <i>where the sexual activity included sexual penetration, on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>in any other case -</i></p>
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<p>(b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.</p> <p><b>Subsections (4) to (6)</b></p>	<p>(i) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p> <p>(ii) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 19</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> <b>Paragraphs (a) to (f)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (g)</b> the accused is a social worker, probation officer, coach, instructor, babysitter, child-minder or has <b>another</b> welfare position in relation to the complainant, and has regular unsupervised contact with the complainant.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> <b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">the accused looks after persons under eighteen years of age if <b>he/she</b> is regularly involved in caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of such persons;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (i)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (ii)</b> in the course of <b>his/her</b> involvement, the accused regularly has unsupervised contact with the complainant (whether face to face or by any other means).</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>the accused is a social worker, probation officer, coach, instructor, babysitter, child-minder or has <b>a</b> welfare position in relation to the complainant, and has regular unsupervised contact with the complainant.</p> <p>the accused looks after persons under eighteen years of age if <b>the accused</b> is regularly involved in caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of such persons;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>in the course of <b>the</b> involvement, the accused regularly has unsupervised contact with the complainant (whether face to face or by any other means).</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 20</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 21</b>  <b>Subsection (1)</b>  <b>Subsections (2) to (3)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (4)</b>  A person who commits an offence under this section is liable -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) on summary conviction, to a fine of <del>the</del> one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered  Unaltered</p> <p>A person who commits an offence under this section is liable -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 22</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b>  Paragraphs (a) and (b)</p> <p>Paragraph (c)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">knew or could reasonably be expected to have known that <del>he</del> was related to the complainant in a manner specified in paragraph (b).</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><del>k</del>new or could reasonably be expected to have known that <i>the accused</i> was related to the complainant in a manner specified in paragraph (b).</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 23</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b>  <b>Paragraph (a), subparagraph (i)</b></p> <p><b>Subparagraphs (ii) and (iii)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes or incites the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) causes or incites the complainant to engage in</p>

<p>party; or  (iii) <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>sexual activity with a third party; or  (iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 24</b>  <b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b>  with the agreement of another person ("the complainant"), the accused <b>intentionally</b> causes the complainant to watch a third person engage in a sexual activity, or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b>  the complainant has a mental disorder and the <b>complainant</b> knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the complainant has a mental disorder.</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) and (3)</b></p>	<p>with the agreement of another person ("the complainant"), the accused causes the complainant to watch a third person engage in a sexual activity, or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>the complainant has a mental disorder and the <i>accused</i> knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the complainant has a mental disorder.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 25</b>  <b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)(i)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)(ii)</b>  the accused -</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>the accused -</p>

<p>(ii) <b>intentionally</b> causes or incites the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or</p> <p><b>Subparagraph (iii)</b></p> <p>(iii) <b>intentionally</b> causes or incites the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;</p>	<p>(ii) causes or incites the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or</p> <p>(iii) causes or incites the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (b) and (c)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsections (2)</b></p> <p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether <b>he/she</b> knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.</p>	<p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether <b>the accused</b> knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.</p>
<p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p>	
<p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p>on summary conviction, to a fine one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p>	<p>on summary conviction, to a fine <i>of</i> one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsections (5)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsections (6) and (7)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 26</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a)</b></p> <p>for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, the accused <b>intentionally</b> causes another person (“the complainant”), to watch a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether he knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.</p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (5) and (6)</b></p>	<p>for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, the accused causes another person (“the complainant”), to watch a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless <i>prima facie</i> evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether <b>the accused</b> knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 27</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a), subparagraph (i)</b></p> <p><b>Subparagraph (ii)</b> the accused has functions to perform in the home in the</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>the accused has functions to perform in the home in the course of employment</p>

<p>course of employment which have brought <b>him/her</b> or are likely to bring <b>him/her</b> into regular face to face contact with the complainant.</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> if the complainant is a patient for whom services are provided -</p> <p>(i) by a public health body or an independent medical agency; or</p> <p>(ii) in an independent clinic or an independent hospital,</p> <p>and the accused has functions to perform for the body or agency or in the clinic or hospital in the course of employment which have brought <b>him/her</b> or are likely to bring <b>him/her</b> into regular face to face contact with the complainant;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p>	<p>which have brought <i>the accused</i> or are likely to bring <i>the accused</i> into regular face to face contact with the complainant;</p> <p>if the complainant is a patient for whom services are provided -</p> <p>(i) by a public health body or an independent medical agency; or</p> <p>(ii) in an independent clinic or an independent hospital,</p> <p>and the accused has functions to perform for the body or agency or in the clinic or hospital in the course of employment which have brought <i>the accused</i> or are likely to bring <i>the accused</i> into regular face to face contact with the complainant;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 28</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b> intentionally exposes the <b>accused's</b> genitals; and</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> intends that someone will see the <b>accused's</b> genitals and be caused alarm or distress.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>intentionally exposes the genitals <i>of the accused</i>; and</p> <p>intends that someone will see the genitals <i>of the accused</i> and be caused alarm or distress.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 29</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 30</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 31</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> A person commits the offence of intercourse with an animal if he, <b>intentionally</b> with his penis penetrates the vagina or anus of a living animal, and he knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the vagina or anus of a living animal that is penetrated.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> A person commits an offence of intercourse with an animal if she <b>intentionally</b> causes, or allows, her vagina or anus to be penetrated by the penis of a living animal, and she knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the penis of an animal she is being penetrated by.</p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	<p>A person commits the offence of intercourse with an animal if he, with his penis penetrates the vagina or anus of a living animal, and he knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the vagina or anus of a living animal that is penetrated.</p> <p>A person commits an offence of intercourse with an animal if she causes, or allows, her vagina or anus to be penetrated by the penis of a living animal, and she knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the penis of an animal she is being penetrated by.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 32</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> A person ("the accused") commits the offence of administering a substance with intent if the accused <b>intentionally</b> administers a substance to, or causes a substance to be taken by, another person ("the complainant") -</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p>	<p>A person ("the accused") commits the offence of administering a substance with intent if the accused administers a substance to, or causes a substance to be taken by, another person ("the complainant") -</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 33</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 34</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 35</b></p> <p>35.(1) Subject to subsection (2), any act done by a person in a country or a territory outside Guyana constitutes a sexual offence under the law of Guyana if the act -</p> <p>(a) constituted an offence under the law in force in that</p>	<p><b>Insert new Clause 35 as follows -</b></p> <p><b>35.(1) Any conduct or act done by a resident or citizen of Guyana in a country or territory outside Guyana shall be deemed to be a sexual offence under the law of Guyana if the conduct or act -</b></p> <p><b>(a) constituted an offence under</b></p>

<p>country or territory; and</p> <p>(b) would constitute a sexual offence under this Act if it had been done in Guyana.</p> <p>(2) Proceedings by virtue of this section may be brought only against a person who is a Guyanese citizen or resident in Guyana.</p> <p>(3) For the purposes of this section, an act punishable under the law in force in any country or territory outside Guyana constitutes an offence under that law, however it is described in that law.</p> <p>(4) Subject to subsection (5), the condition in subsection (1)(a) is to be taken to be met unless, not later than rules of Court may provide, the accused serves on the prosecution a notice –</p> <p>(a) stating that, on the facts as alleged with respect to the act in question, the condition is not in the accused opinion met;</p> <p>(b) showing grounds for that opinion; and</p> <p>(c) requiring the prosecution to prove that it is met.</p> <p>(5) The Court, if it thinks fit, may permit the accused to require the prosecution to prove that the condition is met without service of a notice under subsection (4).</p> <p>(6) In the High Court the question whether the condition is met is to be decided by the judge alone.</p>	<p><i>the law in force in that country or territory; and</i></p> <p><i>(b) would constitute a sexual offence under this Act had it been committed in Guyana.</i></p> <p><i>(2) For the purposes of this section, conduct or an act punishable under the law in force in any country or territory outside Guyana constitutes an offence under that law, however it is described in that law.</i></p> <p><i>(3) The conduct or act referred to in sub section (1) shall be deemed to be an offence under this Act unless the person charged serves on the prosecution a notice, no later than rules of Court shall provide, that the conduct or act alleged does not constitute an offence and his reasons for so stating.</i></p> <p><i>(4) The Court if it thinks fit, may require the prosecution to prove that the conduct or act constitutes an offence under this Act, whether or not the person charged serves such a notice.</i></p> <p><i>(5) In the Court the question whether the conduct or act constitutes an offence under this Act shall be decided by the judge alone.</i></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 36</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>



<p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p> <p>solicits, incites, aids, abets or counsels or attempts to solicit, incite, aid abet or counsel any other person to commit; or</p>	<p>solicits, incites, aids, abets or counsels or attempts to solicit, incite, aid, abet or counsel any other person to commit; or</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 37</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 38</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 39</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 40</b></p> <p>Where at the trial of any offence under this Act, it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that an offence under this Act committed against a child has been caused, encouraged or favoured by the child's father, mother, guardian or any other person who has lawful care or charge, the Court may divest that person of all authority over the child and appoint any other suitable person willing to take charge of the child to be the guardian until the child becomes an adult, and the Court shall have power to vary from time to time or rescind such order.</p>	<p>Where at the trial of any offence under this Act, it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that an offence under this Act committed against a child has been caused, encouraged or favoured by the child's father, mother, guardian or any other person who has lawful care or charge <i>of the child</i>, the Court may divest that person of all authority over the child and appoint any other suitable person willing to take charge of the child to be the guardian until the child becomes an adult, and the Court shall have power to vary from time to time or rescind <i>or discharge</i> such order.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 41</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> the file shall be sent to the Director of Public prosecutions for advice.</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>the file <i>relating to the report and investigation</i> shall be sent to the Director of Public prosecutions for advice.</p>

<p><b>Subsection (3)</b> Failure to comply with section 1 (2) constitutes neglect of duty by <b>the commander of the division of the Guyana Police Force in which the report was made and he/she</b> shall be liable to answer disciplinary charges.</p>	<p>Failure to comply with <i>subsection (2)</i> constitutes neglect of duty by <i>the Investigating Rank and the Investigating Rank</i> shall be liable to answer disciplinary charges <i>in accordance with the Police (Discipline) Act.</i></p> <p><b>Insert new subsection (4) as follows –</b></p> <p><i>“(4) A person who makes a false complaint to the police may, on the advice of the Director of Public Prosecutions, be charged for the offence of making a false complaint and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for three years.”</i></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 42</b> <b>Subsection (1)</b> Where a report is made of an offence under this Act, at no point during investigation shall the complainant be required to recount the complaint or any part thereof, in the presence of the accused.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p>	<p>Where a report is made of an offence under this Act, at no point during <i>the</i> investigation shall the complainant be required to recount the complaint or any part <i>of it</i>, in the presence of the accused <i>unless the complainant wants to do so.</i></p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 43</b> Where <b>an offence</b> is charged under this Act, there shall be no oral preliminary inquiry and instead a paper committal shall be held in accordance with the procedure set out in the First Schedule.</p>	<p>Where <i>a person</i> is charged <i>with an offence</i> under this Act, there shall be no oral preliminary inquiry and instead a paper committal shall be held in accordance with the procedure set out in the First Schedule.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 44</b> The National Task Force for Prevention of Sexual Violence, established under section 91,</p>	<p>The National Task Force for Prevention of Sexual Violence, established under section</p>

shall report to the Minister within one year of the date of commencement of this Act on proposals for a special court environment to try cases in relation to offences under this Act.	87, shall report to the Minister within one year of the date of commencement of this Act on proposals for a special court environment to try cases in relation to offences under this Act.
<b>CLAUSE 45</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 46</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 47</b> The accused, complainant (and support person/s), attorneys-at-law representing either party and any necessary interpreter shall not be excluded under section 45.	The accused, complainant, <i>any</i> support <i>person and</i> attorneys-at-law representing either party and any necessary interpreter shall not be excluded under section 45.
<b>CLAUSE 48</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 49</b> The Court shall, at the first Court appearance, and may at any other stage, bring section 45 to the attention of the prosecution and ask the complainant <b>directly</b> if he/she wishes to give oral or written evidence on the question of whether the public should be excluded from the hearing before the judge or magistrate makes a determination.	The Court shall, at the first Court appearance, and may at any other stage, bring section 45 to the attention of the prosecution and ask the complainant directly if <i>the complainant</i> wishes to give oral or written evidence on the question of whether the public should be excluded from the hearing before the judge or magistrate makes a determination.
<b>CLAUSE 50</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 51</b> Where an order has been made under section 45 the passing of sentence shall take place in public.	Where an order has been made under section 45 <i>to exclude the public from the hearing</i> the passing of sentence shall take place in public.
<b>SUBHEADING</b> <i>Behaviour and reactions of rape victims</i>	<i>Behaviour and reaction of complainant</i>

<p><b>CLAUSE 52</b></p> <p>Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness about the behaviour or reaction of the complainant during or after the alleged offence the judge shall inform the jury that <b>victims</b> of sexual offences display a wide range of responses, and that the absence of behaviour that they might expect a <b>victim</b> of a sexual offence to display should not be taken as evidence that the offence charged did not take place.</p> <p><b>Marginal note</b> Behaviour and <b>reactions of victims of sexual offences.</b></p>	<p>Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness about the behaviour or reaction of the complainant during or after the alleged offence the judge shall inform the jury that <b>complainants</b> of sexual offences display a wide range of responses, and that the absence of behaviour that they might expect a <b>complainant</b> of a sexual offence to display should not be taken as evidence that the offence charged did not take place.</p> <p>Behaviour and <i>reaction of complainant.</i></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 53</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 54</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> abandoned,</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) to (5)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p><i>withdrawn or not proceeded with,</i></p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 55</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)(a)</b> The screen or other arrangement referred to in subsection (1) shall not prevent the witness from being able to see, and to be seen by – (a) the judge or magistrate and the</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>The screen or other arrangement referred to in subsection (1) shall not prevent the witness from being able to see, and to be seen by – (a) the judge <b>and jury</b> or</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">jury (if there is one);</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) &amp; (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">magistrate;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 56</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)(a)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection 2(b)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“the person giving evidence to see and hear, and to be seen and heard by, the magistrate or judge, at least one attorney-at-law representing the prosecution and one the defence, and where the jury is present, the jury.”</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“the person giving evidence to see and hear, and to be seen and heard by, the magistrate or judge, at least one attorney-at-law representing the prosecution and one the defence, and where the jury is present, the jury.”.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 57</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 58</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (1) and (2)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p>Any examination of the witness in pursuance of subsection (1) shall take place in the presence of such persons as <b>rules</b> of Court or the direction may provide, but in circumstances in which -</p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">the jury (if there is one) are able to see and hear the examination of the</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Any examination of the witness in pursuance of subsection (1) shall take place in the presence of such persons as <b>Rules</b> of Court or the direction may provide, but in circumstances in which -</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">the jury are able to see and hear the examination of the witness.</p>

witness.	
<b>Subsections (4)</b>	Unaltered
<b>Subsection (5)</b> A person may not act as an intermediary in a particular case except after making a declaration, in such form as may be prescribed by <b>rules of Court</b> , that he/she will faithfully perform <b>his/her</b> function as intermediary.	A person may not act as an intermediary in a particular case except after <b><i>being sworn or affirmed</i></b> that <b><i>the person</i></b> will faithfully perform <b><i>the</i></b> function as intermediary.
<b>Subsection (6)</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 59</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 60</b>	Unaltered
<b>SUBHEADING</b> <b><i>Presentation of victim's views and concerns</i></b>	<b><i>Presentation of complainant's views and concerns</i></b>
<b>CLAUSE 61</b> <b>Subsection (1)</b> The Court shall provide an opportunity to a <b>victim</b> of an offence under this Act, if the <b>victim</b> desires it, to present the <b>victim's</b> views and concerns at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against the accused, in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the accused.	The Court shall provide an opportunity to a <b><i>complainant</i></b> of an offence under this Act, if the <b><i>complainant</i></b> desires it, to present the <b><i>complainant's</i></b> views and concerns at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against the accused, in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the accused.
<b>Subsection (2)</b>	Unaltered
<b>Marginal note</b> Opportunity for presentation of <b>victim's</b> views and concerns.	Opportunity for presentation of <b><i>complainant's</i></b> views and concerns.

