

## [National Laws](#)

Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offences against children

# Lesotho - Lesotho - Lesoto

Maseru

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

## I. Ages for legal purposes

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### **Age of simple majority**

The legal age of majority is twenty-one (21) years.

### **Age of consent for sexual activity**

The legal age of consent for sexual activity is fourteen (14) years for boys, and sixteen (16) years for girls.

### **Age of consent for marriage**

The legal age of consent for marriage is eighteen (18) years for boys, and sixteen (16) years for girls.

## II. Rape

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Sexual intercourse with a girl under the age of 16.

Women and girls protection proclamation N° 14 of 1949.

## III. Other forms of child sex abuse

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Incest, indecent assault, abduction.

Marriage act N° 10 of 1974.

#### **IV. Child prostitution**

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Procuration of child prostitution; offering or engaging a child for purposes of committing a sexual act for financial or other reward, favour or compensation.

Sexual offences bill 2000.

#### **V. Child pornography**

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*Lesotho has a specialized unit dealing with child protection issues – not particularly with (Internet) child pornography. Internet child pornography is a new phenomenon for Lesotho – no cases of such crimes have yet been reported. There are no particular legal provisions specifically dealing with child pornography in Lesotho, but these crimes fall under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.*

#### **VI. Internet**

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Not provided for