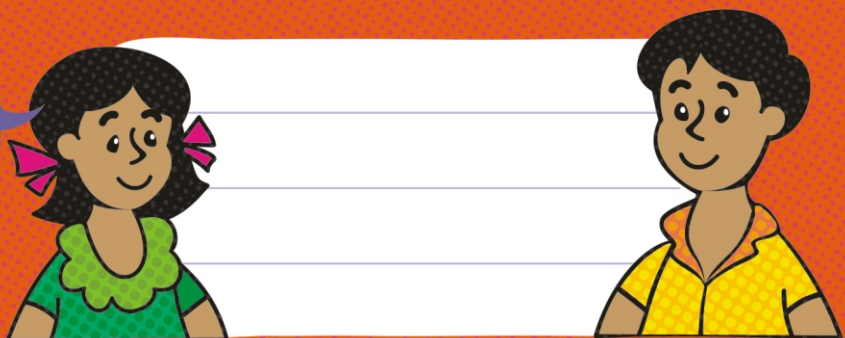


# POCSO

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act [ 2012]

This is  
Our  
Book





### **The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act [2012]**

It protects children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. It provides for the establishment of Special Courts to fast track trials of such offences and matters arising thereof.





## Who is a minor?


under the age of 18...

...Everyone and Anyone






## Identify it, Report it

A girl with black hair in pigtails with pink bows, wearing a green shirt, is pointing her right index finger towards a grey silhouette of a police officer wearing a cap.

### Aggravated Sexual Assault


A sexual assault is deemed to be 'aggravated' when the abused child is mentally ill or when the abuse is committed by a person in a position of trust or authority like a family member, police officer, teacher, or doctor. When they misuse their authority to penetrate a child sexually then...

**Imprisonment**  
+fine

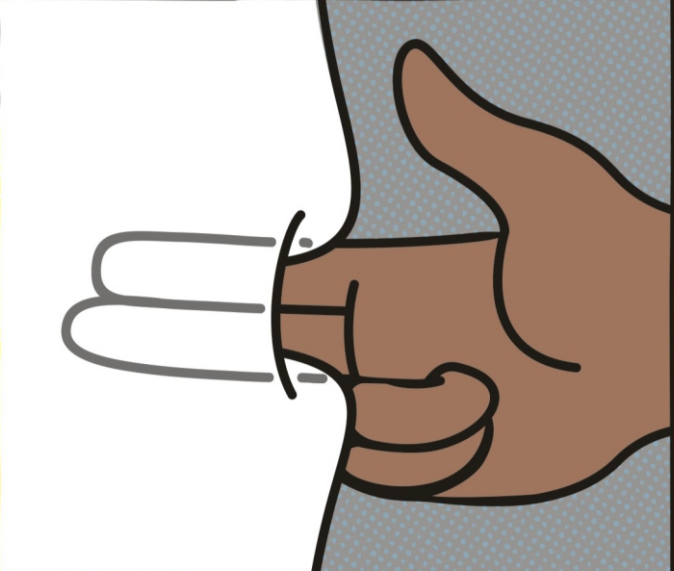
**10+**  
Years

### Penetrative Sexual Assault

If anyone inserts to any extent any object/ or penetrates a child's private parts including their mouth using any part of their body with sexual intent/ or forces a child to take part in such activity then...

**Imprisonment**  
+fine

**7+**  
Years

A close-up illustration of a brown hand with the index finger inserted into a white mouth. The background is a grey stippled pattern.



## Identify it, Report it



### Use of a child for pornographic purposes

Using a child for pornographic purposes, or directly participating in child pornography including photographs and films and their promotion...



