

Age of Consent for Sexual Activity

IS THIS LEGAL?

Younger Person's Age	Older Person's Age								
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
12	Yes	Yes	Yes*	No	No	No	No	No	No
13		Yes	Yes	Yes*	No	No	No	No	No
14			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
15				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
16					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
17						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
18							Yes	Yes	Yes

*It is important to note that the law clearly states LESS THAN 2 years older.

The Criminal Code of Canada prohibits:¹

- Any sexual activity between an adult and a person under the age of 16 with the following exceptions:
 As long as the older person is not in a position of trust or authority over the younger, and:
 - 1) one person is 12 or 13 years old and the other is less than 2 years older or
 - 2) one person is 14 or 15 and the other is less than 5 years older
- Any sexual activity between an adult in a position of trust or authority towards a person between the ages of 16 and 18 years
- Any sexual activity without the consent of a person at any age
- The use of people under the age of 18 for exploitative sexual activity (i.e., prostitution, pornography, or where there is a relationship of trust, authority, dependency, or any other situation that is otherwise exploitative of a young person)

¹ Legislative Summaries – Library of Parliament:
http://www.parl.gc.ca/common/bills_ls.asp?lang=E&ls=c22&source=library_prb&Parl=39&Ses=1