



When Mandated Reporters in California Must Report Consensual Disparate Age Sexual Activity to Child Abuse Authorities

(1) If a minor has consensual sexual intercourse with an older or younger* partner, is a report mandated?

Age of Partner <input type="checkbox"/>	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Age of Patient <input type="checkbox"/>											
11	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
12	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
13	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
14	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
15	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
16	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
17	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
18	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Chart by David Knopf, LCSW, UCSF. Adapted from Knopf, "When Am I Mandated to Report the Sexual Activity of Minors to Children's Protective Services or Police in California."

(2) If a minor engages in consensual sexual activity that is not sexual intercourse with an older or younger* partner, is a report required?

Mandated reporters must report sexual activity ("lewd and lascivious acts") when a minor is 14 or 15 and the partner is 10 or more years older, (14 year old with an adult 24 years or older/ 15 year old with an adult 25 years or older), or when a minor is under 14 and the partner is 14 or older, regardless of claimed consent by the minor.

(3) What other sexual activity must be reported by a mandated reporter?*

Mandated reporters must report sexual intercourse or other sexual activity with a minor under 18 years old when the activity appears coerced, exploitative, based on intimidation, or in any other way resembles abuse -- regardless of claimed consent by the minor and regardless of partner age.

* The law does not require providers to ask about partner age.

**This worksheet is not intended to be a complete review of all California child abuse reporting laws.

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