<b>CLAUSES 62 to 65</b>	<b>Deleted</b>
<b>CLAUSE 66</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 62</b>
<b>Subsections (1) and (2)</b>	Unaltered
<b>Subsection (3)</b> Every person who publishes in any document, or broadcasts, or transmits in any way, any information that could identify the complainant or a witness contrary to subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a summary offence and liable to a fine of two million dollars.	Every person who publishes in any document, or broadcasts, or transmits in any way, any information that could identify the complainant or a witness contrary to subsection (1) <i>commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction</i> to a fine of two million dollars.
<b>Subsections (4) and (5)</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 67</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 63 and Unaltered</b>
<b>CLAUSE 68</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 64</b>
<b>Subsection (1)</b>	Unaltered
<b>Subsection (2)</b> A person is not competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act if it appears to the Court that <b>he/she</b> is not a person who is able to –	A person is not competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act if it appears to the Court that <i>the person</i> is not a person who is able to –
<b>Paragraph (a)</b>  understand questions put to <b>him/her</b> as a witness; and	understand questions put to <i>the person</i> as a witness; and
<b>Paragraph (b)</b>	Unaltered
<b>Subsections (3) and (4)</b>	Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 69</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 65 and Unaltered</b>

<p><b>CLAUSE 70</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> Any question whether a witness in criminal proceedings under <b>whether</b> this Act may be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on oath, shall be determined by the Court in accordance with this section, whether raised -</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (2) to (7)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (8)</b> <b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">understand questions put to <b>him/her</b> as a witness; and</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 66</b></p> <p>Any question whether a witness in criminal proceedings <b>under</b> this Act may be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on <b>oath</b>, shall be determined by the Court in accordance with this section, whether raised -</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p style="text-align: center;">understand questions put to <b>the person</b> as a witness; and</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 71</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> Subsections (2) and (3) apply to a person who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act, but (by virtue of section 70) is not permitted to be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on oath in such proceedings.</p> <p><b>Subsections (2) to (4)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (5)</b> Where a person (“the witness”) who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act gives evidence in such proceedings unsworn, no conviction, verdict or finding in those proceedings shall be taken to be unsafe for the purposes of any statute or other law by reason only that it appears to the Court of Appeal or any other</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 67</b></p> <p>Subsections (2) and (3) apply to a person who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act, but (by virtue of section <b>66</b>) is not permitted to be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on oath in such proceedings.</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Where a person (“the witness”) who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act gives evidence in such proceedings unsworn, no conviction, verdict or finding in those proceedings shall be taken to be unsafe for the purposes of any statute or other law by reason only that it appears to the Court of Appeal or any other</p>



<p>Court that the witness was a person falling within section 70 (and should accordingly have given <b>his/her</b> evidence on oath).</p>	<p>Court that the witness was a person falling within section 66 (and should accordingly have given evidence on oath).</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 72</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> This section applies where a person gives unsworn evidence in criminal proceedings under section 71.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2), paragraph (a)</b> where the criminal proceedings related to an indictable offence punishable with imprisonment for life, on indictment to imprisonment <b>for life</b>;</p> <p><b>paragraph (b)</b> where the criminal proceedings related to any case not mentioned in the preceding subsection, on indictment to seven years imprisonment.</p> <p><b>Marginal note</b> Penalty giving <b>the</b> false unsworn evidence.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 68</b></p> <p>This section applies where a person gives unsworn evidence in criminal proceedings under section 67</p> <p>where the criminal proceedings related to an indictable offence punishable with imprisonment for life, on indictment to <i>seven years</i> imprisonment;</p> <p>where the criminal proceedings related to any case not mentioned in the preceding subsection, on indictment to <i>five years</i> imprisonment.</p> <p>Penalty <i>for</i> giving false unsworn evidence.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 73</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> No corroboration of the evidence of the complainant or the sworn or unsworn evidence of a child shall be required for a conviction of an offence under this Act, and the judge shall not instruct the jury that it is unsafe to find the accused guilty in absence of corroboration.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> <b>Section</b> 61(3) and 71(3) of the Evidence Act shall not apply to this Act.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 69</b></p> <p>No corroboration of the evidence of the complainant or the sworn or unsworn evidence of a child shall be required for a conviction of an offence under this Act, and the judge shall not <i>direct</i> the jury that it is unsafe to find the accused guilty in <i>the</i> absence of corroboration.</p> <p><b>Sections</b> 61(3) and 71(3) of the Evidence Act shall not apply to this Act.</p>

<p><b>CLAUSE 74</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 70 and Unaltered</b></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 75</b></p> <p>Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness which tends to suggest an absence of complaint in respect of the commission of the alleged offence by the person upon whom the offence is alleged to have been committed or to suggest delay by that person in making any such complaint, the judge or magistrate shall –</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 71</b></p> <p>Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness which tends to suggest an absence of complaint in respect of the commission of the alleged offence by the person upon whom the offence is alleged to have been committed or to suggest delay by that person in making any such complaint, the judge shall –</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 76</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 72 and Unaltered</b></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 77</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Evidence of</b> a statement made by a child complainant in relation to an offence under this Act is admissible where the child does not give direct oral testimony at the trial.</p> <p><b>Subsections (2)</b></p> <p>Sections 78 and 79 shall apply to the admissibility of evidence under subsection (1) of this section.</p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p><b>Marginal note</b></p> <p><b>Evidence of</b> statement of child admissible where no oral testimony.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 73</b></p> <p><i>A</i> statement made by a child complainant in relation to an offence under this Act is admissible <i>as evidence</i> where the child does not give direct oral testimony at the trial.</p> <p>Sections 74 and 75 shall apply to the admissibility of evidence under subsection (1).</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p><i>Statement</i> of child admissible where no oral testimony.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 78</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 74</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p>

<p><b>Subsection (2)</b> <b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (c)</b> a statement written by the child <b>himself/herself</b>;</p>	<p>a statement written by the child;</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p>	
<p><b>Paragraph (a)</b>  the child shall state <b>his/her</b> age and that an adult of <b>his/her</b> choice was present with <b>him/her</b> when it was made;</p>	<p>the child shall state <i>the</i> <i>child's</i> age and that an adult of <i>the child's</i> choice was present with <i>the child</i> when it was made;</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (c)</b>  if the statement is written on behalf of a child who cannot write, the person who wrote the statement shall read it to the child before <b>he/she</b> puts <b>his/her</b> mark or thumb print on it and it shall be accompanied by a declaration of the person who wrote it that it was read to the child and that <b>he/she</b> appears to understand it and <b>he/she</b> agreed to it;</p>	<p>if the statement is written on behalf of a child who cannot write, the person who wrote the statement shall read it to the child before <i>the child</i> puts <i>the</i> <i>child's</i> mark or thumb print on it and it shall be accompanied by a declaration of the person who wrote it that it was read to the child and that <i>the child</i> appears to understand it and <i>the child</i> agreed to it;</p>
<p><b>Paragraphs (d) and (e)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>

<p><b>Subsection (4)</b> The prosecution shall give a copy of the statement to <b>any other party to the proceedings reasonably</b> in advance of the prosecution tendering it into evidence.</p> <p><b>Subsection (5) and (6)</b></p>	<p>The prosecution shall give a copy of the statement to <i>the accused not less than seven days</i> in advance of the prosecution tendering it into evidence.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 79</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> Without limiting any other written law, where a statement, referred to in section <b>78</b>, appears to the Court to have been prepared for the purposes of:</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (2)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (3)</b> <b>Paragraph (a)</b> if statement is written by the child, by the prosecution submitting the statement to the Court; or</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (4)</b> Where a statement is tendered into evidence under subsection (2), it shall be read to the Court, and the accused is entitled to challenge its admissibility before it is admitted into evidence or laid over at paper committal.</p> <p><b>Subsection (5)</b> Where the accused exercises <b>his/her</b> right under subsection (4), the Court shall conduct a <b>short</b></p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 75</b></p> <p>Without limiting any other written law, where a statement, referred to in section <b>74</b>, appears to the Court to have been prepared for the purposes of -</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>if <i>the</i> statement is written by the child, by the prosecution submitting the statement to the Court; or</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Where a statement is tendered into evidence under subsection (1), it shall be read to the Court, and the accused is entitled to challenge its admissibility before it is admitted into evidence or <i>tendered</i> at paper committal.</p> <p>Where the accused exercises <i>the</i> right under subsection (4), the Court shall conduct a</p>

<p>hearing in the absence of the jury and public and decide whether the whole or any part of the statement is admissible into evidence.</p>	<p>hearing in the absence of the jury and public and decide whether the whole or any part of the statement is admissible into evidence.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 80</b></p> <p>Where a statement is tendered in evidence under sections 78 or 79, the accused shall not be convicted on the basis of that evidence alone</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 76 and Unaltered</b></p> <p>Where a statement is tendered in evidence under sections 74 or 75, the accused shall not be convicted on the basis of that evidence alone</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 81</b> <b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">is of criminal sexual activity involving the complainant, and there is evidence of a conviction of a third party for this abuse;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) and (c)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p>Any evidence or questioning referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 77</b> Unaltered</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">is of criminal sexual activity involving the complainant, and there is evidence of a conviction of a third party for this <i>criminal sexual activity</i>;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Any evidence referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 82</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p>In proceedings in respect of a sexual offence,</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 78</b></p> <p>In proceedings in respect of a sexual offence,</p>

<p>evidence as to the sexual activity reputation of the complainant is not admissible, and the defence shall not be allowed to cross-examine on the matter.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p>	<p>evidence as to the sexual activity <i>or</i> reputation of the complainant is not admissible, and the defence shall not be allowed to cross-examine on the matter.</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 83</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> Where the complainant in proceedings for an offence under this <b>sexual</b> Act is sixteen years of age or over, no evidence shall be adduced that the complainant has engaged in sexual activity (with the accused or with any other person) other than the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge, unless the Court determines, in accordance with the procedure set out in the Second Schedule, that the evidence -</p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b> <b>Paragraph (b), (i) and (ii)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b) (iii)</b> is <b>evident</b> of consensual sexual activity of the complainant with the accused where this is reasonably contemporaneous with the date of the alleged offence.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> Any evidence <b>or questioning</b> referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right</p>	<p><b>Renumbered as Clause 79</b></p> <p>Where the complainant in proceedings for an offence under this Act is sixteen years of age or over, no evidence shall be adduced that the complainant has engaged in sexual activity (with the accused or with any other person) other than the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge, unless the Court determines, in accordance with the procedure set out in the Second Schedule, that the evidence -</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>is of consensual sexual activity of the complainant with the accused where this is reasonably contemporaneous with the date of the alleged offence.</p> <p>Any evidence referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right of</p>

of privacy.	privacy.
<p><b>CLAUSE 84</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> The defence shall not introduce evidence directly or ask questions in cross-examination suggesting previous allegations of sexual offences by the complainant may have been false without the prior permission of the Court.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph(a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> the relevance of the evidence to the <b>accused's</b> case is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Court.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 80</b></p> <p>The defence shall not introduce evidence directly or ask questions in cross-examination suggesting <i>that</i> previous allegations of sexual offences by the complainant may have been false without the prior permission of the Court.</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>the relevance of the evidence to the case <i>of the accused</i> is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Court.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 85</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> (1) Where the Court is required to determine whether to grant bail in respect of an offence under this Act the Court shall take into account-</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (a)</b> the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of the <b>victim</b> or any witness;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b> any hardship that may be caused to the accused or to the <b>members of his/her</b> family if bail is not granted;</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 81</b></p> <p>Where the Court is required to determine whether to grant bail in respect of an offence under this Act the Court shall take into account-</p> <p>the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of the <i>complainant</i> or any witness;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>any hardship that may be caused to the accused or the family <i>members of the accused</i> if bail is not</p>

<p><b>Paragraph (d)</b> the <b>accused's</b> record with regard to the commission of violent acts and whether there is evidence in or on the record of physical or psychological abuse to children;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (e)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (iii)</b> interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice, whether in relation to <b>himself</b> or any other person;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (f)</b> any other matters which may be relevant to the case in question.</p>	<p>granted;</p> <p>the record <i>of the accused</i> with regard to the commission of violent acts and whether there is evidence in or on the record of physical or psychological abuse to children;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice, whether in relation to <i>the accused</i> or any other person;</p> <p>Paragraph aligned with paragraph (e)</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 86</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1) (a)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> is charged with committing a sexual offence with a child under section 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18 or 21, the Court shall order that the accused be detained in custody until dealt with according to law, unless the accused, having been given a reasonable opportunity to do so, shows just cause why the <b>accused's</b> detention in custody is not justified.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 82</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>is charged with committing a sexual offence with a child under section 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18 or 21, the Court shall order that the accused be detained in custody until dealt with according to law, unless the accused, having been given a reasonable opportunity to do so, shows just cause why the detention <i>of the accused</i> in custody is not justified.</p>



<p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p> <p>For the purposes of subsection (1), just cause will be shown where the accused demonstrates that -</p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p>detention is not necessary to ensure the accused's attendance in Court in order to be dealt with according to law;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p>detention is not necessary for the protection or safety of the public, including for the protection of any <b>victim</b> of any or witness to the offence;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (c) and (d)</b></p>	<p>For the purposes of subsection (1), just cause will be shown where the accused demonstrates that -</p> <p>detention is not necessary to ensure the attendance <i>of the accused</i> in Court in order to be dealt with according to law;</p> <p>detention is not necessary for the protection or safety of the public, including for the protection of any <i>complainant</i> of or witness to the offence;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 87</b></p> <p><b>Subsections (1)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b></p> <p>that the accused abstain from communicating, directly or indirectly, with any victim, witness or other person identified in the order except in accordance with the conditions specified in the order as the judge considers necessary;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b></p> <p>that the accused not harass or molest, or cause another person to</p>	<p><b>Renumbered as Clause 83</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>that the accused abstain from communicating, directly or indirectly, with any <i>complainant</i>, witness or other person identified in the order except in accordance with the conditions specified in the order as the judge considers necessary;</p> <p>that the accused not harass or molest, or cause another person to harass or molest, a specified</p>

<p>harass or molest, a specified person, including the victim or any relevant child;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b></p> <p>that the accused not be in a locality in which are situated the premises in which a specified person, including the victim or any relevant child, resides, works or is frequently present at;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p> <p>that the accused not be on premises which are or in a locality in which is situated the place of education of a specified person named in the order, including the victim or any relevant child;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (e)</b></p> <p>where the accused continues to reside, work or attend a place of education with a specified person, including the victim or any relevant child, that the accused do not enter or remain in the place of residence, employment, or education while under the influence of alcohol or a drug;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (f) and (g)</b></p>	<p>person, including the <i>complainant</i> or any relevant child;</p> <p>that the accused not be in a locality in which are situated the premises in which a specified person, including the <i>complainant</i> or any relevant child, resides, works or is frequently present at;</p> <p>that the accused not be on premises which are in a locality in which is situated the place of education of a specified person named in the order, including the <i>complainant</i> or any relevant child;</p> <p>where the accused continues to reside, work or attend a place of education with a specified person, including the <i>complainant</i> or any relevant child, that the accused do not enter or remain in the place of residence, employment, or education;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
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<p><b>Paragraph (h)</b></p> <p>that the accused notify the police officer or other person designated in the order of any change in <b>his/her</b> address or <b>his/her</b> employment or occupation;</p>	<p>that the accused notify the police officer or other person designated in the order of any change in <i>the</i> address, employment or occupation <i>of the accused</i>;</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (i)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraph (j)</b></p> <p>that the accused comply with any other condition specified in the order that the Court considers necessary to ensure the safety and security of any <b>victim</b> of or witness to the offence or in the interest of the public.</p>	<p>that the accused comply with any other condition specified in the order that the Court considers necessary to ensure the safety and security of any <b>complainant</b> of or witness to the offence or in the interest of the public.</p>
<p><b>Subsection (2)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsection (3)</b></p> <p>Where bail has been granted to a person on a condition imposed under subsection (1) and the person contravenes or fails to comply with the condition, the bail is forfeited and the accused is liable to be re-arrested.</p>	<p>Where bail has been granted to a person on a condition imposed under subsection (1) and the person contravenes or fails to comply with the condition, the bail <i>shall be</i> forfeited and the accused is liable to be re-arrested.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 88</b></p> <p>If an accused charged with an offence under this Act is released on bail, the prosecutor shall immediately inform the <b>victim</b> of that fact, and any conditions of bail.</p> <p><b>Marginal note</b>  <b>Victim</b> to be notified if accused</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 84</b></p> <p>If an accused charged with an offence under this Act is released on bail, the prosecutor shall immediately inform the <b>complainant</b> of that fact, and any conditions of bail.</p> <p><b>Complainant</b> to be notified if accused</p>

released on bail.	released on bail.
<p><b>CLAUSE 89</b></p> <p>Where an accused is convicted of an offence under this Act, in addition to passing sentence the Court may -</p> <p><b>Paragraph (a)</b> order that the accused pay civil compensation to the <b>victim</b>; and</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)</b> make one or more of the following orders -</p> <p>(i) drug treatment and testing order;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (b)(ii)</b></p> <p><b>Subparagraph (iii)</b> protection and safety order; and</p> <p><b>Subparagraph (iv)</b> where the offence for which the accused has been convicted suggests risk of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) transmission to the complainant, a HIV testing order and disclosure of the results to the <b>court</b> and complainant.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 85</b></p> <p>Where an accused is convicted of an offence under this Act, in addition to passing sentence the Court may -</p> <p>order that the accused pay civil compensation to the <b>complainant</b>; and</p> <p>make one or more of the following orders -</p> <p>(i) drug treatment and <b>drug</b> testing order;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>(iii) protection and safety order;</p> <p>where the offence for which the accused has been convicted suggests risk of HIV transmission to the complainant, a HIV testing order and disclosure of the results to the <b>Court</b> and complainant; <b>and</b></p> <p><b>Insert new subparagraph (v) as follows -</b></p>

