

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives,
7th July, 1896.

[AS AMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.]

Hon. Mr. Seddon.

CRIMINAL CODE ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	5. Prosecution to commence within two months.
1. Short Title.	6. Sections 188 and 196 of principal Act amended.
2. Repeal.	7. Sections 312 and 313 of principal Act amended.
3. Age of consent raised to sixteen.	8. Section 18 of principal Act amended.
4. Sections 194 and 195 of principal Act amended.	

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to make Further Provision for the Protection of Girls, Title.
and for other Purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Criminal Code Act Amendment Act, 1896"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Criminal Code Act, 1893" (hereinafter called "the principal Act"). Short Title.
 - 2. "The Criminal Code Act Amendment Act, 1894," is hereby repealed. Repeal.
 - 3. Sections one hundred and eighty-eight and one hundred and ninety-six of the principal Act are hereby amended by substituting the word "sixteen" in lieu of the word "fourteen" wherever this word occurs in the aforesaid sections and in the provisoes thereof respectively as originally passed. Age of consent raised to sixteen.
 - 4. Sections one hundred and ninety-four and one hundred and ninety-five of the principal Act are hereby amended by adding the following words to each of the said sections: "It shall be no defence to an indictment for an offence under this section that the girl consented to such offence." Sections 194 and 195 of principal Act amended.
- Clause erased.*
5. The last paragraph of the aforesaid section one hundred and ninety-six is hereby amended by substituting the words "two months" in lieu of the words "one month." Prosecution to commence within two months.

Sections 188 and 196
of principal Act
amended.

6. The principal Act is hereby further amended as follows:—
(1.) As to section one hundred and eighty-eight thereof: By inserting the following words after the word “indecency” in the said section: “unless such female is older than or of the same age as the person charged.”

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(2.) As to section one hundred and ninety-six thereof: By adding the following words to the second paragraph of the said section: “unless such girl is older than or of the same age as the person charged.”

Sections 312 and
313 of principal Act
amended.

7. The principal Act is hereby further amended as follows:—

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(1.) As to section three hundred and twelve thereof: By inserting after the word “wilfully” the following words: “places or throws any obstruction upon any railway, or.”

(2.) As to subsection (a) of section three hundred and thirteen thereof: By omitting the words “railway, or.”

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Section 18 of
principal Act
amended.

8. Section eighteen of the principal Act is hereby amended by substituting the words “with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three years” in lieu of the words “with hard labour for three years or upwards, or imprisonment with or without hard labour.”

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