

Q. Do you think that protection of children from sexual offences Act, 2012 should stay in tune with dynamics of society? Comment.

The High Court of Karnataka said that Law Commission of India will have to rethink the age criterion in law for consensual sexual intercourse to address the issue of such instances as a result of love affairs.

POCSO Act 2012

It is a child as a person below 18 years of age fixes the age of consent at 18 years.

Issue with age of Consent

↳ The boys/young men are charged with sexual offences, the girls are treated as victims and institutionalized in children's homes.

The relief to couple is to urge the High Court to quash the case under the Section 482 of the CrPc to prevent abuse of the process of any court.

Court Judgements

↳ Vijalakshmi vs State Rep (2001) the

Madras High Court observed that punishing an adolescent boy who enters into a relationship with a minor girl by treating him as an offender was never the objective of the POCSO Act.

Need of the Hour

↳ Court, direct the State Education Department to setup a committee to evolve a mechanism for educating students at least from class 9 onwards about the Acts.

↳ There is need to law should sync with social realities of adolescent relationships.

↳ There is need for law reform to revise the age of consent and prevent the criminalisation of older adolescents engaging in consensual and non-exploitative Acts.