	<i>"(v) mental and psychological treatment."</i>
<b>PART VIII</b> <b>MEDICAL CARE AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIM</b>	<b>PART VIII</b> <b>MEDICAL CARE AND SUPPORT FOR COMPLAINANT</b>
<b>CLAUSE 90</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 86 and Unaltered</b>
<p><b>CLAUSE 91</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> The President shall appoint the members of the <b>task force</b>, which shall include the Ministers of Legal Affairs, Home Affairs, Human Services and Social Security, Amerindian Affairs, Education, Health, Local Government, Youth, Sport and Culture, senior public officers with responsibility for law enforcement, health and human and social services and persons from non-governmental organisations.</p> <p><b>Subsection (3)(a)</b> The <b>task force</b> shall carry out the following activities either directly or by one or more of the constituent ministries as appropriate -</p> <p>(a) develop and publish within one year of the coming into force of this Act, <b>the</b> National Plan for the Prevention of Sexual Offences, which shall include the necessary steps to eradicate sexual violence in Guyana;</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 87</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>The President shall appoint the members of the <b>Task Force</b>, which shall include the Ministers of Legal Affairs, Home Affairs, Human Services and Social Security, Amerindian Affairs, Education, Health, Local Government, Youth, Sport and Culture, senior public officers with responsibility for law enforcement, health and human and social services and persons from non-governmental organisations.</p> <p>The <b>Task Force</b> shall carry out the following activities either directly or by one or more of the constituent ministries as appropriate -</p> <p>(a) develop and publish within <i>a reasonable time</i> of the coming into force of this Act, <i>a</i> National Plan for the Prevention of Sexual Offences, which shall include the necessary steps to eradicate</p>

<p><b>Paragraphs (g) and (h)</b></p> <p>(g) develop national policy guidelines for victims of sexual violence and address matters relating to police services, prosecution, medical services, social service, probation service and prison service;</p> <p>(h) monitor the implementation of this Act, the National Plan and the National Policy Guidelines;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (b) to (k)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (l)</b> provide guidance on the development of training programmes specified under section 96;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (m)</b> within of this Act coming into force, publish a paper on integration of reports to be made, seeking medical care and evidence gathering and recommend either the establishment of a special centre, or a unit at hospitals or at police stations, and setting out the necessary steps to establish any integrated services;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (n) and (o)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p>	<p>sexual violence in Guyana;</p> <p>(g) develop national policy guidelines <i>and protocols</i> for victims of sexual violence and address matters relating to police services, prosecution, medical services, social service, probation service and prison service;</p> <p>(h) monitor the implementation of this Act, the National Plan and the National Policy Guidelines <i>and protocols</i>;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>provide guidance on the development of training programmes specified under section 91;</p> <p>within <i>a reasonable time</i> of this Act coming into force, publish a paper on integration of reports to be made, seeking medical care and evidence gathering and recommend either the establishment of a special centre, or a unit at hospitals or at police stations, and setting out the necessary steps to establish any integrated services;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 92</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b> The Minister shall establish a <b>sexual violence unit</b> in the Ministry of Human Services and</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 88</b></p> <p>The Minister shall establish a <i>Sexual Violence Unit</i> in the Ministry of Human</p>

<p>Social Security.</p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> The Sexual Violence Unit, or until it is established, the Director of Social Services shall support the Task Force in carrying out the provisions of section 91(3).</p>	<p>Services and Social Security.</p> <p>The Sexual Violence Unit, or until it is established, the Director of Social Services shall support the Task Force in carrying out the provisions of section 87(3).</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 93</b></p>	<p><b>Deleted</b></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 94</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> Data shall include, but shall not be limited to, number of reports to the police, number of arrests, prosecutions and successful convictions, gender and age of victims, geographical locations where offences are alleged to have happened, number of persons seeking medical care, types of injuries received by victims, relationship of victim to accused, number of matters withdrawn from Court and number of matters where victims chose not to proceed further.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 89</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>Data shall include, but shall not be limited to, number of reports to the police, number of arrests, prosecutions and successful convictions, gender and age of victims <i>or complainants</i>, geographical locations where offences are alleged to have happened, number of persons seeking medical care, types of injuries received by victims <i>or complainants</i>, relationship of victim <i>or complainant</i> to accused, number of matters withdrawn from Court and number of matters where <i>complainants</i> chose not to proceed further.</p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 95</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p>(1) The Minister, in co-operation with other <i>appropriate</i> governmental agencies and <i>appropriate</i> non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to educate victims and potential victims of sexual offences and their families of the risk of victimisation.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 90</b></p> <p>(1) The Minister, in co-operation with other governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to educate victims and potential victims of sexual offences and their families of the risk of victimisation.</p>

<p><b>Subsection (2)</b> <b>Paragraphs (a) and (b)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (c)</b> exposure to and treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases;</p> <p><b>Paragraph (d)</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph (e)</b> the measures and services in place to ensure the safety of victims;</p> <p><b>Paragraphs (f) to (h)</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p><i>information regarding</i> exposure to and treatment of HIV and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases;</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>the measures and services in place to ensure the safety of victims <i>or complainants</i>;</p> <p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Subsections (3)</b></p> <p>(3) The Minister in co-operation with other <i>appropriate</i> governmental agencies and <i>appropriate</i> non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to discourage behaviour that fosters the abuse of persons that leads to sexual violence.</p>	<p>(3) The Minister in co-operation with other governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to discourage behaviour that fosters the abuse of persons that leads to sexual violence.</p>
<p><b>Subsection (4)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (5)</b> Materials used in the public awareness programmes shall include as appropriate pamphlets, brochures, posters, advertisements in mass media, and any other methods appropriate for reaching victims of sexual violence.</p>	<p>Unaltered</p> <p>Materials used in the public awareness programmes shall include as appropriate pamphlets, brochures, posters, advertisements in mass media, and any other methods appropriate for reaching victims <i>or potential victims</i> of sexual violence.</p>



<p><b>Subsection (6)</b> Any material used under this section shall preserve the privacy of the victim and <b>the victim's family.</b></p>	<p>Any material used under this section shall preserve the privacy of the victim <i>or complainant</i> and <i>the family of each.</i></p>
<p><b>CLAUSE 96</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (1)</b></p> <p><b>Subsection (2)</b> The Judicial Service Commission shall ensure that training is provided to magistrates and judges not only on implementation of <b>the</b> Act, but also on existing laws, procedures and obligations relating to sexual offences, for example regulating requests for adjournments, cross-examination of the <b>victim</b>, and on sexual offences in general, including rape myths.</p>	<p><b>Renumbered Clause 91</b></p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>The Judicial Service Commission shall ensure that training is provided to magistrates and judges not only on implementation of <b>this</b> Act, but also on existing laws, procedures and obligations relating to sexual offences, for example regulating requests for adjournments, cross-examination of the <i>complainant</i>, and on sexual offences in general, including rape myths.</p>
<b>CLAUSE 97</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 92</b> and Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 98</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 93</b> and Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 99</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 94</b> and Unaltered
<b>CLAUSE 100</b>	<b>Renumbered Clause 95</b> and Unaltered
<b>FIRST SCHEDULE</b>	This schedule has been changed in its entirety. Please see Appendix III for this Schedule.
<b>SECOND SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>SECOND SCHEDULE s. 81, 83</b>	<b>SECOND SCHEDULE ss. 77, 79</b>
<b>PART I s.83</b>	<b>PART I s. 79</b>

<p><b>Paragraph 1</b></p> <p>In determining whether written evidence is admissible under <b>section 83</b>, the Court shall take into account –</p> <p>Subparagraphs (a) to (h)</p>	<p>In determining whether written evidence is admissible under <b>section 79</b>, the Court shall take into account –</p> <p>Unaltered.</p>
<p><b>Paragraph 2 (1)</b></p> <p><b>Application may be made to the Court by the prosecution or defence</b> for a hearing to determine whether evidence is admissible under <b>section 83</b>.</p>	<p><i>The prosecution or the accused may apply</i> to the Court for a hearing to determine whether evidence is admissible under <b>section 79</b></p>
<p><b>Subparagraph 2</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraph 6 (a)</b></p> <p>Where the Court is satisfied –</p> <p>(a) that the application was made in accordance with paragraph 3 or 4 as relevant.</p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (b)</b></p> <p><b>Sub-paragraph (c)</b> that the evidence sought to be adduced is capable of being admissible under <b>section 83</b></p>	<p>that the application was made in accordance with paragraph 3 or 4 as <i>is</i> relevant.</p> <p>Unaltered</p> <p>that the evidence sought to be adduced is capable of being admissible under <b>section 79</b></p>
<p><b>Paragraphs 7</b></p>	<p>Unaltered</p>
<p><b>Paragraph 8</b></p> <p>At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court shall determine whether the evidence, or any part of the evidence, is admissible under <b>section 83</b> and shall provide reasons for that determination, and</p>	<p>At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court shall determine whether the evidence, or any part of the evidence, is admissible under <b>section 79</b> and shall provide reasons for that</p>

<p>the reasons must state –</p> <p><b>Subparagraph (b)</b> the factors referred to in paragraph 1 <b>of this Schedule</b> that affected the determination; and</p> <p><b>Marginal note</b> Judge’s determination and reasons.</p>	<p>determination, and the reasons must state –</p> <p>the factors referred to in paragraph 1 that affected the determination; and</p> <p><i>Court’s</i> determination and reasons.</p>
<b>Paragraphs 9 and 10</b>	Unaltered
<b>Paragraph 13</b>	<b>Renumbered Paragraph 11</b> and Unaltered.
<p><b>PART II s. 81</b></p> <p>Paragraphs 1 to 13 of Part I shall apply, except that –</p> <p>(a) under paragraph 1, the judge shall also take into account the interest of society in preventing child sexual abuse, and the overriding duty of the Court to protect child witnesses from inappropriate and traumatic questioning;</p>	<p><b>PART II s. 77</b></p> <p>Paragraphs <i>1</i> to <i>11</i> of Part I shall apply, except that –</p> <p>(a) under paragraph 1 the <i>Court</i> shall also take into account the interest of society in preventing child sexual abuse, and the overriding duty of the Court to protect child witnesses from inappropriate and traumatic questioning;</p>
<b>Paragraph (b) (i) (ii) (iii)</b>	Unaltered
<p><b>THIRD SCHEDULE s.100</b></p> <p><b>LAWS REPEALED</b></p> <p><b>LAWS REPEALED            EXTENT OF APPEAL</b></p> <p>Criminal Law            7, 65-71, 72, 73(a), (Offence) Act            74, 75, 76, 77, 77A, Cap 8:01                    78, 84-90</p>	<p><b>THIRD SCHEDULE s.95</b></p> <p><b>LAWS REPEALED</b></p> <p><b>LAWS REPEALED            EXTENT OF APPEAL</b></p> <p>7, 65 <i>to</i> 71 (<i>inclusive</i>), 72, 73(a), 74, 75, 76, 77, 77A and <i>83 to 89</i> (<i>inclusive</i>)</p>

Criminal Law (Procedure) Act      31 Cap 10:01	Unaltered
Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Act      24 Cap 8:02	Unaltered
Evidence Act          82 Cap 5:03	Unaltered

# **APPENDIX IV**

## **GUYANA**

### **BILL No. 30 of 2009**

#### **THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009**

##### **ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

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**A BILL**

**Intituled**

AN ACT to reform and consolidate the laws relating to sexual offences and to provide for related matters.

A.D. 2009.

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:-

**PART 1**

**PRELIMINARY**

Short title and commencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Sexual Offences Act 2009, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by order, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act –

- (a) “accused” includes a defendant;
- (b) “child” means a person under eighteen years of age;
- (c) “consent” means words or overt actions by a person who is competent to give informed consent indicating a freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or other sexual contact;
- (d) “HIV” means the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus;
- (e) “image” means a moving or still image and includes an image produced by any means and, where the context permits, a three-dimensional image and references to

an image of a person include references to an image of an imaginary person and references to observation (however expressed) are to observation whether direct or by looking at an image;

(f) “learning disability” means a state of arrested or incomplete development of the mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning; dependence on alcohol or drugs is not considered to be a disorder or disability of the mind;

(g) “mental disorder” means any disorder or disability of the mind, including learning disability;

(h) “penetration” means any intrusion, however slight and for however short a time, of any part of a person’s body or of any object into the vagina or anus of another person, and any contact, however slight and for however short a time, between the mouth of one person and the genitals or anus of another, including but not limited to sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal intercourse and female to female genital contact; and –

(i) where the penetration is by the penis, the emission of seminal fluid is not necessary to prove the penetration;

(ii) penetration is a continuing act from entry to withdrawal;

(i) “proceedings” includes –

- (i) any proceeding relating to bail;
- (ii) a paper committal;
- (iii) where a person has previously been remanded in custody, any subsequent proceeding with respect to the remand of the person in custody for the same offence;
- (iv) any interlocutory proceeding held in connection with any criminal proceeding;
- (v) any civil action or proceeding in the High Court;
- (vi) a trial or hearing of the charge;
- (vii) a trial or a hearing of an appeal;

(j) “sexual” includes penetration, touching or any other activity if a reasonable person would consider that –

- (i) whatever its circumstances or any person's purpose in relation to it, it is because of its nature sexual;
- or
- (ii) because of its nature it may be sexual and because of its circumstances or the purpose of any person in relation to it (or both) it is sexual;

(k) “sexual activity” includes touching;

- (i) “touching” includes touching –
  - (i) with any part of the body, which includes a part surgically constructed (in particular, through gender reassignment surgery);
  - (ii) with anything else;
  - (iii) through anything;
- (ii) “vagina” includes vulva, meaning the region of the external genital organs of the female and in relation to an animal, references to the vagina or anus include references to any similar part.

**PART II**  
**OFFENCES**

Rape.

3. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of rape if –
- (a) the accused –
    - (i) engages in sexual penetration with another person (“the complainant”); or
    - (ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third person;
  - (b) the complainant does not consent to the penetration; and
  - (c) the accused does not reasonably believe that the complainant consents.



(2) Sections 7 and 8 (relating to presumptions about consent) apply to an offence under this section.

(3) A person who commits the offence of rape is liable, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life.

Sexual assault.

4. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of sexual assault if—

(a) the accused —

(i) touches another person (“the complainant”) in a sexual way;

(ii) causes the complainant to touch the accused in a sexual way;

(iii) causes the complainant to touch a third party in a sexual way; or

(iv) otherwise indecently assaults the complainant within the meaning of any other law;

(b) the complainant does not consent to the touching or the act which would constitute indecent assault; and

(c) the accused does not reasonably believe that the complainant consents.

(2) Sections 7 and 8 (relating to presumptions as to consent) apply to

an offence under this section.

(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable, on summary conviction, to imprisonment for five years and on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

Consent not  
inferred.

5. Consent and belief in consent cannot be inferred by –

- (a) reason of silence or lack of physical resistance on the part of the complainant; or
- (b) reason of sexual arousal including orgasm and ejaculation.

Belief in  
consent.

6. (1) Where a defence of belief in consent is raised to the offence of rape or sexual assault, the belief must be objectively reasonable.

(2) Whether a belief is reasonable is to be determined having regard to all the circumstances, including any steps the accused has taken to ascertain whether the complainant or the third person consents.

(3) It is not a defence to a charge of rape that the accused reasonably believed that the complainant consented to the sexual activity that forms the subject matter of the charge, where –

- (a) the belief of the accused arose from the self-induced intoxication or reckless or wilful blindness of the

accused; or

- (b) the accused did not take reasonable steps, in the circumstances known to the accused at the time, to ascertain that the complainant was consenting.

Evidential  
presumptions  
about consent.

7. (1) If in any proceedings for an offence under section 3 or 4 it is proved that –

- (a) the accused did the sexual activity;
- (b) any of the circumstances specified in subsection (2) existed; and
- (c) the accused knew that those circumstances existed,

the complainant is to be taken not to have consented to the sexual activity unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the complainant consented, and the accused is to be taken not to have reasonably believed that the complainant consented unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused reasonably believed it.

