

## New Zealand.



### ANALYSIS.

Title.  
1. Short Title.

2. (1.) Defiling girls between twelve and fourteen. (2.) Consent of girl under fourteen no defence. Proviso.  
3. Act to be read with existing law.

1889, No. 17.

Title.	AN ACT to amend the Law relating to certain Offences against the Person. [16th September, 1889.]
Short Title.	BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:— 1. The Short Title of this Act is “The Offences against the Person Act, 1889.”
Defiling girls between twelve and fourteen.	2. (1.) Whosoever unlawfully and carnally knows, or attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of, any girl being of or above the age of twelve years and under the age of fourteen years, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and on conviction is liable at the discretion of the Court to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding five years, or be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour.
Consent of girl under fourteen no defence.	(2.) It shall be no defence to an indictment for an indecent assault on a female under the age of fourteen years that she consented to the act of indecency:
Proviso.	Provided that it shall be a sufficient defence to any charge under this Act if it shall be made to appear to the Court or jury before whom the charge shall be brought that the person so charged had reasonable cause to believe that the girl was of or above the age of fourteen years:
Act to be read with existing law.	Provided also that no prosecution shall be commenced for an offence under this Act more than one month after the commission of the offence. 3. This Act shall be read and construed as part of “The Offences against the Person Act, 1867,” and any Act amending the same.