

**VIEW ON LAWS RELATED TO STATUTORY RAPE : A COMPARATIVE  
ANALYSIS IN THE STUDY OF STATUTORY RAPE LAWS IN  
MALAYSIA AND REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

**By**

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**Thesis Submitted to the Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of  
Law, Government and International Studies, Universiti Utara Malaysia,  
in Fulfillment of the Requirement for The Master of Cormercial Law**

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## **Abstrak**

Adalah merupakan satu tanggungan jenayah bagi seseorang lelaki yang melakukan hubungan seksual dengan gadis bawah umur. Kanun Kesiksaan adalah merupakan satu-satunya undang-undang tunggal untuk kesalahan jenayah berkenaan. Peruntukan di bawah seksyen 375 (g) Kanun Kesiksaan di Malaysia menetapkan bahawa seseorang lelaki adalah melakukan jenayah rogol apabila hubungan seksual dilakukan dengan seorang wanita di bawah umur 16 tahun. Adalah tidak material jika hubungan seks dilakukan samada dengan kerelaan atau tanpa kerelaan wanita itu. Undang-undang meletakkan rogol statutori sebagai satu jenayah tanggungan tegas. Perbuatan merogol itu sendiri mencukupi untuk menunjukkan niat tertuduh. Dalam bahasa perundangan , hubungan seksual oleh seorang lelaki dengan wanita di bawah umur diistilahkan sebagai rogol statutori. Kajian ini dilakukan untuk melihat sejauhmana peruntukan undang-undang sedia ada digunakan untuk menangani jenayah rogol statutori di Malaysia. Dalam pada itu, perbandingan dilakukan dengan Negara India untuk menilai kedudukan pentafsiran undang-undang rogol statutori di Negara tersebut. Analisis perbandingan bagi kedua-dua Negara ini bakal menunjukkan tahap aplikasi Common Law Inggeris dan setakat mana kedua-dua Negara masih bergantung terhadap prinsip-prinsip common law dalam undang-undang mereka. Kajian dilakukan berdasarkan penyelidikan doctrinal. Ini merangkumi penggunaan statut, keputusan kes mahkamah dan juga artikel journal. Analisis perbandingan ke atas undang-undang rogol statutori di Malaysia dan India bakal mewujudkan penambahbaikan ke atas kedudukan undang-undang sedia ada. Ianya juga akan mendatangkan keberkesanan terhadap kaedah yang digunakan. Kajian ini juga bertujuan untuk meningkatkan tahap kefahaman dalam undang-undang rogol statutori.

## **Abstract**

It is a criminal liability for a man who had sexual intercourse with the underage girl. Penal Code is the only single law for the criminal offense. Provisions under section 375 (g) of the Penal Code in Malaysia has codified that a man is guilty of the crime of rape through sexual intercourse with a woman under the age of 16. It is immaterial if the sex is done either by consent or without the consent of the woman. The law puts a statutory rape as a strict liability crime. The act of rape itself is able to indicate the intention of the accused. In legal, sexual intercourse by a man with a female under the age of 16 termed as statutory rape. This study was done to see the extent of the existing law used to overcome the crime of statutory rape in Malaysia. In addition, comparisons were made with the Indian to assess the legal interpretation of statutory rape in their country. A comparative analysis of the two countries is at once will show the application of English common law and the extent of which the two countries still rely on common law principles. The study was based on doctrinal research. This includes the use of the statute, the case laws and journal articles. A comparative analysis of the statutory rape laws in Malaysia and India will create an improvement over the existing law. It will also cause the effectiveness on the methods used. This study aims to improve the efficiency of statutory rape laws.

## **Acknowledgement**

The completion of this study would have not been possible without the help and support of the kind people, especially my supervisor, Dr Aspalela bt Abd Rahman for her continuous support and impartation of knowledge on this area of law. Of course, not forgetting her good advice, understanding and constructive comments, which have been invaluable to fulfill and complete this study.

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## **List of Abbreviations**

MPC	Malaysian Penal Code
CPC	Criminal Procedure Code
PC	Penal Code
IPC	Indian Penal Code
EA	Evidence Act
IEA	Indian Evidence Act
BEIC	British East India Company
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CLA	Civil Law Act
SOA	Sexual Offences (Amendment)
SOA	Sexual Offences Act
COA	Court of Appeal
(DNA)	Deoxyribonucleic acid

IA	Identification Act
PA	Police Act
FC	Federal Constitution
FC	Federal Court
SCJ	Sessions Court judge
CLJ	Current Law Jurnal
MLJ	Malayan Law Jurnal
SCO	Syariah Criminal Offences
SEA	Syariah Evidence Act
SPC	Syariah Procedure Code
CA	Child Act

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

In Malaysia, rape is one of the capital crimes whenever violence is involved in order to assault women for the purpose of having unlawful sex intercourse with force. Statutory rape is the crime similar in nature, but specifically, statutory rape is involved when the age of the victim is less than sixteen years old. Malaysian Penal Code (Act 574) (hereinafter PC) is the only single statute which codified offence of statutory rape in Malaysia.

PC provides provision to sexual relations with women under sixteen years old whether it is committed with the consent of the woman or not is an offence. No matter what the excuses are, if the woman is under sixteen years of age when sex is committed, then it is a statutory rape. This provision is designed for the purpose of protecting those especially the children. Rape offence is defined in section 375(g) of PC when man is said to commit “rape” when having a sexual intercourse with a woman who is less than sixteen years old. Even if it is done with consent, that consent is immaterial and it is not valid under the law. Penetration is sufficient enough to constitute the sexual intercourse related to the offence of rape. Whoever commits the offence in particular, will be punished under section 376(1) of the PC. In reference, section 376(1) PC provide “*Whoever commits rape shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than five years and not more than twenty years, and shall also be liable to whipping*”.

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