(2) The circumstances referred to in subsection (1) are that–

- (a) any person was, at the time of the sexual activity or immediately before it began, using violence against the complainant or causing the complainant to fear that immediate violence would be used against the complainant;

- (b) any person was, at the time of the sexual activity or immediately before it began, causing the complainant to fear that violence was being used, or that immediate violence would be used, against another person;
- (c) the complainant was, and the accused was not, unlawfully detained at the time of the sexual activity;
- (d) any person had administered to or caused to be taken by the complainant, without the complainant's consent, a substance which, having regard to when it was administered or taken, was capable of causing or enabling the complainant to be stupefied or overpowered at the time of the sexual activity;
- (e) the presence of more than one person at the time of the sexual activity was used to intimidate the complainant;
- (f) the complainant was asleep or otherwise unconscious at the time of the sexual activity;
- (g) because of the complainant's physical disability, the complainant would not have been able at the time of the sexual activity to communicate to the accused whether the complainant consented;
- (h) (i) the complainant was, at the time of the sexual activity, unable to refuse because of or for a reason related to a mental disorder and the

accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know this;

(ii) for the purposes of this subsection, the complainant was unable to refuse if the complainant lacks the capacity to choose whether to agree to the sexual activity (whether because the complainant lacks sufficient understanding of the nature or reasonably foreseeable consequences of what is being done, or for any other reason), or the complainant is unable to communicate such a choice to the accused;

- (i) the complainant was otherwise incapable of consenting to the sexual activity at the time of the sexual activity;
- (j) agreement was expressed by the words or conduct of a person other than the complainant;
- (k) abuse of a position of power or authority to the extent that the complainant could not resist at the time of the sexual activity;
- (l) the complainant expressed at the time of the sexual activity a lack of agreement to engage in the sexual activity;
- (m) the complainant, having consented to engage in the

sexual activity, expressed, by words or conduct at the time of the sexual activity, a lack of agreement to continue to engage in the sexual activity.

(3) In subsection (2)(a) and (b), the reference to the time immediately before the sexual activity began is, in the case of an act which is one of a continuous series of sexual activities, a reference to the time immediately before the first sexual activity began.

Conclusive  
presumptions  
about consent.

8. (1) If in any proceedings for an offence under section 3 or 4 it is proved that the accused did the sexual activity and that any of the circumstances specified in subsection (2) existed, it is to be conclusively presumed that –

- (a) the complainant did not consent to the sexual activity;
- and
- (b) the accused did not believe that the complainant consented to the sexual activity.

(2) The circumstances referred to in subsection (1) are that –

- (a) the accused deceived the complainant as to the nature or purpose of the sexual activity;
- (b) the accused induced the complainant to consent to the sexual activity by impersonating a person known personally to the complainant.

***Non-consent offences: children and vulnerable adults***

Non-consent offences.

9. For offences under sections 10 to 26, unless expressly stated in any of the offences, it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the complainant did not consent, and belief in consent (whether reasonable or not) is not a defence.

***Child sex offences***

Rape of a child under 16 years.

10. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of rape of a child under sixteen years of age (“the complainant”) if the accused –

- (a) engages in sexual penetration with the complainant; or
- (b) causes the complainant to engage in sexual penetration with a third party.

(2) It is irrelevant whether at the time of the penetration the accused believed the complainant to be sixteen years of age or over.

(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life.

Sexual activity with a child under 16 years.

11. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of sexual activity with a child under sixteen years of age if the accused –

- (a) engages in a sexual activity (not including sexual penetration) with a child who is under sixteen years of age (“the

complainant”);

- (b) causes or incites the complainant to engage in a sexual activity with a third party; or
- (c) causes the complainant to perform a sexual act including causing the complainant to masturbate.

(2) It is irrelevant whether at the time of the activity the accused believed the complainant to be sixteen years of age or over.

(3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for five years and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for ten years.

Causing a child under 16 years to watch a sexual act.

12. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of causing a child to watch a sexual act if the accused causes a person, who is under sixteen years of age (“the complainant”), to watch the accused or a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of a person engaging in a sexual activity.

(2) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years and on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.



(3) A person (“the accused”) is not guilty of an offence under this section, if the accused acts for the purpose of –

- (a) protecting the complainant from a sexually transmitted infection;
- (b) protecting the physical safety of the complainant;
- (c) preventing the complainant from becoming pregnant; or
- (d) promoting the complainant’s emotional well-being by the giving of advice,

and not for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification or for the purpose of causing or encouraging the activity constituting the offence or the complainant’s participation in it.

Meeting a child under 16 years following sexual grooming.

13. (1) A person eighteen years of age or over (“the accused”) commits the offence of meeting a child following sexual grooming if –

- (a) having met or communicated with another person (“the complainant”) on at least two earlier occasions, the accused–
  - (i) meets the complainant; or
  - (ii) travels with the intention of meeting the complainant in any part of the world;
- (b) at the time, the accused intends to do anything to or in respect of the complainant, during or after the meeting and in any part of the world, which if done will involve the

commission by the accused of an offence under this Act;

and

- (c) the complainant is under sixteen years of age and the accused does not reasonably believe that the complainant is sixteen years of age or over.

(2) In subsection (1)(a) the reference to the accused having met or communicated with the complainant is a reference to the accused having met the complainant in any part of the world or having communicated with the complainant by any means from, to or in any part of the world.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

Close in age  
defence:  
complainant  
aged 12 to 14.

14. Where an accused is charged with an offence under sections 10, 11, 12 or 13 in respect of a complainant who is twelve years of age or over but under fourteen years of age, it is a defence that the complainant consented to the activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge if the accused –

- (a) is less than two years older than the complainant; and
- (b) is not in a position of trust or authority towards the complainant within the meaning of section 19, is not a person with whom the

complainant is in a relationship of dependency and is not in a relationship with the complainant that is exploitative of the complainant.

Close in age  
defence:  
complainant  
aged 14 to 16.

15. Where an accused is charged with an offence under sections 10, 11, 12 or 13 in respect of a complainant who is fourteen years of age or over but under sixteen years of age, it is a defence that the complainant consented to the activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge if the accused –

- (a) is less than four years older than the complainant; and
- (b) is not in a position of trust or authority towards the complainant within the meaning of section 19, is not a person with whom the complainant is in a relationship of dependency and is not in a relationship with the complainant that is exploitative of the complainant.

Sexual activity  
with a child  
family member.

16. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of sexual activity with a child family member (“the complainant”) if –

- (a) the accused –
  - (i) engages in sexual activity with the complainant;
  - (ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or
  - (iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;

- (b) the relation of the accused to the complainant is a family relation within section 17 and the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the relation of the accused to the complainant was a family relation within that section; and
- (c) the complainant is under eighteen years of age.

(2) Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the relation of the accused to the complainant was a family relation within section 17, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the relation of the accused to the complainant was a family relation unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that it was.

- (3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –
- (a) where the sexual activity included sexual penetration, on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life;
  - (b) in any other case –
    - (i) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
    - (ii) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for fourteen years.

(4) A person (“the accused”) does not commit an offence under this section if—

(a) at the time the complainant is eighteen years of age or over and the accused and the complainant are lawfully married; or

(b) the relationship of the accused to the complainant is not a family relationship within section 17 and immediately before the relationship first became a relationship within section 17, a sexual relationship existed between them.

(5) Subsection (4)(b) does not apply if at the time referred to in that subsection a sexual relationship between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.

(6) In proceedings for an offence under this section it is for the accused to prove the matters mentioned in subsection (4)(a) and (b).

Family  
relationships.

17. (1) For the purposes of section 16, the relation of one person (“the accused”) to another (“the complainant”) is a family relation where —

(a) one of them is the other’s parent, grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, aunt or uncle, or the accused is or has been the complainant’s foster parent;

(b) the accused and the complainant live or have lived in the

same household, or the accused is or has been regularly involved in caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of the complainant, and –

- (i) one of them is or has been the other's step-parent (whether through legal marriage or cohabitation);
  - (ii) the accused and the complainant are cousins;
  - (iii) one of them is or has been the other's stepbrother or stepsister, or
  - (iv) the parent or present or former foster parent of one of them is or has been the other's foster parent;
- (c) the accused and the complainant live in the same household, and the accused is regularly involved in caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of the complainant.

(2) For the purposes of this section –

- (a) “aunt” means the sister or half-sister of a person's parent, and “uncle” has a corresponding meaning;
- (b) “cousin” means the child of an aunt or uncle;
- (c) a person is a child's foster parent if so deemed under any law, deed, agreement, arrangement or court order;
- (d) “stepbrother” and “stepsister” include the child of any step-

parent.

***Abuse of position of trust: sexual activity with a child***

Sexual activity  
with a child by  
abusing a  
position of trust.

18. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of sexual activity with a child under eighteen years of age by abusing a position of trust in relation to that child (“the complainant”) if –

- (a) the accused –
  - (i) engages in sexual activity with the complainant;
  - (ii) causes the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or
  - (iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including causing the complainant to masturbate;
- (b) the accused is in a position of trust in relation to the complainant by virtue of circumstances within section 19(1)(a), (b) or (c), and is not in a position of trust by virtue of other circumstances; and
- (c) the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which the accused is in a position of trust in relation to the complainant.

(2) Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the accused was in a position of trust in relation to the complainant by virtue of circumstances within section 19(1)(a), (b) or (c), and

it is not proved that the accused was in a position of trust by virtue of other circumstances, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of the circumstances by virtue of which the accused was in such a position of trust unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of those circumstances.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

(a) where the sexual activity included sexual penetration,  
on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life;

(b) in any other case –

(i) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million  
dollars and to imprisonment for five years;

(ii) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment  
for ten years.

(4) A person (“the accused”) does not commit an offence under this section if –

(a) at the time the complainant is sixteen years of age or  
over and the accused and the complainant are lawfully  
married; or

(b) immediately before the accused entered into a position  
of trust with the complainant, a sexual relationship



existed between them.

(5) Subsection (4)(b) does not apply if at the time referred to in that subsection sexual intercourse between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.

(6) In proceedings for an offence under this section it is for the accused to prove the matters mentioned in subsections (4)(a) and (b).

Position of trust.

19. (1) For the purposes of sections 14, 15 and 18, the positions of trust in relation to the accused and the complainant include, where –

- (a) the accused looks after persons, including the complainant, detained in an institution by virtue of a Court order or under any law;
- (b) the accused looks after persons, including the complainant, who are accommodated and cared for in one of the following institutions –
  - (i) a hospital;
  - (ii) an independent clinic;
  - (iii) a care home, residential care home or private hospital; or
  - (iv) a community home, voluntary home, children's home or orphanage;

- (c) the accused looks after persons who are receiving education at an educational institution (whether in the role of teacher or in another role) and the complainant is receiving, and the accused is not receiving, education at that institution;
- (d) the accused is the guardian of the complainant;
- (e) the accused is not appointed to be guardian of the complainant but is the legal or reputed husband or wife of one of the complainant's parents or guardians;
- (f) the complainant is in vocational training and the accused looks after the complainant on an individual basis; or
- (g) the accused is a social worker, probation officer, coach, instructor, babysitter, child-minder or has a welfare position in relation to the complainant, and has regular unsupervised contact with the complainant.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) –

- (a) the accused looks after persons under eighteen years of age if the accused is regularly involved in caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of such persons;
- (b) the accused looks after the complainant on an individual basis if –
  - (i) the accused is regularly involved in caring for, training or supervising the complainant; and

- (ii) in the course of the involvement, the accused regularly has unsupervised contact with the complainant (whether face to face or by any other means).

Obstructing prosecution.

20. (1) In proceedings relating to an offence under this Act, a person commits the offence of obstructing the prosecution if that person prevents a child from –

- (a) giving a statement to the police;
- (b) giving evidence in any other way which would be admissible for the paper committal; or
- (c) testifying.

(2) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years.

Arranging or facilitating commission of child sex offence.

21. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence if the accused intentionally arranges or facilitates something that the accused intends to do, intends another person to do, or believes that another person will do, in any part of the world, and doing it will involve the commission of an offence under section 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 or 18.

(2) A person (“the accused”) does not commit an offence under this section if—

- (a) the accused arranges or facilitates something that the accused believes another person will do, but that the accused does not intend to do or intend another person to do; and
- (b) any offence within subsection (1) would be an offence against a child for whose protection the accused acts.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), a person acts for the protection of a child if the person acts for the purpose of—

- (a) protecting the child from sexually transmitted infection;
- (b) protecting the physical safety of the child;
- (c) preventing the child from becoming pregnant; or
- (d) promoting the child's emotional well-being by the giving of advice, or any educational activity,

and not for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification or for the purpose of causing or encouraging the activity constituting the offence within subsection (1) or the child's participation in it.

(4) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable —

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;

- (b) on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for ten years.

***Vulnerable adults***

***Sex with adult family member***

Sex with adult family member.

22. (1) A person (“the accused”) sixteen years of age or over commits the offence of sex with an adult family member if the accused –

- (a) engages in sexual penetration with another person (“the complainant”) who is eighteen years of age or over;
- (b) is related to the complainant as parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother, sister, half brother, half sister, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece; and
- (c) knew or could reasonably be expected to have known that the accused was related to the complainant in a manner specified in paragraph (b).

(2) Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the accused was related to the complainant in any manner specified in subsection (1)(b), it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of the relationship between them unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of the relationship.

- (3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –
- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of five hundred thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for five years.

***Obtaining sexual activity by inducement, threat, deception***

Obtaining sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder by inducement, threat or deception.

23. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of obtaining sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder by inducement, threat or deception if –

- (a) with the agreement of another person (“the complainant”), the accused –
  - (i) engages in sexual activity with the complainant;
  - (ii) causes or incites the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or
  - (iii) causes the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;
- (b) the accused obtains the complainant’s agreement by means of an inducement offered or given, a threat made or a deception practised by the accused for that purpose; and
- (c) the complainant has a mental disorder and the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the

complainant has a mental disorder.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this section, if sexual activity involved sexual penetration is liable, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life.

(3) Unless subsection (2) applies, a person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years, and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for fourteen years.

Causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act by inducement, threat or deception.

24. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act or to look at an image of a person engaging in a sexual activity if –

- (a) with the agreement of another person (“the complainant”), the accused causes the complainant to watch a third person engage in a sexual activity, or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;
- (b) the complainant agrees to watch or look because of an inducement offered or given, a threat made or a deception practised by the accused for the purpose of obtaining that agreement; and
- (c) the complainant has a mental disorder and the accused

knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the complainant has a mental disorder.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for ten years.

(3) A person (“the accused”) is not guilty of an offence under this section, if the accused acts for the purpose of –

- (a) protecting the complainant from a sexually transmitted infection;
- (b) protecting the physical safety of the complainant;
- (c) preventing the complainant from becoming pregnant; or
- (d) promoting the complainant's emotional well-being by the giving of advice,

and not for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification or for the purpose of causing or encouraging the activity constituting the offence or the complainant's participation in it.

***Care workers for persons with a mental disorder***

Care worker engaging in, causing or inciting sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder.

25. (1) A person (“the accused”) who is a care worker, commits the offence of a care worker engaging in, causing or inciting sexual activity with a person (“the complainant”) if –



- (a) the accused –
  - (i) engages in sexual activity with the complainant;
  - (ii) causes or incites the complainant to engage in sexual activity with a third party; or
  - (iii) causes or incites the complainant to perform sexual acts including but not limited to causing the complainant to masturbate;
- (b) the complainant has a mental disorder and the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the complainant has a mental disorder; and
- (c) the accused is involved in the complainant's care in a way that falls within section 27.

(2) Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section, if the sexual activity involved sexual penetration, is liable, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life.

(4) Unless subsection (3) applies, a person guilty of an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

(5) A person (“the accused”) does not commit an offence under this section if –

- (a) at the time the complainant is eighteen years of age or over, and the accused and the complainant are lawfully married;  
or
- (b) immediately before the accused became involved in the complainant’s care in a way that falls within section 27, a sexual relationship existed between the accused and the complainant.

(6) Subsection (5)(b) does not apply if at that time sexual intercourse between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.

(7) In proceedings for an offence under this section it is for the accused to prove the matters mentioned in subsection (5)(a) and (b).

Care worker causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act.

26. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of a care worker causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity if –

- (a) for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, the accused causes another person (“the complainant”), to watch a third person engaging in a sexual activity or to look at an image of any person engaging in a sexual activity;
- (b) the complainant has a mental disorder and the accused knows or could reasonably be expected to know that the complainant has a mental disorder; and
- (c) the accused is involved in the complainant’s care in a way that falls within section 27.