Imprisonment  
+fine

**5+**  
Years

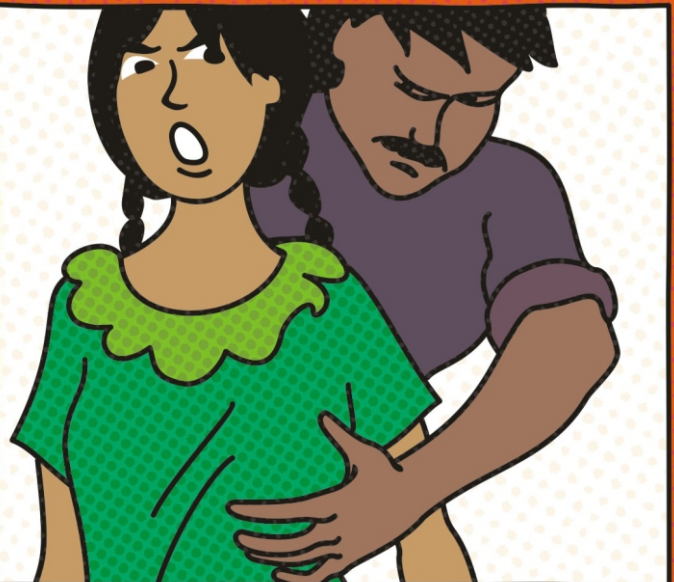
### Sexual Assault

If anyone fondles a child or forces the child to feel their own body with sexual intent then...



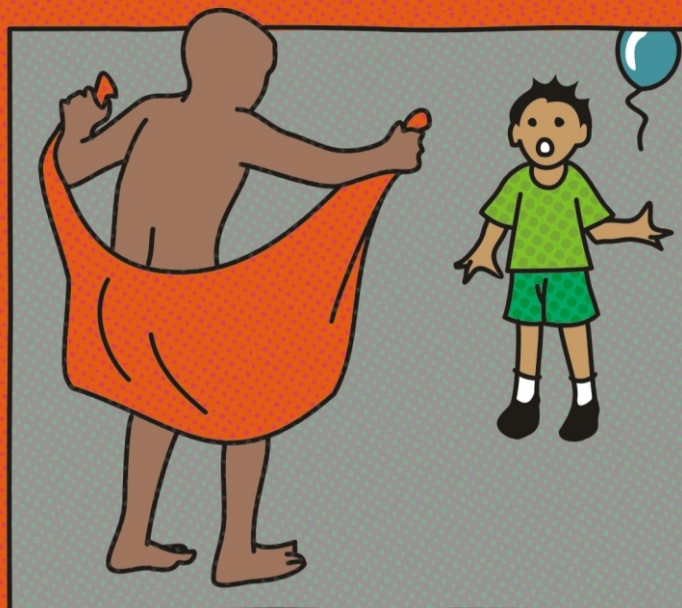
Imprisonment  
+fine

**3+**  
Years





## Identify it, Report it



### Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is carried out on a child when a person with sexual intent Indecently exposes them self or forces a child to; carries out acts with sexual connotations, Shows pornographic material to a minor then...



Imprisonment  
+fine

**3**  
Years





## Identify it, Report it

### Attempted

Any attempted crimes of the nature described before...



Imprisonment  
+fine

**1**  
Year

### Abetment

Conspire with or encourage an offender to perpetrate the aforementioned crimes...



Same punishment as the main offender

### Silence

Failure to record and report a crime under POCSO



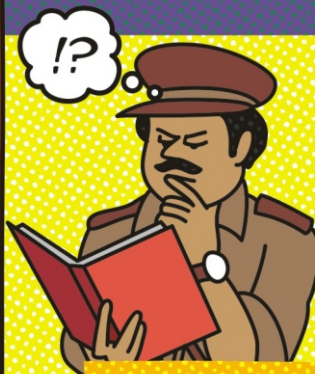
It is the duty of every citizen to report it to the Police, Child Rights Commission or Childline 1098



Imprisonment  
+fine

**6**  
Months

### False allegation



Using an allegation as a threat or a means to an end  
Anyone making a false allegation or false complaint barring a child...



Imprisonment  
+fine

**6**  
Months



What should  
a child do?



What should a  
guardian do?

