

SEXUAL OFFENCES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2008

S.I. 2008 No. 1769 (N.I. 2)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

7.

POLICY BACKGROUND

The Provisions

Part 3 – Sexual offences against children

Offences against children under 18: abuse of position of trust

Article 30: Articles 23 to 26: exception for spouses and civil partners

7.73. [Article 30](#) provides that A will not commit an offence under Articles 23 to 26 if he can prove that, at the time of the sexual activity, B was aged 16 or over and he and B were lawfully married or civil partners of each other.