(2) Where in proceedings for an offence under this section it is proved that the complainant had a mental disorder, it is to be taken that the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know that the complainant had a mental disorder unless *prima facie* evidence is adduced to raise an issue as to whether the accused knew or could reasonably have been expected to know it.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and

to imprisonment for five years;

(b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

(4) A person (“the accused”) does not commit an offence under this section if –

(a) at the time the complainant is eighteen years of age or over,  
and the accused and the complainant are lawfully married;

(b) immediately before the accused became involved in the complainant’s care in a way that falls within section 27, a sexual relationship existed between the accused and the complainant; or

(c) the accused acts for the purpose of –

(i) protecting the complainant from a sexually transmitted infection;

(ii) protecting the physical safety of the complainant;

(iii) preventing the complainant from becoming pregnant; or

(iv) promoting the complainant's emotional well-being by the giving of advice,

and not for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification or for the purpose of causing or encouraging the activity constituting the offence or the complainant’s participation in it.

(5) Subsection (4)(b) does not apply if at that time sexual intercourse between the accused and the complainant would have been unlawful.

(6) In proceedings for an offence under this section it is for the accused to prove the matters mentioned in subsection (4)(a) and (b).

Interpretation of  
care worker.

27. For the purposes of sections 25 and 26, a person (“the accused”) is involved in the care of another person (“the complainant”) in a way that falls within this section if any of the following paragraphs apply –

- (a) (i) the complainant is accommodated and cared for in a care home, community home, voluntary home or children’s home; and
- (ii) the accused has functions to perform in the home in the course of employment which have brought the accused or are likely to bring the accused into regular face to face contact with the complainant;
- (b) if the complainant is a patient for whom services are provided –
  - (i) by a public health body or an independent medical agency; or
  - (ii) in an independent clinic or an independent hospital,

and the accused has functions to perform for the body or agency or in the clinic or hospital in the course of employment which have brought the accused or are likely to bring the accused into regular face to face contact with the complainant;

- (c) if the accused is, whether or not in the course of employment, a provider of care, assistance or services to the complainant in connection with the complainant's mental disorder, and as such, has had or is likely to have regular face to face contact with the complainant.

***Other offences***

Exposure of the genitals.

28. (1) A person ("the accused") commits the offence of exposure of the genitals if the accused –

- (a) intentionally exposes the genitals of the accused; and
- (b) intends that someone will see the genitals of the accused and be caused alarm or distress.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of five hundred thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for five years.

Voyeurism.

29. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of voyeurism if –
- (a) for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, the accused observes another person (“the complainant”) doing a private act without the express consent of the complainant to being observed for sexual gratification;
  - (b) the accused installs equipment, or constructs or adapts a structure or part of a structure, with the intention of enabling himself or another person to commit an offence under paragraph (a);
  - (c) the accused operates equipment with the intention of enabling another person to observe, for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, a third person (“the complainant”) doing a private act without the express consent of the complainant to operating equipment with that intention; or
  - (d) the accused records another person (“the complainant”) doing a private act with the intention that the accused or a third person will, for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification, look at an image of the complainant doing the act without the express consent of the complainant to record the act with that intention.

- (2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of five hundred thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for five years.

Interpretation of voyeurism.

30. (1) For the purposes of section 29, a person is doing a private act if the person is in a place which, in the circumstances, would reasonably be expected to provide privacy, and –

- (a) the person’s genitals, buttocks or breasts are exposed or covered only with underwear;
- (b) the person is using a lavatory; or
- (c) the person is doing a sexual act that is not of a kind ordinarily done in public.

(2) In section 29, “structure” includes a tent, vehicle or vessel or other temporary or movable structure.

Intercourse with an animal.

31. (1) A person commits the offence of intercourse with an animal if he, with his penis penetrates the vagina or anus of a living animal, and he knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the vagina or anus of a living animal that is penetrated.

(2) A person commits an offence of intercourse with an animal if



she causes, or allows, her vagina or anus to be penetrated by the penis of a living animal, and she knows that, or is reckless as to whether, it is the penis of an animal she is being penetrated by.

- (3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –
  - (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for two years;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for five years.

***Preparatory offences***

Administering a substance with intent.

- 32. (1) A person (“the accused”) commits the offence of administering a substance with intent if the accused administers a substance to, or causes a substance to be taken by, another person (“the complainant”) –
  - (a) knowing that the complainant does not consent; and
  - (b) with the intention of stupefying or overpowering the complainant, so as to enable any person to engage in a sexual activity that involves the complainant.

- (2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –
  - (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten

years.

Committing an offence with intent to commit a sexual offence.

33. (1) A person commits the offence of committing an offence with intent to commit a sexual offence if the person commits any offence with the intention of committing a sexual offence under this Act.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on conviction on indictment, where the offence is committed by kidnapping or false imprisonment, to imprisonment for life.

(3) Unless subsection (2) applies, a person guilty of an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

Trespass with intent to commit a sexual offence.

34. (1) A person commits an offence of trespass with intent to commit a sexual offence if the person –

- (a) is a trespasser on any premises;
- (b) intends to commit a sexual offence under this Act on the premises; and
- (c) knows that, or is reckless as to whether, the person is a trespasser.

(2) In this section –

- (a) “premises” includes a structure or part of a structure;
- (b) “structure” includes a tent, vehicle or vessel or other temporary or movable structure.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable –

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of one million dollars and to imprisonment for five years;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for ten years.

Offences outside  
Guyana.

35.(1) Any conduct or act done by a resident or citizen of Guyana in a country or territory outside Guyana shall be deemed to be a sexual offence under the law of Guyana if the conduct or act –

- (a) constituted an offence under the law in force in that country or territory; and
- (b) would constitute a sexual offence under this Act had it been committed in Guyana.

(2) For the purposes of this section, conduct or an act punishable under the law in force in any country or territory outside Guyana constitutes an offence under that law, however it is described in that law.

(3) The conduct or act referred to in subsection (1) shall be deemed to be an offence under this Act unless the person charged serves on the prosecution a notice, no later than rules of Court shall provide, that the conduct or act alleged does not constitute an offence and his reasons for so stating.

(4) The Court if it thinks fit, may require the prosecution to prove that the conduct or act constitutes an offence under this Act, whether or not the person charged serves such a notice.

(5) In the Court the question whether the conduct or act constitutes an offence under this Act shall be decided by the judge alone.

***Conspiracy, attempt, incitement, aiding, etc.***

Punishment of attempt to commit, etc. offence against this Act.

36. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other written law, every person who –

- (a) attempts to commit;
- (b) conspires with any other person to commit;
- (c) solicits, incites, aids, abets or counsels or attempts to solicit, incite, aid, abet or counsel any other person to commit; or
- (d) causes or procures, or attempts to cause or procure the commission of,

any offence, whether summary or indictable, against this Act may be charged

with, tried, convicted and punished in all respects as if that person were a principal offender.

*Supplementary and general*

Marital and other relationships.

37. (1) Unless where specifically stated in this Act, a marital or other relationship, previous or existing, is not a defence to a charge of any offence under this Act.

(2) A proposal of marriage, made by the accused or any other party, to the complainant is not a defence to, nor does it have any bearing on, a charge of any offence under this Act.

Abolition of presumption that male under 14 years incapable of sexual intercourse.

38. The presumption of criminal law that a male under fourteen years of age is incapable of sexual intercourse is abolished.

Charge laid under law in force when offence committed.

39. A person who committed an offence before the commencement of this Act and which is an offence under this Act shall be charged, tried and punished under the law in force immediately before the coming into operation of this Act.

Divestment of authority over child.

40. Where at the trial of any offence under this Act, it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that an offence under this Act committed against a

child has been caused, encouraged or favoured by the child's father, mother, guardian or any other person who has lawful care or charge of the child, the Court may divest that person of all authority over the child and appoint any other suitable person willing to take charge of the child to be the guardian until the child becomes an adult, and the Court shall have power to vary from time to time or rescind or discharge such order.

### PART III INVESTIGATION

Mandatory  
record and  
investigation.

41.(1) Where an offence under this Act is reported to the police, the police shall, in every case record the report and conduct an investigation.

(2) Within three months of a complaint being made under subsection (1) –

- (a) a charge shall be laid in respect of the report; or
- (b) the file relating to the report and investigation shall be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions for advice.

(3) Failure to comply with subsection (2) constitutes neglect of duty by the Investigating Rank and the Investigating Rank shall be liable to answer disciplinary charges in accordance with the Police (Discipline) Act.

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(4) A person who makes a false complaint to the police may, on the advice of the Director of Public Prosecutions, be charged for the offence of making a false complaint and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for three years.

Confrontation.

42.(1) Where a report is made of an offence under this Act, at no point during the investigation shall the complainant be required to recount the complaint or any part of it, in the presence of the accused unless the complainant wants to do so.

(2) The complainant shall not be required to view or be in the presence of any person referred to in the complaint as having perpetrated any offence under this Act save for the purposes of an identification parade and then only –

- (a) by way of audio visual link;
- (b) by way of a two way mirror; or
- (c) in any other manner sensitive to the complainant's well-being.

## PART IV

### PROCEDURE AT COURT

#### *Procedure in Paper Committals*

Paper  
committals.

43. Where a person is charged with an offence under this Act, there shall be no oral preliminary inquiry and instead a paper committal shall be held in accordance with the procedure set out in the First Schedule.

First  
Schedule

Sex offences  
court.

44. The National Task Force for Prevention of Sexual Violence, established under section 37, shall report to the Minister within one year of the date of commencement of this Act on proposals for a special court environment to try cases in relation to offences under this Act.

#### *Exclusion of public from hearing*

Exclusion of  
public in certain  
cases.

45. In proceedings where the accused is charged with an offence under this Act, the presiding judge or magistrate shall order the exclusion of members of the public (including the media) from the Court room for the duration of the proceedings, unless the judge or magistrate is of the opinion that such an order is not necessary in the interests of the proper administration of justice to –

- (a) ensure all relevant evidence is heard;
- (b) ensure that the interests of witnesses under eighteen years of age are safeguarded in all proceedings; or



- (c) ensure the justice system participants who are involved in the proceedings are protected.

Factors to be taken into account.

46. In making a determination under section 45, the Court shall take into account –

- (a) the nature of sexual offences and the consequences of public disclosure of the details of such offences on the life of the complainant in the particular case and on society's interest in encouraging the reporting of sexual offences in general;
- (b) the balance between the interests of justice in generally holding criminal proceedings in public, and the potential prejudice to the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy of doing so in cases of sexual violence;
- (c) the right of the complainant and of every individual to personal security and to the full protection and benefit of the law; and
- (d) any other factor that the judge or magistrate considers relevant.

Persons not excluded.

47. The accused, complainant, any support person and attorneys-at-law representing either party and any necessary interpreter shall not be excluded under section 45.

Reasons to be stated.

48. If an accused is charged with an offence under this Act and the Court orders that the public shall not be excluded from the proceedings, the Court shall state, by reference to the circumstances of the case, the reason for making such an order.

Representations before determination.

49. The Court shall, at the first Court appearance, and may at any other stage, bring section 45 to the attention of the prosecution and ask the complainant directly if the complainant wishes to give oral or written evidence on the question of whether the public should be excluded from the hearing before the judge or magistrate makes a determination.

Public and jury excluded.

50. The Court shall consider any representations on whether to make a determination under section 45 with the public and jury excluded.

Passing of sentence in public.

51. Where an order has been made under section 45 to exclude the public from the hearing the passing of sentence shall take place in public.

#### ***Behaviour and reaction of complainant***

Behaviour and reaction of complainant.

52. Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness about the behaviour or reaction of the complainant during or after the alleged offence the judge shall inform the jury that complainants of sexual offences display a wide range of responses, and that the absence of behaviour that they might expect a

complainant of a sexual offence to display should not be taken as evidence that the offence charged did not take place.

### *Special Measures*

Special measures directions.

53. (1) At any proceedings in relation to an offence under this Act, unless the complainant requests that no such protection be put in place, the Court shall direct that the complainant be protected when giving evidence by one or more of the special measures set out in sections 55 to 59.

(2) A special measures direction shall specify particulars of the provision made by the direction in respect of each special measure which is to apply to the witness's evidence.

(3) In this Part "special measures direction" means a direction under this section.

(4) Nothing in this Part is to be regarded as affecting any power of a Court to make an order or give leave of any description (in the exercise of its inherent jurisdiction or otherwise) in relation to witnesses in proceedings for an offence under this Act.

Further provisions about directions.

54.(1) Subject to subsection (2) a special measures direction has binding effect from the time it is made until the proceedings for the purposes of which

it is made are either –

- (a) determined (by acquittal, conviction or otherwise); or
- (b) ~~withdrawn or not proceeded with,~~

in relation to the accused or (if there is more than one) in relation to each of the accused.

(2) The Court may discharge or vary (or further vary) a special measures direction if it appears to the Court to be in the interests of justice to do so, and may do so either –

- (a) on an application made by a party to the proceedings, if there has been a material change of circumstances since the relevant time; or
- (b) of its own motion.

(3) In subsection (2) “the relevant time” means –

- (a) the time when the direction was given; or
- (b) if a previous application has been made under that subsection, the time when the application (or last application) was made.

(4) The Court shall state in open Court its reasons for –

- (a) giving or varying;
- (b) refusing an application for, or for the variation or discharge

of; or

(c) discharging,

a special measures direction and, if it is a magistrates' court, shall cause them to be entered in the record.

(5) Rules of Court may make provision –

(a) for uncontested applications to be determined by the Court without a hearing;

(b) for preventing the renewal of an unsuccessful application for a special measures direction except where there has been a material change of circumstances;

(c) for expert evidence to be given in connection with an application for, or for the variation or discharge of such a direction;

(d) for the manner in which confidential or sensitive information is to be treated in connection with such an application and in particular as to its being disclosed to, or withheld from, a party to the proceedings.

Screening  
witness from  
accused.

55.(1) A special measures direction may provide for the witness, while giving testimony or being sworn in Court, to be prevented by means of a screen or other arrangement from seeing the accused.

(2) The screen or other arrangement referred to in subsection (1) shall not prevent the witness from being able to see, and to be seen by –

- (a) the judge and jury or magistrate;
- (b) attorneys-at-law acting in the proceedings; and
- (c) any interpreter or other person appointed (in pursuance of the direction or otherwise) to assist the witness.

(3) Where two or more attorneys-at-law are acting for a party to the proceedings, subsection (2)(b) is to be regarded as satisfied in relation to those representatives if the witness is able at all material times to see and be seen by at least one of them.

Evidence by  
audio visual link.

56.(1) A special measures direction may provide for the witness to give evidence by means of audio visual link facilities.

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(2) Where a special measures direction is given under subsection (1), sections 73A and 73B of the Evidence Act shall apply, except that –

- (a) section 73A(3)(b) shall not apply; and
- (b) section 73A(5)(a) and (b) shall not apply, and shall be substituted for the purposes of application to proceedings for an offence under this Act, by the following –

“the person giving evidence to see and hear, and to be seen and heard by, the magistrate or judge, at least one

attorney-at-law representing the prosecution and one the defence, and where the jury is present, the jury.”.

Removal of gowns.

57. A special measures direction may provide for the wearing of gowns to be dispensed with during the giving of the witness’s evidence.

Examination of witness through intermediary.

58. (1) A special measures direction may provide for any examination of a child witness (however and wherever conducted) to be conducted through an interpreter or other person approved by the Court for the purposes of this section (“an intermediary”).

(2) The function of an intermediary is to communicate –

- (a) to the witness, questions put to the witness; and
- (b) to any person asking such questions, the answers given by the witness in reply to them,

and to explain such questions or answers so far as necessary to enable them to be understood by the witness or person in question.

(3) Any examination of the witness in pursuance of subsection (1) shall take place in the presence of such persons as Rules of Court or the direction may provide, but in circumstances in which –

- (a) the judge or magistrate and legal representatives acting in the proceedings are able to see and hear the examination

of the witness and to communicate with the intermediary;

and

(b) the jury are able to see and hear the examination of the witness.

(4) Where two or more legal representatives are acting for a party to the proceedings, subsection (3)(a) is to be regarded as satisfied in relation to those representatives if at all material times it is satisfied in relation to at least one of them.

(5) A person may not act as an intermediary in a particular case except after being sworn or affirmed that the person will faithfully perform the function as intermediary.

(6) Sections 324 to 331 of the Criminal Law (Offences) Act shall apply to intermediaries under this section.

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Use of anatomically correct dolls.

59. A special measures direction may provide for the use of anatomically correct dolls in the taking of evidence from a child witness.

Status of evidence given under special measures direction.

60. Where a statement is made by a witness in criminal proceedings in accordance with a special measures direction, and is not made by the witness in direct oral testimony in Court but forms part of the witness's evidence in



those proceedings, the statement shall be treated as if made by the witness in direct oral testimony in Court.

***Presentation of complainant's views and concerns***

Opportunity for presentation of complainant's views and concerns.