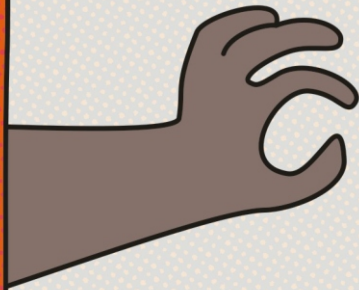




## Be Compassionate and Supportive



Any hint of danger just  
run for it



No!



Help me!



Give importance to a child's  
unusual behaviour.



What is the matter? Why is  
the child so subdued and  
forlorn?  
Lack of appetite or  
nightmares!



## Be Compassionate and Supportive



Tell a trustworthy adult. Even if it is late don't despair

We believe you

That uncle took me there and ...



You must muster courage and speak to the police

He said to me...

No need to hurry. Take your time

Remember informing the police is mandatory



## Be Compassionate and Supportive

Listen and believe the child.  
Gain their confidence



Don't be scared. Tell  
us everything

Provide Counselling, Medical  
Advice and Legal help



A girl's medical  
examination  
must be done  
only by a lady  
doctor



# Be Compassionate





# and Supportive

This is not your  
fault!

Never blame the child or  
disgrace them. When  
something like this happens  
they require love and affection.





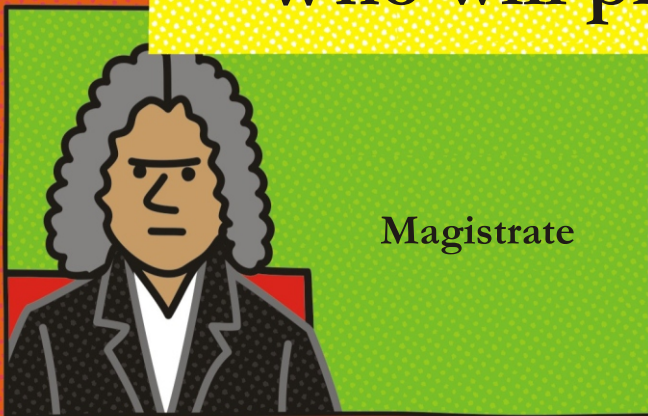


The Police

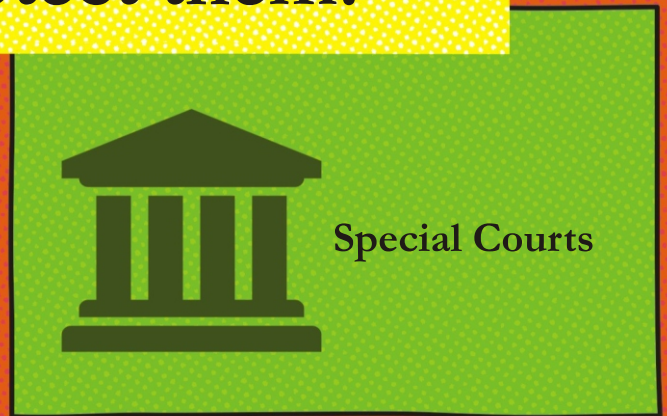


Special Police

Who will protect them?



