



Application of Enactments Ordinance 1954 (FLK No.13 of 1954)

Application of Colony Laws Ordinance 1955 (DS No.1 of 1955)

**Application of Enactments (Amendment) (No.3) Ordinance 1962
(FLK No. 14 of 1962)**

Application of Colony Laws Ordinance 1964 (DS No. 1 of 1964)

Suicide Act 1961

UK Legis LINK as [Suicide Act 1961 c.60](#)
originally enacted

English 3 August 1961 (Royal Assent)
commencement

English status In force (amended)

AEO Schedule No. 67

Date applied in SGSSI: 4 December 1962

Extent of application: (i) whole Act except subsection (3) of section 3
(ii) for subsection (4) of section 2 there shall be substituted —
“(4) Subject to section 40 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, as applied by subsection (3) of this section, no proceedings shall be instituted for an offence under this section except by or with the consent of the Colonial Secretary”.

Suicide Act 1961

CHAPTER 60

An Act to amend the law of England and Wales relating to suicide, and for purposes connected therewith.

1 Suicide to cease to be a crime

The rule of law whereby it is a crime for a person to commit suicide is hereby abrogated

2 Criminal liability for complicity in another's suicide

- (1) A person who aids, abets, counsels or procures the suicide of another, or an attempt by another to commit suicide, shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years.
- (2) If on the trial of an indictment for murder or manslaughter it is proved that the accused aided, abetted, counselled or procured the suicide of the person in question, the jury may find him guilty of that offence.
- (3) The enactments mentioned in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act shall have effect subject to the amendments provided for in the second column (which preserve in relation to offences under this section the previous operation of those enactments in relation to murder or manslaughter).
- (4) [Subject to section 40 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, as applied by subsection (3) of this section, no proceedings shall be instituted for an offence under this section except by or with the consent of the Colonial Secretary.]

3 Short title, repeal and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Suicide Act, 1961.
- (2) The enactments mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of the Schedule.
- (3) [not applied]

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

Adaption of enactments relating to murder or manslaughter

Part I

Amendments limited to England and Wales

Enactment and subject matter

Amendment

The Coroners (Amendment) Act 1926-
Section twenty (Effect on coroners' duties of prosecution for murder, etc.).

The references to murder, manslaughter or infanticide shall apply also to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide

The Children and Young Persons Act 1933-

The reference to the murder or manslaughter of a child or young person shall apply also to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the suicide of a child or young person.

First Schedule (Offences to which special provisions of the Act apply).

Part II

Amendments not limited to England and Wales

The Extradition Act, 1870-
First Schedule (List of extradition crimes)

The list of crimes shall include aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide

The Visiting Forces Act 1952-
Section seven (Effect on coroners' duties in England, Wales and Northern Ireland of certain proceedings for homicide)

The definition of "homicide" in Subsection (6) shall have effect as if after the references to murder, manslaughter and infanticide there were inserted a reference to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide.

Paragraph 1 of the Schedule (Offences not triable by courts of England, Wales or Northern Ireland in the cases provided for by section three of the Act).

In sub-paragraph (a) (which provides that murder and certain other offences are to be comprised in the expression "offences against the person") after the word "assault" there shall be inserted the words "and any offence of aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide or an attempt to commit suicide".

The Army Act, 1955
Sections (4) and (5) of section seventy (Exclusion of court martial jurisdiction over certain offences in the United Kingdom).

At the end of the subsection (4) there shall be added the words-

"In this subsection the references to murder shall apply also to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide."

The Air Force Act, 1955
Sections (4) and (5) of section seventy

At the end of the subsection (4) there shall be added the words-

(Exclusion of court martial jurisdiction over certain offences in the United Kingdom).

The Naval Discipline Act, 1957

Subsection (2) of section forty-eight (Exclusion of court martial jurisdiction over certain offences in the United Kingdom).

“In this subsection the references to murder shall apply also to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide.”

At the end of the subsection there shall be added the words-

“In this subsection the references to murder shall apply also to aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide.”

SECOND SCHEDULE

REPEALS

<i>Session and Chapter</i>	<i>Short Title</i>	<i>Extent of Repeal</i>
33 & 34 Vict. c.23	The Forfeiture Act, 1870	In section one, the words “or <i>felo de se</i> ”.
45 & 46 Vict. c.19	The Interments (<i>felo de se</i>) Act, 1882	The whole Act
15 & 16 Geo 6. and Eliz 2. c.55	The Magistrates Court Act, 1952	Paragraph 15 of the First Schedule (except as respects proceedings commenced before the commencement of this Act).
5 & 6 Eliz 2. c.11	The Homicide Act, 1957	In section four, in subsection (1) and in subsection (2), the words “killing himself or”.

Notes:

1. Please see www.legislation.gov.uk website for the original Act and subsequent amendments and then consider it in the light of extent of application noted above and the Principal Adaptive Provisions.

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