61. (1) The Court shall provide an opportunity to a complainant of an offence under this Act, if the complainant desires it, to present the complainant's views and concerns at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against the accused, in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the accused.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), appropriate stages of criminal proceedings include the bail hearing and before passing of sentence.

***Anonymity for the complainant***

Anonymity for complainant in press reporting.

62.(1) The publication in any document, or the broadcasting, or transmission in any way, of any information that could identify the complainant or witness to an offence under this Act is prohibited.

(2) This section does not apply in respect of the disclosure of information –

- (a) in the course of the administration of justice; or
- (b) in the provision of medical services or psychological treatment to the complainant, when it is not the purpose

of the disclosure to make the information known in the community.

(3) Every person who publishes in any document, or broadcasts, or transmits in any way, any information that could identify the complainant or a witness contrary to subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two million dollars.

(4) Where a person is charged with an offence under subsection (3) in respect of the publication in any document, or the broadcasting, or transmission in any way, of any information that could identify the complainant or a witness, it shall be a defence, subject to subsection (5), to prove that the publication, broadcast, or transmission in which the matter appeared was one in respect of which the complainant had given written consent.

(5) Written consent is not a defence if it is proved that any person interfered unreasonably with the complainant's peace or comfort with intent to obtain the consent.

Anonymity for  
the complainant  
in Court.

§3. When called to give evidence in Court the complainant's name and address shall not be stated, and the Court shall advise the complainant before the complainant gives evidence that the complainant may not do so.

**PART V**  
**EVIDENCE**

*Competence of witness and capacity to be sworn*

Competence of witness to give evidence.

64. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), at every stage in criminal proceedings under this Act all persons are competent to give evidence.

(2) A person is not competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act if it appears to the Court that the person is not a person who is able to –

- (a) understand questions put to the person as a witness; and
- (b) give answers to them which can be understood.

(3) A person charged with an offence under this Act is not competent to give evidence for the prosecution in the proceedings for the offence (whether the person is the only person, or is one of two or more persons, charged with the offence).

(4) In subsection (3) the reference to a person charged with an offence under this Act does not include a person who is not, or is no longer, liable to be convicted of any offence in the proceedings (whether as a result of pleading guilty or for any other reason).

Determining  
competence of  
witness.

45. (1) Any question whether a witness in criminal proceedings under this Act is competent to give evidence in the proceedings shall be determined by the Court in accordance with this section, whether raised –

- (a) by a party to the proceedings; or
- (b) by the Court of its own motion.

(2) It is for the party calling the witness to satisfy the Court that, on a balance of probabilities, the witness is competent to give evidence in the proceedings.

(3) In determining the question mentioned in subsection (1) the Court shall treat the witness as having the benefit of any directions under section 53 which the Court has given, or proposes to give, in relation to the witness.

(4) Any proceedings held for the determination of the question shall take place in the absence of the jury.

(5) Where the Court is in doubt as to whether the witness is competent, the Court may receive evidence from anyone it deems fit, including a social worker or duly qualified medical practitioner.

(6) Any questioning of the witness (where the Court considers that

necessary) shall –

- (a) be conducted by the Court in the presence of the parties and any social worker or support person accompanying the witness; and
- (b) be conducted with the benefit of any special measures the Court deems necessary under sections 53 and 54.

Determining whether witness to be sworn.

66. (1) Any question whether a witness in criminal proceedings under this Act may be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on oath, shall be determined by the Court in accordance with this section, whether raised –

- (a) by a party to the proceeding; or
- (b) by the Court of its own motion.

(2) The witness may not be sworn for that purpose unless the witness has a sufficient appreciation of the solemnity of the occasion and of the particular responsibility to tell the truth which is involved in taking an oath.

(3) The witness shall, if the witness is able to give intelligible testimony, be presumed to have a sufficient appreciation of those matters if no evidence tending to show the contrary is adduced.

(4) If any such evidence is adduced, it is for the party seeking to have the witness sworn to satisfy the Court that on a balance of probabilities, the

witness has a sufficient appreciation of the matters mentioned in subsection (2).

(5) Any proceedings held for the determination of the question mentioned in subsection (1) shall take place in the absence of the jury.

(6) Where the Court is in doubt as to whether the witness can be sworn, the Court may receive evidence from anyone it deems fit, including a social worker or duly qualified medical practitioner.

(7) Any questioning of the witness (where the Court considers that necessary) shall –

- (a) be conducted by the Court in the presence of the parties and any social worker or support person accompanying the witness; and
- (b) be conducted with the benefit of any special measures the Court deems necessary under section 53.

(8) For the purposes of this section a person is able to give intelligible testimony if the person is able to –

- (a) understand questions put to the person as a witness; and
- (b) give answers to them which can be understood.

Reception of  
unsworn  
evidence.

67. (1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply to a person who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act, but (by virtue of section 66) is not permitted to be sworn for the purpose of giving evidence on oath in such proceedings.

(2) The evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act of a person to whom this subsection applies shall be given unsworn.

(3) A deposition of unsworn evidence given by a person to whom this subsection applies may be taken for the purposes of criminal proceedings under this Act as if that evidence had been given on oath.

(4) A Court in criminal proceedings under this Act shall accordingly receive in evidence any evidence given unsworn in pursuance of subsection (2) or (3).

(5) Where a person (“the witness”) who is competent to give evidence in criminal proceedings under this Act gives evidence in such proceedings unsworn, no conviction, verdict or finding in those proceedings shall be taken to be unsafe for the purposes of any statute or other law by reason only that it appears to the Court of Appeal or any other Court that the witness was a person falling within section 66 (and should accordingly have given evidence on oath).

Penalty for giving false unsworn evidence.

67. (1) This section applies where a person gives unsworn evidence in criminal proceedings under section 67.

(2) If a person, as referred to in subsection (1), wilfully gives false evidence in circumstances that, had the evidence been given on oath, the person would have committed perjury, the person commits an offence and is liable –

- (a) where the criminal proceedings related to an indictable offence punishable with imprisonment for life, on indictment to seven years imprisonment;
- (b) where the criminal proceedings related to any case not mentioned in the preceding subsection, on indictment to five years imprisonment.

Corroboration.

69. (1) No corroboration of the evidence of the complainant or the sworn or unsworn evidence of a child shall be required for a conviction of an offence under this Act, and the judge shall not direct the jury that it is unsafe to find the accused guilty in the absence of corroboration.

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(2) Sections 61(3) and 71(3) of the Evidence Act shall not apply to this Act.



Compellability. 70. The spouse of a person charged with an offence under this Act may be called as a witness for either the prosecution or defence and without the consent of the person charged, and if so called, notwithstanding any other law, is a compellable witness.

***Previous consistent statements***

Warning to jury. 71. Where on the trial of an accused person for an offence under this Act evidence is given or a question is asked of a witness which tends to suggest an absence of complaint in respect of the commission of the alleged offence by the person upon whom the offence is alleged to have been committed or to suggest delay by that person in making any such complaint, the judge shall –

- (a) give a warning to the jury to the effect that an absence of complaint or a delay in complaining does not necessarily indicate that the allegation that the offence was committed is false; and
- (b) inform the jury that there may be good reasons why a victim of a sexual offence may hesitate in making or may refrain from making a complaint about the assault.

Recent complaint. 72. (1) In considering whether a recent complaint was made as soon as could reasonably be expected, the Court shall consider the following factors –

- (a) the nature of sexual abuse and the stigma or humiliation often thought to go with them, and that they are

commonly found difficult to report (particularly child sexual abuse);

- (b) the relationship of the victim and accused;
- (c) the particular characteristics of the person in relation to whom the abuse is alleged to have been committed; and
- (d) all other relevant circumstances.

(2) Whether the complaint was made as soon as could reasonably be expected will depend on the facts of the particular case, and there is no outer time limit.

Statement of child admissible where no oral testimony.

73. (1) A statement made by a child complainant in relation to an offence under this Act is admissible as evidence where the child does not give direct oral testimony at the trial.

(2) Sections 74 and 75 shall apply to the admissibility of evidence under subsection (1).

(3) Where a statement is tendered in evidence under subsection (1), the accused shall not be convicted on the basis of that evidence alone.

Admissibility of  
child's  
statement.

74. (1) Without limiting any other law, where the Court is satisfied that a child is being prevented from giving evidence and where a statement is made in any written form or manner by a child or by another person on behalf of the child, that statement may be admissible in a trial as evidence of any fact of which direct oral evidence of the child would be admissible.

(2) The Court may admit into evidence the following statement made by a child –

- (a) a statement made to and written by the police;
- (b) a statement made in the form of a statutory declaration;
- (c) a statement written by the child;
- (d) a statement written by another person on behalf of a child where the child cannot write.

(3) The following provisions shall have effect in relation to any written statement of a child admissible in evidence under this section –

- (a) the child shall state the child's age and that an adult of the child's choice was present with the child when it was made;
- (b) if the statement is written on behalf of a child, it shall be signed by both the child and the person who wrote it and it shall be dated;
- (c) if the statement is written on behalf of a child who cannot

write, the person who wrote the statement shall read it to the child before the child puts the child's mark or thumb print on it and it shall be accompanied by a declaration of the person who wrote it that it was read to the child and that the child appears to understand it and the child agreed to it;

(d) if the statement is written on behalf of a child who cannot read, the person who wrote the statement shall read it to the child before the child signs it and it shall be accompanied by a declaration of the person who wrote it that it was read to the child and the child appeared to understand it and the child agreed to it;

(e) if the statement refers to any other document, the copy of the statement given to any other party to the proceedings shall be accompanied by a copy of that document or by such information as may be necessary in order to enable the party to whom it is given to inspect the document or a copy of it.

(4) The prosecution shall give a copy of the statement to the accused not less than seven days in advance of the prosecution tendering it into evidence.

(5) Any document or object referred to and identified in a written statement tendered in evidence under this section shall be treated as if it had been produced as an exhibit and identified in Court by the witness.

(6) A child whose written statement is tendered in evidence in a trial under this section shall be treated as a person who had been examined by the Court.

Statements in documents that appear to have been prepared for purposes of criminal proceedings or investigations.

75. (1) Without limiting any other written law, where a statement, referred to in section 74, appears to the Court to have been prepared for the purposes of—

- (a) pending or contemplated criminal proceedings; or
- (b) a criminal investigation,

the statement shall not be tendered in evidence in a trial without leave of the Court, and the Court shall not give leave unless it is of the opinion that the statement ought to be admitted in the interest of justice.

(2) In considering whether the admission of a statement under subsection (1) would be in the interest of justice, the Court shall have regard—

- (a) to the contents of the statement;
- (b) to any risk of unfairness to the accused, or if there is more than one accused to any one of them, if it is likely that the statement can be controverted and the person

making the statement does not attend to give oral evidence in the proceedings;

- (c) to any other circumstances that appear to the Court to be relevant.

(3) A written statement mentioned in this section shall be tendered in evidence by the prosecution any time before the prosecution closes its case against the accused –

- (a) if the statement is written by the child, by the prosecution submitting the statement to the Court; or
- (b) if the statement is written on behalf of a child, by calling the person who wrote the statement to put the statement into evidence.

(4) Where a statement is tendered into evidence under subsection (1), it shall be read to the Court, and the accused is entitled to challenge its admissibility before it is admitted into evidence or tendered at paper committal.

(5) Where the accused exercises the right under subsection (4), the Court shall conduct a hearing in the absence of the jury and public and decide whether the whole or any part of the statement is admissible into evidence.

No conviction on statement alone.

76. Where a statement is tendered in evidence under section 74 or 75, the accused shall not be convicted on the basis of that evidence alone.

*Evidence of sexual activity*

Evidence of sexual activity where complainant under 16 years.

77. (1) Where the complainant in proceedings for an offence under this Act is under 16 years of age, no evidence shall be adduced that the complainant has engaged in any sexual activity (with the accused or with any other person) other than the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge unless the Court determines in accordance with the procedure set out in the Second Schedule, that the evidence –

Second Schedule

- (a) is of criminal sexual activity involving the complainant, and there is evidence of a conviction of a third party for this criminal sexual activity;
- (b) is to be used to show that inappropriate sexual knowledge was not learnt from the accused, or that the complainant had a motive to lie; and
- (c) is of facts sufficiently similar to the facts in issue to have significant relevance.

(2) Any evidence referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of

justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy.

Evidence of sexual activity, reputation, inferences.

78. (1) In proceedings in respect of a sexual offence, evidence as to the sexual activity or reputation of the complainant is not admissible, and the defence shall not be allowed to cross-examine on the matter.

(2) In proceedings in respect of a sexual offence, evidence that the complainant has engaged in sexual activity, whether with the accused or with any other person, is not admissible to support an inference that, by reason of the sexual nature of that activity, the complainant –

- (a) is more likely to have consented to the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge; or
- (b) is less worthy of belief.

Evidence of sexual activity in general.

79. (1) Where the complainant in proceedings for an offence under this Act is sixteen years of age or over, no evidence shall be adduced that the complainant has engaged in sexual activity (with the accused or with any other person) other than the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge, unless the Court determines, in accordance with the procedure set out in the Second Schedule, that the evidence –

Second Schedule

- (a) is of specific instances of sexual activity; and
- (b) (i) tends to rebut evidence that was previously adduced by another party to the proceedings;



- (ii) where the accused denies sexual penetration, tends to explain the presence of semen or the source of pregnancy or disease or any injury to the complainant, where it is relevant to a fact in issue; or
- (iii) is of consensual sexual activity of the complainant with the accused where this is reasonably contemporaneous with the date of the alleged offence.

(2) Any evidence referred to in subsection (1) shall only be admitted to the extent that the Court finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact in issue in the case and that its probative value is not outweighed by its inflammatory nature or potential prejudice to the proper administration of justice or the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy.

Previous  
allegations of  
sexual offences.

80. (1) The defence shall not introduce evidence directly or ask questions in cross-examination suggesting that previous allegations of sexual offences by the complainant may have been false without the prior permission of the Court.

- (2) The Court shall not give such permission unless –
  - (a) the defence can adduce concrete evidence that the previous allegation was in fact false; and
  - (b) the relevance of the evidence to the case of the accused is

demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Court.

## PART VI

### BAIL

Factors to be taken into account.

31. Where the Court is required to determine whether to grant bail in respect of an offence under this Act the Court shall take into account –

- (a) the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of the complainant or any witness;
- (b) the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of any child affected by the offence or by the decision on bail;
- (c) any hardship that may be caused to the accused or to the family members of the accused if bail is not granted;
- (d) the record of the accused with regard to the commission of violent acts and whether there is evidence in or on the record of physical or psychological abuse to children;
- (e) whether there are substantial grounds for believing that the accused, if released on bail would –
  - (i) fail to surrender to custody;
  - (ii) commit an offence while on bail; or
  - (iii) interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice, whether in relation to the

accused or any other person;

(f) any other matters which may be relevant to the case in question.

Bail for sexual offences.

82. (1) Where an accused –

- (a) is charged with an offence under this Act which includes penetration, and has a prior sexual offence conviction, or
- (b) is charged with committing a sexual offence with a child under section 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18 or 21,

the Court shall order that the accused be detained in custody until dealt with according to law, unless the accused, having been given a reasonable opportunity to do so, shows just cause why the detention of the accused in custody is not justified.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), just cause will be shown where the accused demonstrates that –

- (a) detention is not necessary to ensure the attendance of the accused in Court in order to be dealt with according to law;
- (b) detention is not necessary for the protection or safety of the public, including for the protection of any complainant of or witness to the offence;
- (c) there is not a substantial likelihood that the accused will,

if released from custody, commit a criminal offence or interfere with the administration of justice; and

(d) detention is not necessary to maintain confidence in the administration of justice, having regard to all the circumstances, including –

- (i) the apparent strength of the prosecution's case;
- (ii) the gravity of the offence;
- (iii) the circumstances surrounding the commission of the offence, including whether a weapon was used; and
- (iv) the fact that the accused is liable, on conviction, for a potentially lengthy term of imprisonment.

Conditions of bail.

83. (1) Where the accused is charged with an offence under this Act, the Court, in granting bail, may also order that the recognisance be subject to any of the following further conditions as the Court considers appropriate –

- (a) that the accused abstain from communicating, directly or indirectly, with any complainant, witness or other person identified in the order except in accordance with the conditions specified in the order as the judge considers necessary;
- (b) that the accused not harass or molest, or cause another person to harass or molest, a specified person,

including the complainant or any relevant child;

- (c) that the accused not be in a locality in which are situated the premises in which a specified person, including the complainant or any relevant child, resides, works or is frequently present at;
- (d) that the accused not be on premises which are in a locality in which is situated the place of education of a specified person named in the order, including the complainant or any relevant child;
- (e) where the accused continues to reside, work or attend a place of education with a specified person, including the complainant or any relevant child, that the accused do not enter or remain in the place of residence, employment, or education;
- (f) that the accused report at such times as are specified at a specified police station;
- (g) that the accused remain within a territorial jurisdiction specified in the order;
- (h) that the accused notify the police officer or other person designated in the order of any change in the address, employment or occupation of the accused;
- (i) that where the accused is the holder of a passport, the accused deposit it as specified in the order; and

(j) that the accused comply with any other condition specified in the order that the Court considers necessary to ensure the safety and security of any complainant of or witness to the offence or in the interest of the public.

