



Some countries do not recognize or respect religious freedom; freedom of association, speech, or the press; or equality of the sexes. For instance, guilt by association is often presumed, and you may be charged just for being in the company of a person suspected or found guilty of a crime.

Even if you are an innocent bystander at a riot or demonstration, you may be considered a participant and be rounded up with those involved.

**If you do find yourself in legal trouble, contact the nearest Canadian government office at once.** If you cannot do so yourself, have someone else do it for you.

## SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

It is illegal to have sexual relations with children, whether in Canada or abroad. Most countries vigorously enforce laws against the sexual exploitation of children. Canadians who are suspected of committing such acts at home or abroad can be charged under the Canadian Criminal Code (available at [laws.justice.gc.ca](http://laws.justice.gc.ca)). Those convicted face a penalty of up to 14 years' imprisonment. For more information, see the publication *Child Sex Tourism: It's a Crime* on our website.