Magistrate



Special Courts



## Protect our children

Extracting a statement from a child has specific guidelines



At the child's home or a place of their choice



In the presence of someone the child trusts



Preferably by a plain clothes lady constable





## Protect our children

Provide translator and or special needs educator as required



Ensure the privacy of the child's personal details. Protect their Identity





## Protect our children

We will try not to detain a minor at the Police station overnight



Keep the accused well clear of any contact with the child





## Protect our children



Every effort is made to avoid reappearances of the child in court

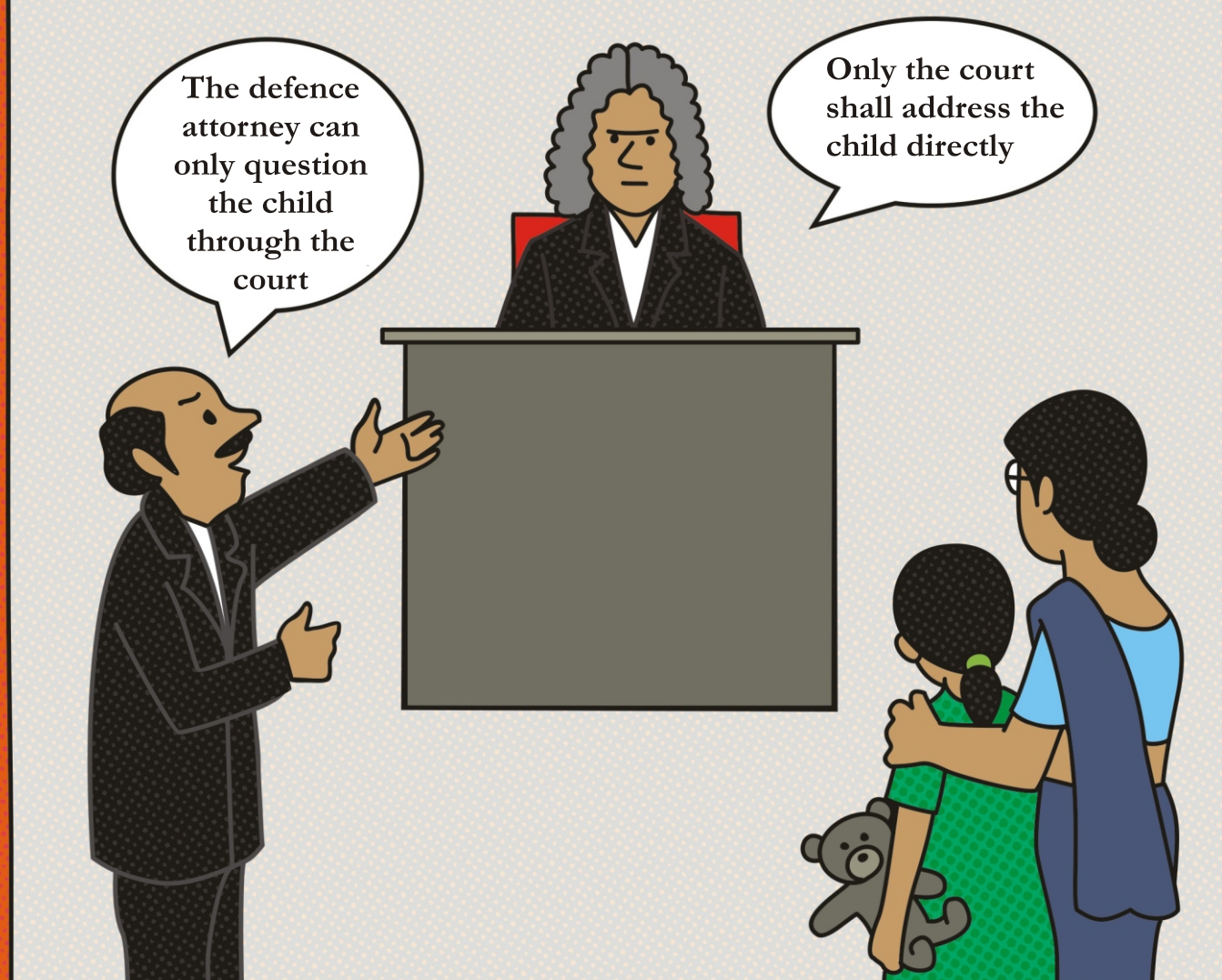
In camera trials are mandatory where feasible





## Protect our children

Disallow aggressive questioning and character assassination of the child





# POCSO



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2018

THOUGHTSHOP  
FOUNDATION  
thoughtshopfoundation.org



9836 300 300



West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights  
24x7 Helpline for Whatsapp only messages

Any time any kind of child rights violation cases of the state can be registered with WBCPCR through this helpline.