(2) Where a police officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person who has been granted bail subject to one or more of the conditions set out in subsection (1) has failed to comply with a condition of the recognizance, the police officer may apprehend the person without a warrant.

(3) Where bail has been granted to a person on a condition imposed under subsection (1) and the person contravenes or fails to comply with the condition, the bail shall be forfeited and the accused is liable to be re-arrested.

Complainant to be notified if accused released on bail.

84. If an accused charged with an offence under this Act is released on bail, the prosecutor shall immediately inform the complainant of that fact, and any conditions of bail.

## PART VII

### SENTENCING

Orders following conviction.

85. Where an accused is convicted of an offence under this Act, in

addition to passing sentence the Court may –

- (a) order that the accused pay civil compensation to the complainant; and
- (b) make one or more of the following orders –
  - (i) drug treatment and drug testing order;
  - (ii) rehabilitation order;
  - (iii) protection and safety order;
  - (iv) where the offence for which the accused has been convicted suggests risk of HIV transmission to the complainant, a HIV testing order and disclosure of the results to the Court and complainant; and
  - (v) mental and psychological treatment.

## **PART VIII**

### **MEDICAL CARE AND SUPPORT FOR COMPLAINANT**

Health worker to report child's sexual abuse.

86. Where a health worker treats a child and finds evidence that the child has been sexually abused, notwithstanding any law relating to medical confidentiality, the health worker shall report the suspected abuse to the police and keep a record of having done so.

**PART IX**  
**PREVENTION**

National Task  
Force for  
Prevention of  
Sexual Offences.

§7. (1) There shall be established an inter agency task force to be known as the National Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Violence which shall have the duty to develop and implement a national plan for the prevention of sexual violence.

(2) The President shall appoint the members of the Task Force, which shall include the Ministers of Legal Affairs, Home Affairs, Human Services and Social Security, Amerindian Affairs, Education, Health, Local Government, Youth, Sport and Culture, senior public officers with responsibility for law enforcement, health and human and social services and persons from non-governmental organisations.

(3) The Task Force shall carry out the following activities either directly or by one or more of the constituent ministries as appropriate—

- (a) develop and publish within a reasonable time of the coming into force of this Act, a National Plan for the Prevention of Sexual Offences, which shall include the necessary steps to eradicate sexual violence in Guyana;
- (b) develop initiatives for prevention of sexual violence;
- (c) co-ordinate the implementation of the National Plan;



- (d) commission and co-ordinate the collection, publication and sharing of data among government agencies;
- (e) establish policies to enable the Government to work with non-governmental organisations, faith-based organisations, community-based organisations and other elements of civil society to prevent sexual violence and provide assistance to victims of sexual violence;
- (f) provide guidance to the Sexual Violence Unit;
- (g) develop national policy guidelines and protocols for victims of sexual violence and address matters relating to police services, prosecution, medical services, social service, probation service and prison service;
- (h) monitor the implementation of this Act, the National Plan and the National Policy Guidelines and protocols;
- (i) co-ordinate national education and awareness programmes;
- (j) focus special attention on the issues of sexual violence in remote areas, including access to police support and medical attention, court services;
- (k) determine the effectiveness of public awareness exercises and measures to be taken to ensure effectiveness;
- (l) provide guidance on the development of training

programmes specified under section 71;

- (m) within a reasonable time of this Act coming into force, publish a paper on integration of reports to be made, seeking medical care and evidence gathering and recommend either the establishment of a special centre, or a unit at hospitals or at police stations, and setting out the necessary steps to establish any integrated services;
- (n) in general, ensure acceptable and uniform treatment of all sexual offence matters;
- (o) produce an annual report updating data and statistics, reporting on the implementation of the Act, National Plan and National Policy Guidelines, and other prevention activities.

(4) The Task Force shall meet at least once every three months.

Sexual Violence  
Unit.

88. (1) The Minister shall establish a Sexual Violence Unit in the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security.

(2) The Sexual Violence Unit, or until it is established, the Director of Social Services shall support the Task Force in carrying out the provisions of section 87(3).

Data.

89. (1) All data collected shall respect the privacy of victims or complainants of sexual offences.

(2) Data shall include, but shall not be limited to, number of reports to the police, number of arrests, prosecutions and successful convictions, gender and age of victims or complainants, geographical locations where offences are alleged to have happened, number of persons seeking medical care, types of injuries received by victims or complainants, relationship of victim or complainant to accused, number of matters withdrawn from Court and number of matters where complainants chose not to proceed further.

Public awareness.

90. (1) The Minister, in co-operation with other governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to educate victims and potential victims of sexual offences and their families of the risk of victimisation.

(2) Awareness programmes referred to in subsection (1) shall include but shall not be limited to –

- (a) information regarding care arrangements for children, appropriate and inappropriate behaviour including touching and words, safe and preventative practices;
- (b) sex education;
- (c) information regarding exposure to and treatment of

HIV and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases;

- (d) information relating to the psychological harm to a victim of sexual offences;
- (e) the measures and services in place to ensure the safety of victims or complainants;
- (f) information on how to contact relevant law enforcement authorities;
- (g) information about the rights of victims and potential victims of sexual violence; and
- (h) information about how to recognise sexual abuse and where to seek help.

(3) The Minister in co-operation with other governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations shall prepare and disseminate public awareness programmes designed to discourage behaviour that fosters the abuse of persons that leads to sexual violence.

(4) Awareness programmes referred to in subsection (3) shall include, but shall not be limited to --

- (a) materials that include the impact of sexual violence on individual victims; and
- (b) aggregate information on sexual violence world wide and

domestically as well as warnings of the potential for criminal consequences for engaging in sexual violence or any offence under this Act.

(5) Materials used in the public awareness programmes shall include as appropriate pamphlets, brochures, posters, advertisements in mass media, and any other methods appropriate for reaching victims or potential victims of sexual violence.

(6) Any material used under this section shall preserve the privacy of the victim or complainant and the family of each.

Education and training.

91. (1) The Ministers of Legal Affairs, Home Affairs, Health, Human Services and Social Security shall ensure that training programmes on sexual violence are developed and delivered to police, prosecutors, magistrates and judges, health workers, probation officers, social workers and the prison service, whether directly or by collaboration with other appropriate governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations.

(2) The Judicial Service Commission shall ensure that training is provided to magistrates and judges not only on implementation of this Act, but also on existing laws, procedures and obligations relating to sexual offences, for example regulating requests for adjournments, cross-

examination of the complainant, and on sexual offences in general, including rape myths.

## PART X MISCELLANEOUS

Rules of Court  
and regulations.

92. (1) Rules of Court may be made for the purpose of regulating the practice and procedure of the Court in proceedings under this Act.

(2) The Minister may make regulations for carrying out the provisions of this Act and for prescribing anything that needs to be prescribed.

Law inconsistent  
with this Act.

93. Where any provision of any law is in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Act, the provision of this Act shall prevail.

Laws to be  
applied.

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94. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, the Evidence Act and the Criminal Law (Procedure) Act shall apply to this Act where necessary with such modifications, adaptations and qualifications that may be needed for the due administration of this Act.

Repeal and  
savings.

Third  
Schedule

95. (1) The enactments specified in the first column of the Third Schedule are repealed to the extent mentioned in the second column of that Schedule.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal under subsection (1), if before the date on which this section comes into force there are any pending proceedings instituted, the proceedings shall be disposed of or continued under the law as it stood immediately before the commencement of this section.

PAPER COMMITTALS FOR SEXUAL OFFENCES

Interpretation.

1. In this Schedule—

“document” means anything in which information of any description is recorded; and

“paper committal” means a committal proceeding held in accordance with this Schedule.

Paper committal to be held by magistrate.

2. Paper committals are to be held by a magistrate, and sections 45 to 51 relating to the exclusion of the public shall apply.

Proceedings in the presence of accused.

3. (1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the accused shall be present at a paper committal.

(2) A magistrate may proceed with a paper committal in the absence of the accused if—

(a) the magistrate considers that by reason of the disorderly conduct of the accused before the magistrate it is not practicable for the evidence to be tendered in the presence of the accused; or

(b) the accused cannot be present for reasons of health but is represented by an attorney-at-law and has consented to



the evidence being tendered in the absence of the accused.

Adjournment.           4. (1) A magistrate may, before beginning a paper committal or at any time during the proceedings, adjourn the proceedings, and if the magistrate does so shall remand the accused.

(2) The court shall when adjourning fix the time and place at which the proceedings are to be resumed and the time fixed shall be that at which the accused is required to appear or be brought before the court in pursuance of the remand.

Evidence which is admissible.           5. (1) For the purposes of a paper committal only the evidence of the prosecution shall be allowed.

(2) The prosecutor or a person on behalf of the prosecutor shall file in the registry of the court all evidence for the prosecution for the purposes of a paper committal not later than forty-five days after the date on which the accused first appears in court in relation to the complaint.

(3) The following evidence shall be admissible for the purposes of a paper committal –

- (a) written statements which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 6;
- (b) the documents or other exhibits (if any) referred to in the written statements;
- (c) depositions taken pursuant to paragraph 11 and which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 7;
- (d) the documents or other exhibits (if any) referred to in the depositions;
- (e) statements which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 8;
- (f) documents which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 9.

Written  
statements.

6. (1) A written statement by any person is admissible as evidence for the purposes of a paper committal if it satisfies the following requirements –

- (a) the statement is signed by the person who made it;
- (b) the statement contains a declaration by the person who made it to the effect that it is true to the best of the person's knowledge and belief and that the person made the statement knowing that, if it were tendered in evidence, the person would be liable to prosecution for wilfully stating in it anything which the person

knew to be false or did not believe to be true;

- (c) before the statement is tendered in evidence, a copy of the statement is given, by or on behalf of the prosecutor, to the accused;
- (d) if the statement is made by a person under 18 years of age, it specifies the age of that person;
- (e) if the statement is made by a person who cannot read it, the statement was read to that person before the person signed it and is accompanied by a declaration by the reader to the effect that the statement was read to the person and that the person to whom it was read appeared to understand its contents;
- (f) if the statement refers to any other document as an exhibit, the copy of the statement given to the accused is accompanied by a copy of that document or, if not practicable, with any information as may be necessary to enable the party to whom it was given to inspect that document or a copy of it.

(2) So much of any statement as is admitted in evidence by virtue of this paragraph shall, unless the court commits the accused for trial by virtue of paragraph 12 or the court otherwise directs, be read aloud at the paper committal; and where the court so directs a summary

or description shall be given of so much of any statement as is not read aloud.

(3) Any document or other object referred to as an exhibit and identified in a statement admitted in evidence by virtue of this paragraph shall be treated as if it had been produced as an exhibit and identified in court by the maker of the statement.

Depositions.

7. (1) A deposition, taken pursuant to paragraph 11, is admissible as evidence for the purposes of a paper committal if it satisfies the following requirements –

- (a) a copy of a deposition is sent to the prosecutor by the clerk of the court not later than seven days after the deposition is taken;
- (b) a copy of the deposition is served on the accused;
- (c) if the deposition refers to any document as an exhibit, the copy of the deposition given to the accused is accompanied by a copy of that document or, if not practicable, with any information as may be necessary to enable the party to whom it is given to inspect the document or the copy of it.

(2) So much of any deposition as is admitted in evidence by

virtue of this paragraph shall, unless the court commits the accused for trial by virtue of paragraph 12 or the court otherwise directs, be read aloud at the paper committal; and where the court so directs, a summary or description shall be given of so much of any deposition as is not read aloud in full.

(3) Any document or other object referred to as an exhibit and identified in a deposition admitted in evidence by virtue of this paragraph shall be treated as if it had been produced as an exhibit and identified in court by the person whose evidence is taken as the deposition.

Other  
statements.

8. (1) Any other statement may be admissible as evidence for the purposes of a paper committal if it satisfies the following requirements –

(a) before the committal proceedings begins, the prosecutor notifies the magistrate and the accused that the prosecutor believes –

(i) that the statement might by virtue of section 91 or section 92 of the Evidence Act be admissible as evidence if the case came to trial; and

(ii) that the statement would not be admissible as evidence otherwise than by virtue of section 91 or section 92 of the Evidence Act if the case

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came to trial:

- (b) the prosecutor's belief is based on information available to the prosecutor at the time of the notification;
- (c) the prosecutor has reasonable grounds for the belief;
- (d) the prosecutor gives the reasons for the belief at the time of the notification;
- (e) the prosecutor gives a copy of the statement to the court and the other party at the time of the notification.

(2) So much of any statement as is in writing and is admitted in evidence by virtue of this paragraph shall, unless the court commits the accused for trial by virtue of paragraph 12 or the court otherwise directs, be read aloud at the paper committal; and where the court so directs, a summary or description shall be given of so much of any statement as is not read aloud in full.

Other documents.

9. (1) Any other document is admissible as evidence for the purposes of a paper committal if the document, by virtue of any law –

- (a) is admissible as evidence in any criminal proceedings;
- (b) is admissible, or may be used, or is to be admitted or received as evidence in any criminal proceedings;
- (c) may be considered in any criminal proceedings;
- (d) by its production, constitutes proof in any criminal

proceedings;

(c) by its production, evidence may be given in any criminal proceedings.

(2) In subparagraph (1) references to evidence include references to *prima facie* evidence.

(3) So much of any document as is admitted in evidence by virtue of this paragraph shall, unless the court commits the accused for trial by virtue of paragraph 12 or the court otherwise directs, be read aloud at the paper committal; and where the court so directs, a summary or description shall be given orally of so much of any document as is not read aloud in full.

Proof by  
production of  
copy.

10. (1) Where a statement, deposition or document is admissible in evidence by virtue of paragraph 6, 7, 8 or 9 it may be proved by the production of—

- (a) the statement, deposition or document; or
- (b) a copy of it or the material part of it.

(2) Subparagraph (1)(b) applies whether or not the statement, deposition or document is still in existence.

(3) It is immaterial for the purposes of this paragraph how many removes there are between a copy and the original.

(4) In this paragraph "copy", in relation to a statement, deposition or document, means anything on which information recorded in the statement, deposition or document has been copied, by whatever means and whether directly or indirectly.

Summons or  
warrant as to  
deposition.

11. (1) Where a magistrate is satisfied that –

- (a) any person is likely to be able to make on behalf of the prosecutor a written statement containing material evidence, or produce on behalf of the prosecutor a document or other exhibit likely to be material evidence, for the purposes of proceedings before a magistrate holding a paper committal; and
- (b) it is in the interests of justice to issue a summons under this paragraph to secure the attendance of that person to give evidence or to produce the document or other exhibit,

the magistrate shall issue a summons directed to that person requiring the person to attend before the magistrate at the time and place appointed in the summons to have that person's evidence taken as a deposition or to produce the document or other exhibit.



(2) If a magistrate is satisfied by evidence on oath of the matters mentioned in subparagraph (1), and also that it is probable that a summons would not procure the result required by it, the magistrate may instead of issuing a summons issue a warrant to arrest the person concerned and bring the person before the magistrate at the time and place specified in the warrant.

(3) A magistrate may issue a warrant to arrest a person and bring the person before the magistrate at a time and place specified in the warrant if –

- (a) the person fails to attend before a magistrate in answer to a summons under this paragraph;
- (b) the magistrate is satisfied by evidence on oath that the person is likely to be able to make a statement or produce a document or other exhibit as mentioned in subparagraph (1)(a);
- (c) it is proved on oath, or in such other manner as may be prescribed, that the person has been duly served with the summons and that a reasonable sum has been paid or laid over to the person for costs and expenses; and
- (d) it appears to the magistrate that there is no just excuse for the failure.

(4) Where a summons is issued under subparagraph (1) or a warrant is issued under subparagraphs (2) or (3), the time appointed in the summons or specified in the warrant shall be such as to enable the evidence to be taken as a deposition before a magistrate begins the paper committal.

(5) If in pursuance of this paragraph a person's evidence is taken as a deposition, the clerk of the magistrate's court shall as soon as is reasonably practicable send a copy of the deposition to the prosecutor.

(6) If in pursuance of this paragraph a person produces an exhibit which is a document, the clerk of the magistrate's court shall as soon as is reasonably practicable send a copy of the document to the prosecutor.

