



## Suppression of Indecent Advertisements (Punjab) Act, 1941

Act 7 of 1941

**Keyword(s):**

**Advertisement, Syphilis, Nervous Debility, Gonorrhoea**

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THE PUNJAB SUPPRESSION OF INDECENT  
ADVERTISEMENTS ACT, 1941.

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THE PUNJAB SUPPRESSION OF INDECENT  
ADVERTISEMENTS ACT, 1941.

PUNJAB ACT NO. 7 OF 1941.

[Received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the  
3rd April, 1941, and was first published in the Government  
Gazette (Extraordinary), Punjab, of the 30th April, 1941.]

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|------|-----|--|---|
| Year | No. | Short title  | Whether repealed or otherwise<br>affected by legislation  |
| 1941 | 7   | The Punjab<br>Suppression of<br>of Indecent<br>Advertisements<br>Act, 1941 | Amended by the Adaptation of Laws<br>Order, 1950.<br>Extended to the territories which<br>immediately before the 1st November, 1956,<br>were comprised in the State of Patiala and<br>East Punjab States Union by Pujab Act 18 of<br>1958 <sup>2</sup><br>Amended by Punjab Act No. 25 of 1964 <sup>3</sup> |

An Act to Suppress Indecent Advertisements;

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Punjab Suppression of Indecent  
Advertisements Act, 1941.

Short title.

2. For the purposes of this Act any advertisement relating to  
syphilis, gonorrhoea, nervous debility or other complaint or infirmity  
arising from or relating to sexual intercourse shall be deemed to be printed  
or written matter of an indecent nature.

Interpretation.

3. (1) Whosoever affixes to, inscribes or stencils on any house,  
building, wall, hoarding, gate, fence, pillar, post, board, tree, or any  
other thing whatsoever so as to be visible to a person being in or passing

Proceedings  
against  
persons  
affixing, etc.,  
indecent or  
printed or  
written matter.

1. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see *Government Gazette*  
(Extraordinary), Punjab, 1941, page 56; for Proceedings in Assembly, see  
*Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates*, Volume XVII, pages 310-311.

2. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see *Punjab Gazette (Extra.)* 1958,  
page 546.

3. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see *Punjab Gazette (Extraordinary)*,  
1964, pages 935-937.

along any street, public highway or foot-path, and whoever affixes to, inscribes or stencils on any public latrine or urinal, or exhibits to public view in the window of any house or shop, any picture or printed or written matter which is of indecent nature, shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Whenever any printed or written matter of an indecent nature has been displayed in the manner prohibited by sub-section (1), any person being in possession of control of the land, building, structure or premises to which such printed or written matter has been affixed who knowingly allows the same to be continued to be displayed shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both such imprisonment and fine.

Proceedings  
against  
persons  
sending others  
to do the acts  
punishable  
under  
section 3.

4. Whoever gives or delivers to any other person any such pictures, or printed or written matter mentioned in section 3 with the intent that the same, or some one or more thereof, should be affixed, inscribed, stencilled, or exhibited as therein mentioned, shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment of either description which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both such imprisonment and fine.

Power to  
seize, remove,  
deface or  
destroy  
pictures or  
printed or  
written matter  
of an indecent  
nature.

5. If a District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or <sup>1</sup>[Executive Magistrate of the First Class] has reason to believe that any picture or printed or written matter of an indecent nature which has been affixed, inscribed or stencilled as mentioned in section 3, continues to be exhibited to public view after the commencement of this Act, he may by order in writing authorise any police officer to enter, with such assistance as may be required, any place and seize, remove, deface or destroy any such picture or printed or written matter.

Police officer  
may arrest on  
view of  
offence.

6. Any police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he shall find committing any offence against this Act.

1. Substituted for the words "Magistrate of the First Class", by Punjab Act 25 of 1964.

7. Nothing in this Act shall apply to any advertisement published by any municipal corporation or by any municipal, small town or notified area committee or published with the sanction of the <sup>1</sup>[State] Government. Savings

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1. Substituted for the words "Provincial", by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.