



# Serious Crime Act 2015

## 2015 CHAPTER 9

### PART 6

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

##### *Miscellaneous*

#### **84 Termination of pregnancy on grounds of sex of foetus**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall arrange for an assessment to be made of the evidence of termination of pregnancy on the grounds of the sex of the foetus in England, Wales and Scotland.
- (2) The arrangements made under subsection (1) shall be such as to enable publication of the assessment by the Secretary of State within 6 months of the date of Royal Assent to this Act.
- (3) The Secretary of State shall consider the assessment made under subsection (1) and—
  - (a) determine and publish a strategic plan to tackle substantiated concerns identified in the assessment made under subsection (1); or
  - (b) publish a statement and explanation in relation to why a plan under subsection (3)(a) is not required.
- (4) Any strategic plan under subsection (3)(a) must include, but need not be limited to, steps—
  - (a) to promote change in the social and cultural patterns of behaviour with a view to eradicating prejudices, customs, traditions and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women and which may amount to pressure to seek a termination on the grounds of the sex of the foetus;
  - (b) to ensure best practice exists in identifying women being coerced or pressured into seeking a termination on the grounds of the sex of the foetus, or at risk of being so, and in the provision of protection and support to potential victims; and

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (c) to promote guidance to service providers, health professionals and other stakeholders.
- (5) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the plan, determined under subsection (3) (a), before each House of Parliament within 6 months of the publication date of the assessment under subsection (2).