(7) If in pursuance of this paragraph a person produces an exhibit which is not a document, the clerk of the magistrate's court shall as soon as is reasonably practicable inform the prosecutor of the fact and of the nature of the exhibit.

Committal for trial.

12. If a magistrate holding a paper committal is satisfied that all the evidence tendered by or on behalf of the prosecutor is admissible under paragraph 5(3), the magistrate shall commit the accused for trial for the

offence without consideration of the contents of any statements, depositions or other documents, and without consideration of any exhibits which are not documents, unless –

- (a) the accused or one of the accused does not have an attorney-at-law acting for him in the case; or
- (b) an attorney-at-law acting for the accused or one of the accused, as the case may be, has requested the court to consider a submission that there is insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial for the offence.

Procedure for committal without consideration of the evidence.

13. (1) Where the accused has an attorney-at-law acting for him in the case and where all the evidence tendered is admissible under paragraph 5(3), the magistrate shall cause the charge to be read to the accused and shall then ascertain whether the accused wishes to submit that there is insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial for the offence charged.

(2) If the magistrate is satisfied that the accused or, as the case may be, each of the accused does not wish to make a submission that there is insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial for the offence charged, the magistrate shall, without consideration of the evidence, commit the accused for trial.

Procedure for  
committal or  
discharge on  
consideration of  
the evidence.

14. (1) Where --

- (a) the accused or one of the accused does not have an attorney-at-law acting for the accused in the case; or
- (b) the attorney-at-law of the accused or one of the accused, as the case may be, has requested the court to consider a submission that there is insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial by jury for the offence charged.

the magistrate shall consider all the evidence tendered and the submissions made under subparagraph (2) and shall then determine whether, in the magistrate's opinion, there is sufficient evidence to commit the accused for trial or to discharge the accused if the magistrate is of the opinion that there is insufficient evidence.

(2) Where the condition under subparagraph (1)(a) or (b) exists the magistrate shall follow the following procedure --

- (a) the magistrate may permit the prosecutor to make an opening address to the court, if the prosecutor so wishes, before any evidence is tendered;
- (b) after the prosecutor's opening address, if any, the magistrate shall cause the evidence to be tendered in accordance with paragraphs 6(2), 7(2), 8(2) and 9(3), that is to say by being read out aloud, except where

the court otherwise directs or to the extent that it directs that a summary or description shall be given of so much of any statement as is not read aloud;

(c) the court may view any exhibits produced before the court and may take possession of them;

(d) after the evidence has been tendered the court shall hear any submission which the accused may wish to make as to whether there is insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial by jury for any indictable offence under this Act;

(e) the court shall permit the prosecutor to make a submission in reply to any submission made by the accused or where the accused has not made any submission but the magistrate is nevertheless minded not to commit the accused for trial.

Record of reasons.

15. The magistrate shall record the reasons in writing for the committal or discharge.

Power of Director of Public Prosecutions to give directions.

16. (1) In any case where the magistrate discharges an accused person, the Director of Public Prosecutions may require the magistrate to send to the Director of Public Prosecutions the statements, documents, depositions, and exhibits tendered in connection with the case.

(2) After the discharge of the accused person and after the receipt of those statements, documents, depositions, and exhibits, if the Director of Public Prosecutions is of the opinion that a *prima facie* case is made out to put the accused on trial for any offence under this Act, the Director of Public Prosecutions may remit those statements, depositions, and exhibits to the magistrate with directions to reopen the paper committal and to commit the accused for trial, and may give such further directions as the Director of Public Prosecutions may think proper.

(3) Any directions given by the Director of Public Prosecutions under this paragraph shall be in writing and signed by the Director of Public Prosecutions, and shall be followed by the magistrate, and the magistrate shall have all necessary power for that purpose.

(4) The Director of Public Prosecutions may at any time add to, alter, or revoke any of the directions.

Evidence after  
committal of  
accused person.

17. (1) Any person whose statement, deposition, document, or exhibit was not tendered in evidence by the prosecutor during a paper committal may give evidence at the trial of the accused person.

(2) Where the party seeking to adduce the evidence is the prosecution, the prosecution shall serve the evidence, in the form of a

statement, deposition or document which would be admissible under paragraphs 6, 7, 8 or 9 on the other party to the proceedings seven days before the day the witness will be cross-examined at trial or the contents of the statement, deposition or other document will be entered into evidence.

**SECOND SCHEDULE** ss. 77, 79

**PART I** s. 79

**PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING TO ADMIT EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY  
WHERE COMPLAINANT OVER 16 YEARS OF AGE**

Factors that  
Court must  
consider.

1. In determining whether evidence is admissible under section 77, the  
Court shall take into account –

- (a) the interests of justice, including the right of the accused to make a full answer and defence;
- (b) society's interest in encouraging the reporting of sexual assault offences;
- (c) whether there is a reasonable prospect that the evidence will assist in arriving at a just determination in the case;
- (d) the need to remove from the fact-finding process any discriminatory belief or bias;
- (e) the risk that the evidence may unduly arouse sentiments of prejudice, sympathy or hostility in the jury;
- (f) the potential prejudice to the complainant's personal dignity and right of privacy;
- (g) the right of the complainant and of every individual to personal security and to the full protection and benefit of the law; and
- (h) any other factor that the Court considers relevant.

Application to  
admit evidence  
of sexual

2. (1) The prosecution or the accused may apply to the Court for a



activity.

hearing to determine whether evidence is admissible under section 79.

(2) In this Schedule, “hearing” means a *voir dire* as carried out by the Court in the absence of the jury during criminal proceedings.

Form and  
content of  
application.

3. An application referred to in paragraph 2 must be made in writing and set out –

- (a) detailed particulars of the evidence that the applying party seeks to adduce, including that of specific instances of sexual activity; and
- (b) the relevance of that evidence to an issue at trial, including –
  - (i) how the evidence tends to rebut evidence that was previously adduced by another party to the proceedings;
  - (ii) where the accused denies sexual penetration, how the evidence tends to explain the presence of semen or the source of pregnancy or disease or any injury to the complainant, where it is relevant to a fact in issue; or
  - (iii) that the evidence is of consensual sexual activity of the complainant with the accused where this is reasonably contemporaneous with the date of the alleged offence and how the evidence is relevant to a fact in issue.

Application to cross examine.

4. In the case of an application to cross-examine the complainant, the application must also set out –

- (a) the initial questions sought to be asked of the complainant;  
and
- (b) the scope of the questioning sought to flow from the initial questioning.

Jury and public excluded.

5. The Court shall consider the applications under paragraphs 2 and 4 (including any hearing under paragraph 6) with the jury and the public excluded.

Court may hold a hearing.

6. Where the Court is satisfied –

- (a) that the application was made in accordance with paragraph 3 or 4 as is relevant;
- (b) that a copy of the application has been given to the prosecutor, clerk of Court and the Director of Public Prosecutions; and
- (c) that the evidence sought to be adduced is capable of being admissible under section 79,

the Court shall grant the application for a hearing and hold that hearing, having allowed sufficient time for the prosecution to consider the contents of the application.

Complainant not compellable.

7. The complainant is not a compellable witness at the hearing.

Court's  
determination  
and reasons.

8. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court shall determine whether the evidence, or any part of the evidence, is admissible under section 79 and shall provide reasons for that determination, and the reasons must state –

- (a) where not all of the evidence is to be admitted, the part of the evidence that is to be admitted;
- (b) the factors referred to in paragraph 1 that affected the determination; and
- (c) where all or any part of the evidence is to be admitted, the manner in which that evidence is expected to be relevant to an issue at trial.

Record of  
reasons.

9. The reasons provided under paragraph 8 shall be entered in the record of the proceedings or, where the proceedings are not recorded, shall be provided in writing.

Publication.

10. (1) For the avoidance of doubt, no person shall publish in any document, or broadcast or transmit in any way, any of the following –

- (a) the contents of an application made under paragraph 2;
- (b) any evidence taken, the information given and the representations made at an application under paragraph 2 or at a hearing under paragraph 6;
- (c) the determination made and the reasons provided under paragraph 8.

(2) Every person who contravenes subparagraph (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two million dollars.

Instruction to jury.

11. Where evidence is admitted at trial pursuant to a determination made under paragraph 8, the Court shall instruct the jury as to the uses that the jury may and may not make of that evidence.

## PART II s. 77

### PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING TO ADMIT EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY WHERE COMPLAINANT UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE

Factors that Court must consider.

Paragraphs 1 to 11 of Part I shall apply, except that –

- (a) under paragraph 1, the Court shall also take into account the interest of society in preventing child sexual abuse, and the overriding duty of the Court to protect child witnesses from inappropriate and traumatic questioning;
- (b) in place of the requirements of paragraph 3, an application referred to in paragraph 2 must set out –
  - (i) details of the conviction of a third party for criminal sexual activity involving the complainant;
  - (ii) how the evidence is intended to be used to show that inappropriate sexual knowledge was not learnt from the accused, or that the complainant had a motive to

lie; and

- (iii) the similarities between the evidence sought to be adduced and the facts in issue in the case, and why these similarities are sufficient to cause the evidence to have material relevance to those facts.

**THIRD SCHEDULE**

**LAWS REPEALED**

<b>LAWS REPEALED</b>	<b>EXTENT OF REPEAL</b>
	<b>Section</b>
Criminal Law (Offences) Act Cap 8:01	7, 65 to 71 (inclusive), 72, 73(a), 74, 75, 76, 77, 77A and 83 to 89 (inclusive)
Criminal Law (Procedure) Act Cap. 10:01	31
Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Act Cap. 8:02	24
Evidence Act Cap. 5:03	82

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Part I of the Bill contains the short title and commencement and in the interpretation clause defines a number of terms to be found in the Bill.

Part II deals with the sexual offences. These offences include rape, sexual assault, sexual activity with a child under 16 years of age and meeting a child following sexual grooming. This Part deals with the concept of position of trust, obstructing the prosecution. Other offences are exposure of the genitals, voyeurism and intercourse with an animal.

As regards the offence of rape, in line with reform around the world and to maximize protection, the Bill widens the definition of rape to cater for those offensive activities we know are happening – any intrusion however slight and for however short a time of any part of a person's body or any object into the vagina or anus of another person.

As regards consent, this cannot be inferred by reason of silence or sexual arousal and belief in consent is not a defence.

As regards children and vulnerable adults, for offences under clauses 10 to 27, unless expressly stated in any of those offences, it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the complaint did not consent.

All reforms in this Bill will benefit child victims as well as adults, but some, including those listed in clauses 9 to 15 tackle the particular problems of child victims and child witnesses.

Clauses 25 to 27 deal with certain vulnerable adults – persons with mental disorders. An offence of sex with an adult relative will cover sexual activity between certain adult blood relatives – parent, child, sibling, grandparent and grandchild. Similar to the abuse of a position of trust offence in relation to children these clauses create a new offence of breach of relationship of care with a view to prohibiting sexual activity between those in position of authority in care relationships or in custodial contexts such as hospitals, care homes, police stations and prisons, and the people they look after. The aim is to protect vulnerable adults from exploitative behaviour caused by familiarity with the carer.

In worst cases, indecent exposure or “flashing” can be very traumatic, causing fear, shock, disgust and a powerful fear of being raped. Research has shown that many rapists start by committing non-contact behaviour of this kind. Clauses 28 to 31 include a gender-neutral offence of indecent exposure relating to the indecent exposure of both male and female genitalia in circumstances where the accused intended to cause or where it was reasonably likely that the behaviour would cause alarm or distress. Clause 31 includes a separate offence of bestiality, to make a clear distinction between offending against people and animals.

Clause 32 retains the offence of administration of drugs or other substances with intent to stupefy a victim in order that they can be subjected to sexual acts without their consent.



Clause 37 specifically states that a marital or other relationship, previous or existing, is not a defence to a charge of any offence under this Act. A court in Guyana has not ruled on this point, so it is still the law in Guyana that a husband could not be guilty of raping his wife. This clause changes that law.

Clause 38 abolishes the presumption that male under 14 years of age is incapable of sexual intercourse.

Part III makes it mandatory for the police, where a report of sexual violence is made, to investigate the matter promptly and either charge the accused or forward the file to the DPP within six months.

Part IV deals with procedure in paper committals. Where an offence is charged under this Act there shall be no oral preliminary inquiry and instead a paper committal shall be held in accordance with a procedure set out in the First Schedule. In Guyana the oral preliminary stage frequently lasts for a considerable period and is usually conducted like a full trial, then the whole trial is then played out again in the High Court. Moving to paper committals would speed up criminal trials and also free the magistrates' courts to deal with other matters and reduce the backlog of cases.

Clauses 45 to 51 create a presumption to hear matters *in camera*. That presumption is rebuttable if it is in the interest of justice to hear matters in public. Support persons will be allowed at the request of the victim. This is the position in India and is recommended by the CARICOM model

legislation on sexual offences. Defendants may of course have their legal representative in court with them, and, if they are children, a parent or guardian, or other support person of their choice.

Clauses 52 to 60 introduce special measures to assist victims to give evidence in sexual offences cases. Judges will be obliged to order the use of one or more of the measures in all sexual offences unless the victim requests to give evidence unassisted. Perhaps in this regard a statement of a New Zealand High Court Judge would put the concept of special measures in its true perspective –

“The extreme distress of a complainant giving evidence in a rape case and reliving the trauma of the ordeal can be seen in the courtroom at anytime...there can be no justice in a practice which brutalizes the victim of a crime in a way which is repugnant to all civilized persons.”

– New Zealand High Court Judge

Other measures in clauses 58, 59 and 60, include allowing children to give evidence by video-link through an intermediary, use of anatomically correct dolls, allow written evidence where the child is prevented from testifying, and allow hearsay evidence to build up a circumstantial case where the child cannot testify.

Clause 61 allows the complainant to make a statement at the hearing of a bail application as well as after conviction but before sentence and the court shall take the complainant’s view into consideration when making a decision in those circumstances.

The Bill includes a simplified and modernised anonymity provision to ensure that all forms of communication to the public are covered, including the internet. There will be no exceptions to

the rule that the anonymity of the complainant must be preserved, and breach of the rules will remain a criminal offence. Clauses 62 and 63 make these provisions possible.

Part V in clauses 64 to 67 introduce a simplified definition of competence to ensure that as many child witnesses and witnesses with mental disabilities as possible who are capable of giving evidence are allowed to do so.

Clause 69 also abolishes the corroboration rule for the sworn and unsworn evidence of children. Again, the judge will be free to direct the jury if there are particular reasons to doubt the credibility or reliability of the evidence, and the jurors are free to judge the credibility of each witnesses themselves.

Clause 70 provides that a spouse is now a compellable witness for either the prosecution or the defence.

As regards previous consistent statements, clause 71 places an obligation on the court to warn the jury that there can be good reasons why a victim makes no complaint or why there is a long delay in making a complaint. Clauses 72 and 73 make clear that recent complaint evidence can be evidence of the incident complained of, not just evidence to support the credibility of the witness.

Part VI in clauses 81 to 84 includes rules of bail in sexual offences. The general rule is that where bail is applied for there are certain factors the court must consider in the exercise of its

discretion. However, where the charge is a child sex offence or where the accused had a previous conviction of any sexual offence the onus shall be reversed and it shall be the accused who has to satisfy the court that it is in the interest of justice for him to be granted bail.

Clause 84 provides that the police is to notify the complainant if and when the accused is released on bail and provides the means by which this is to be done.

As regards sentencing, Part VII in clause 85 provides for the various types of orders that can be made upon the conviction of an accused person. In addition to the prescribed penalties under specific offences, courts can now make other orders including orders for drug testing, HIV/AIDS testing, monetary compensation, protection and occupation orders, orders for counseling, etc.

Part VIII in section 86 makes it mandatory that a health worker shall report to the police a case where a child has been sexually abused and keep a record of having done so.

Part IX in clauses 87 to 91 set out the framework for a national strategy to eradicate sexual violence. In considering prevention it is important to bear in mind that most sexual violence is committed by a person known to the victim, that the violence often takes place at the home of the victim or the accused, that most victims are female, and that children, young women, and women in poor or rural areas are particularly vulnerable. These clauses require the establishment of a National Task Force for Prevention of Sexual Violence with named members and the establishment of a sexual violence unit.

Part X deals with miscellaneous matters. Clause 92 empowers the making of Rules of Court and also empowers the Minister to make regulations. Clause 93 specifies how laws inconsistent with this Act shall be treated. Clause 94 deals with the laws to be applied in relation to this Act. Clause 95 deals with repeals and savings.

The First Schedule deals with paper committals, the Second Schedule provides the procedure to determine evidence of sexual activity where the complainant is over or under sixteen years of age and the Third Schedule mentions the laws that are repealed.

**Minister of Human Services and Social Security**